

**Keep Babi**



**Safe in Cardiff**

[noborderswales.org.uk/keep-babi-safe-in-cardiff](http://noborderswales.org.uk/keep-babi-safe-in-cardiff)

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Babakhan Badalov, (Babi) is an openly gay, internationally renowned radical artist and poet from Azerbaijan. His art and poetry have been explicitly critical of the government and prominent members of present/past regimes, leading him to become a target of repression and persecution over many years.

Azerbaijan is a Muslim country, where homosexuality remains an extremely taboo subject. This led one of Babi's brothers to threaten to kill him because of the shame which he has brought on the family. As a result of beatings and bullying over the years Babi has only eight teeth remaining and suffers from a number of mental health problems

Since arriving in Cardiff in December 2006, Babi has engaged fully with various parts of the local community and has made many friends in his new home.

For the first time in his life, Babi felt happy and safe in Cardiff. He felt able to openly express himself artistically, politically and with regard to his sexuality, without associated feelings of fear, shame and imminent repression.

Babi's claim for asylum has recently been dismissed by the home office. If he is forced to return to Azerbaijan he faces an uncertain and unhappy future. He will undoubtedly face severe persecution, from the state, community and family.

Please help to keep Babi safe in Cardiff by writing to the Home Secretary at 3rd Floor Peel Buildings, 2 Marsham Street, London, SW1 4DF or e-mail: jacqui.smith@homeoffice.gov.uk, quoting home office refercne: B1234623

For more details please see [www.noborderswales.org.uk](http://www.noborderswales.org.uk)

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