

Denmark - The Refugee Appeals Board's decision of 13 June 2017

Country of Decision:

Denmark

Country of Applicant:

Afghanistan

Date of Decision:

13-06-2017

Court Name:

The Refugee Appeals Board

Keywords:

Internal protection

Non-state actors/agents of persecution

Refugee Status

Relevant Facts

Religion

Headnote:

The applicant, an ethnic Turkman and an atheist from Aache, Afghanistan had received death threats from local residents close to the imam as well as from his own father because of his apostasy.

The Refugee Appeals Board found that the applicant because of his apostasy would be at risk of being persecuted by local residents, Afghan authorities and the Taleban. Consequently, the applicant was granted refugee status under the Danish Aliens Act Art. 7 (1).

Facts:

The applicant, born in 1995, is an ethnic Turkman and an atheist from Aache, Afghanistan. He entered Denmark in December 2015 and applied for refugee status. The applicant stated that he feared if he returned to Afghanistan he would be killed by his father, the authorities, the Taleban or local residents. In support of his application the applicant informed that he had considered himself an atheist since he was 15 years old. Two months before he left the country he participated in a debate in the local mosque where the other people in the mosque accused him of being an infidel

and threatened to kill him if he did not repent. A few days before his departure four advisors of the imam threatened to kill him if he did not come to the mosque. The applicant consulted his father about the incident and his father threatened to kill him if he did not change his mind. After the applicant's departure his father has threatened him when the applicant contacted him.

The Danish Immigration Service rejected his asylum application in December 2016.

Decision & Reasoning:

The account of the applicant has been established by the Refugee Appeals Board.

According to his account, the applicant had, at an early age, questioned Islam and he was a declared atheist before he left the country. His apostasy resulted in his avoidance of the mosque and Islamic traditions and as a consequence four locals and his father threatened to kill him or report him to the Taleban. Against this background, the Board found that the applicant had rendered probable that if he returned to Afghanistan because of his apostasy he would be at risk of being persecuted by local residents, Afghan authorities and the Taleban. Consequently, the applicant was granted refugee status under the Danish Aliens Act Art. 7 (1).

Outcome:

The applicant was granted refugee status under the Danish Aliens Act Art. 7 (1).

National / Other Legislative Provisions:

[Denmark - The Danish Aliens Act Art. 7 \(1\)](#) [1]

Links:

[1] <https://www.asylumlawdatabase.eu/en/national-and-other-legislation/denmark-danish-aliens-act-art-7-1>