Rt. Hon Jacqui Smith, MP Secretary of State for the Home Office 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Peel Buildings 2 Marsham St London SW1 4DF Fax: 020 8760 3132 Email: smithij@parliament.uk

## Dear Home Secretary,

Re: Afghanis, Taraniit Baiai H.O. Ref: B1144397 and Hussain Ali Khairkoh H.O. Ref: K1282466, nationals of Afghanistan and residents of Glasgow were 'Captured' when reporting to immigration in Glasgow last week. They are currently in Campsfield House Immigration Removal Centre and due to be forcibly removed (with other Afghani's) from the UK on Tuesday 2nd December on an 'Ethnic charter flight', under the Home Office operation 'Ravel' programme, flight PVT008, leaving the UK @ 18:50 to Baku/Azerbaijan for onward transit to Kabul/Afghanistan.

## Afghanistan second weakest state in the world

According to Washington-based Brookings Institution and the Centre for Global Development, Afghanistan is rated the second weakest state in the world, lacking the capacity to establish and maintain political institutions, secure their population from violent conflict, control their territories and meet the basic needs of their population (see below for details).

## Human Rights Watch World Report for 2007

Life for the average Afghan remains short, miserable, and brutal. Average life span for men and women hovers at around 45 years. According to the United Nations, nearly a third of all Afghans, some 6.5 million people, suffer from chronic food insecurity. Afghans face escalating violations of their human rights at the hands of a variety of abusers: the Taliban and other anti-government insurgent groups, including Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Islami and tribal militias, criminal groups and local warlords (many with government affiliations), and, increasingly, the Afghan government itself. The insurgency in the south undermines development and reconstruction in the comparatively peaceful north, and as predicted, destabilizes neighboring Pakistan. The United Nations' assessment of areas considered "most dangerous" and thus out of bounds for nearly all aid workers doubled in 2007 to cover one-third of Afghanistan.

Violence and Insecurity in 2007 was a bloodier year than any since the US-led forces ousted the Taliban in 2001. Casualty rates were at least 25 percent higher than the previous year. Civilians were increasingly caught in fighting between anti-government forces and government forces and their international supporters. Anti-government forces also routinely violate the laws of war by launching attacks from civilian areas, or

The Taliban increasingly relied on public executions to terrorize and rule populations living in areas under their influence.

The Afghan government continues to lose public legitimacy because of wide-spread corruption, failure to improve living standards, and lack of progress in establishing the rule of law even in areas under its control.

## Afghanistan mission close to failing - US

After six years of US-led military support and billions of pounds in aid, security in Afghanistan is "deteriorating" and President Hamid Karzai's government controls less than a third of the country. America's top intelligence official has admitted. Mike McConnell testified in Washington that Karzai controls about 30% of Afghanistan and the Taliban 10%, and the remainder is under tribal control. http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2008/feb/29/afghanistan.terrorism

I am requesting that the Honorable Home Secretary not to remove Taraniit Bajaj and Hussain Ali Khairkoh + any others who are on the 'Ethic Charter Flight' to Afghanistan.

Yours Sincerely,	
Name:	
Address:	
City:	Postcode:
Country:	Date:
Email:	Phone: