

'Kite-runner' actor Ahmad Khan Mahmoodzada supports protest weekend

"Do not send Afghans to death!"

The Afghan Ahmad Khan Mahmoodzada was only 12 when he played one of the leading roles in the film *The Kite Runner*, based on the world famous book by Khaled Hosseini. Because of his role as Hassan he was threatened by the Taliban to that extend that he needed to flee. In August 2015 he received asylum in Sweden. Ahmad Khan (now 20) supports the protests against the expulsions of Afghan refugees to Afghanistan.

These are Ahmad's words, specially written for the protest weekend of 17 and 18 February:

Don't send Afghans to death!

Being a refugee is not our choice, we were forced to flee Afghanistan for the reason that it is too dangerous for us to stay there. There are bombings every day and the war is still going on, with many children, women and men dying. According to a research done by the BBC, 70% of Afghanistan is not safe and both ISIS and the Taliban are very active in many places in Afghanistan, even the capital, Kabul.

We are just like everyone else and all we want is to live a normal and safe life.



- Ahmad Khan Mahmoodzada

