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<http://nypost.com/2017/07/26/afghan-diplomat-suspected-of-beating-wife-faces-recall/>

Afghan diplomat suspected of beating wife faces recall

By Tina Moore and Kevin Sheehan

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Mohammad Yama Aini

The Afghan government plans to summon home a New York-based diplomat after The Post reported police were called to his Queens home last week on suspicion he battered his wife, according to a report Wednesday.



Diplomat protected by immunity after allegedly beating wife

An Afghan diplomat is accused of beating his wife so...

Mohammad Yama Aini will be investigated on his home turf by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tolo News in Afghanistan reported.

Had his country's government done nothing, Aini would have remained at his job at the Afghan Mission to the UN — protected by diplomatic immunity from any prosecution in the United States.

But once back in his home country, Aini “will face consequences in line with Afghanistan law,” the report said.

“The Ministry of Foreign Affairs was informed about the issue through a letter received from Afghanistan's office in New York,” Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Shekib Mustaghni told Tolo News.

“The ministry wants to ask the diplomat to come to Kabul,” the spokesman said.

Ministry officials and reps at the Afghan mission in New York did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

By Wednesday, Kabul apparently had not yet gotten around to telling him that he's being recalled to face possible criminal charges.

“No, I have not heard of this!” a smiling Aini told a Post reporter outside his Flushing home Wednesday, when shown the report by his country's biggest news site.

Asked about the assault allegations, Aini said, “You cannot ask me any of this.”



Mohammad Yama Aini's wife

The Afghan news report referred specifically to The Post's coverage of the domestic battle at Aini's Union Street home, where the diplomat and his wife are raising three young children.

Aini, 46, had driven his wife, Mezhgan, 30, to a Queens hospital after the predawn Saturday fight.

There, she told hospital staff Aini pulled her hair, slapped her and punched her in the face.

She was left with swelling, pain and redness on her right eye, a police source told The Post.

Hospital staffers were so concerned, they called the police, who arrived to interview her in person at 4:30 p.m. Saturday.

New York cops remained frustrated Wednesday that their own hands are tied.

"So they try him there for what he did here," said one source. "But you have to hope that she testifies against him."

Still, the source noted, "If they recall him, he could lose his diplomatic status. That would be a kick in the ass."

Meanwhile, one neighbor said Wednesday that the whole family, including Mezhgan, who appears in public only in a full burkha, is "so polite, so quiet."

"I never hear anything from them," the neighbor said, asking that her name not be used.