


News > UK > Home News

Natalie Bennett and Oona Chaplin call for UK to give refugees safe passage at memorial for 15-year-old Afghan boy

The boy was one of more than a dozen refugees to die attempting to cross the Channel in the past year

Lizzie Dearden | @lizziedearden | Monday 18 January 2016 |  13 comments



Adetomiwa Edun and Oona Chaplin at a memorial service organised by Citizens UK for refugees who have died trying to reach the UK, at St Andrew's Church in the City of London. PA

Green Party leader Natalie Bennett joined actors including Oona Chaplin, volunteers and faith leaders at a memorial service for a **15-year-old refugee who died trying to reach the UK.**

The Afghan boy, known as Masud, was found dead in the back of a lorry earlier this month after leaving the **“Jungle”** camp in Calais in a desperate attempt to reach relatives in Britain.



[READ MORE](#)

Refugee's death 'shows failure to deal with Calais crisis'

He was just one of more than a dozen refugees who have died trying to cross the English Channel in the past year, being drowned, run over, crushed or electrocuted in the Channel Tunnel.

They were remembered with a service at St Andrew's Church in Holborn, London, on Monday.



Campaigners at a memorial service organised by Citizens UK for refugees who have died trying to reach the UK, at St Andrew's Church in the City of London.

Campaigners, politicians and celebrities listened to Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders and laid white flowers as a tribute to the dead.

READ MORE

Bulldozers clear part of Calais camp after 2,000 refugees evicted

The Government's shameful response to the refugee crisis in 4 charts

Tim Farron calls on David Cameron to resettle 3,000 refugee children

Chaplin, who is known for her role in *Game of Thrones* and is the granddaughter of Charlie Chaplin, attended alongside actor Adetomiwa Edun.

"I would urge David Cameron to consider what kind of society he is prepared to defend," she said, calling on the Prime Minister to visit camps in Calais to understand why people were risking their lives reach Britain.

"The values we are killing people for overseas, human rights,

decent, dignity these are the very things at risk now, on our shores.

"This isn't just going to go away. We cannot wash our hands of this issue. This isn't a refugee crisis, this is a humanitarian crisis."



Natalie Bennett, leader of the Green Party, at a memorial service organised by Citizens UK for refugees who have died trying to reach the UK, at St Andrew's Church in the City of London.

Ms Bennett wrote on Twitter that reflecting on the plight of refugees "reflects on our common humanity", with the [#refugeeswelcome](#) hashtag.

The Bishop of Barking, the Right Reverend Peter Hill, said that helping the youngest and most vulnerable refugees reach their loved ones safely does not amount to an "open door immigration policy".

"Today we remember Masud, a child who died a terrible death trying to reach his sister here in Britain after waiting for months in Calais," he added.

"We cannot stand by and watch as more children are driven to

the same desperate attempts to cross the Channel.”

Inside the camps in Calais



show all

The event was organised by Citizens UK, which is supporting a court case testing whether four child refugees currently stranded in the “Jungle” will be allowed to safely join their families in the UK.

Campaigners cite the Dublin Regulations, which allow children and teenagers who have relatives in an EU country can claim asylum there even if they have entered Europe via another safe country.

George Gabriel, from Citizens UK, said: “There are hundreds of people with genuine and valid claims to protection in Britain, including many children and young people who desperately need to be reunited with their loved ones.

“We hope that the outcome of this hearing will be positive, and allow for other children and young people to gain safe entry to the UK.

“That’s the only way to bring order to chaos, stop people risking their lives and put the traffickers out of business.”

More about: | [Calais](#) | [Refugees](#) | [refugee crisis](#) | [migrants](#) | [The Jungle](#)



Sponsored Links by Taboola

Do you have what it takes to lead troops to victory?

Soldiers: Free Online Game

This game will keep you up all night!

Sparta Free Online Game

5 tricks to learn any language from 2 guys who speak 10

Babbel

The Only 2 Sites You Need to Know About When Building a Website

Top 10 Best Website Builders

'Dog Whisperer' Faces Cruelty Probe

Reuters TV

The Silent Killer: Can Acid Reflux Become A Life Threatening Condition?

Rapid Reflux Relief eBook

New Shoes? Break Them In With These Simple Tricks

Yurnit Magazine

The Ultimate Way to Get Cheap Hotel Rooms

Save70

Technology Will Change Your life. Are You Ready?

The Wall Street Journal for Accenture

This New Amazing Program Allows Anyone To Build Their Own Website Easily

Wix.com

How To Easily Build Your Own Website (Even If You Are Not Techy)!

Lifegooroo

That's How You Find Awesome Hotel Deals!

Hotel Bargains



Start your day with The Independent's news email



COMMENTS

Login

Write a comment

13 Comments

Subscribe [RSS](#)



bobby

108 days ago

The West will not be left alone until 1-2 Billion humans from the 3rd world are allowed to reside amongst us.

Reply Share 5 replies

+3 likes  



Reluctant Activist

108 days ago

The West will not be left alone whilst we continue to invade and bomb middle-eastern countries and rape them and other 3rd World countries of their oil, gas and other natural resources.

Reply Share 4 replies

-2 likes  



bobby

108 days ago

LOL. I love it when read that blather. I do agree, the West should let the mid east duke it out amongst themselves, using only their own money and their own lives. Also, the West can stop raping/stealing, IE-Purchasing, mid east oil.

Reply Share 1 reply

+3 likes  



Reluctant Activist

108 days ago

So its 'blather' to suggest that the invasion of Iraq wasn't about gaining control of their oil? Or aiding Libyan rebels wasn't about getting rid of Gadaffi to control their oil? Or that part of the reason for wanting to get rid of Assad and rive ISIS out of Syria is to do with the untapped oil/gas fields in the Syrian owned Golan Heights that we want to get our hands on?

Reply Share

0 likes  



williamhicks2

108 days ago

you actually believe the rubbish you write?

Reply Share 1 reply

0 likes  



Reluctant Activist

108 days ago

Do you believe the rubbish politicians tell you?

Reply Share

+1 likes  



RED DEVIL

109 days ago

Mad Nat should take note of the Policies of her homeland. If

she went back to Oz there would be 1 more place for a deserving individual.

Reply Share

0 likes  



Firefly

109 days ago

But they KNOW they aren't supposed to come here - why do they do it? They'd be perfectly safe if they applied for asylum in France.

Reply Share 5 replies

+1 likes  



Sqr1

108 days ago

Just coming back from Calais... Most people have family in the UK and/or speak English. Which means they have hope for a job in the UK, while it would be hard to work in France without speaking French...

Reply Share 3 replies

-1 likes  



williamhicks2

108 days ago

but their primary goal should be seeking asylum (safety) not looking for a job.....they are economic migrants

Reply Share 2 replies

+1 likes  



Reluctant Activist

108 days ago

Their primary goal is seeking asylum and safety. If you were seeking asylum and safety wouldn't you want to do it in a country where you had family and understood the language? Even if there are some economic migrants in with them, what is so wrong with wanting to find a better life for you and your family somewhere other than where you were born?

Reply Share 1 reply

+1 likes  



julia.london

74 days ago

Nothing if is done legally, but these are illegals, trying to enter our country without any checks - if a few

thousand are admitted ,millions more will follow. Do you want Britain to be turned into a third world dump? Already streetsleeping is regarded as normal in London,with thousands more living in squalid overcrowded cionditions. Antibiotic-resistant TB is now on the rise,a disease that was almost eradicated by the 70s . Wages are declining while life is getting more expensive. Everything that has been achieved over centuries is being thrown away. The NHS has a massive deficit.This is the reality of mass immigration. Luvvies in their nice houses in green areas dont know what they are talking about.

Reply Share

0 likes  



mroli

108 days ago

As most of those who are trying to get to the UK have relatives here and/or they speak English as a second language and not French, Spanish, Greek etc, they would be alone and helpless in another country.

You must be using a different definition of the word "safe" that I wasn't previously aware of.

Reply Share

0 likes  



EXPAT IN CZECH REPUBLIC?

your.expatpensionreview.com

Avoid Losing 55% Of £70k+
Pensions Download A Free
Expatriate Pension Guide



indy100 TRENDING

*This article has
drank his own*

This is one of the most
bizarre newspaper
clarifications of recent
times

BY LEFT AUSE
OSTELLO, Mike
K Independence Party (UKIP)

Seven hilarious and
NSFW ways to spoil your
vote



What scientists
discovered when they
studied the mystery
planet that could
'destroy life on Earth'



The Tories tried to get #VoteConservative trending on election day and it backfired in a big way

Pilots reveal the 7 most bizarre things they've ever seen while flying

MOST POPULAR

Tens of thousands of British travellers face ban from US flights

What you need to know about new passport rules for America

Another Stark confirmed for Game of Thrones season 6 return

Elections live: Labour set for third-place slump in Scotland

Klopp lost for words as Reds march on to Europa League final

Sponsored Links

[TOP 10] 10 Stars With A PhD

News For Ants

Are you a strategic thinker? Test your skills with millions of addicted...

Sparta Free Online Game

5 tricks to learn any language from 2

Babbel



North West's Outfit Is Worth More Than Your Car

Yurnit Magazine

Fatherhood's Changed Prince William

Reuters TV

Dozens injured as severe turbulence hits Etihad Airways flight

7  [ider woman](#) |  [olice subject](#)
sue, led to horrifying trip, amputee to
verbal abuse on train 'humiliating' search

SPONSORED FEATURES

Northumbria reveals its Masters plan

Engineering the right career path with work placements

Guide to Dubai: a couple-friendly holiday destination

Engineering the right career path with work placements

7 Steps to Student Safety

Follow us:



[User Policies](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Cookie Policy](#)

[Code of Conduct](#)

[Complaint Form](#)

[Contact Us](#)

[Contributors](#)

[All Topics](#)

[Archive](#)

[Newsletters](#)

[Jobs](#)

[Subscriptions](#)

[Advertising Guide](#)

[Syndication](#)

[Evening Standard](#)

[Novaya Gazeta](#)

[Install our Apps](#)