



Refugee Stories

My name is Selena, I am thirty. I was living in Zimbabwe and started to support human rights groups as I believed that the government were acting unjustly and wanted to see change. Some of the people I was working with started to get beaten up and arrested by the police. One day government workers came to my house and asked for me, I lied and said I didn't know who they were talking about. Then I knew it was not safe for me in Zimbabwe anymore and was scared for the safety of my family. I managed to escape to South Africa and am looking for work. I miss my family and friends and don't know what the future holds but I know I cannot go back.

My name is Amir, I'm from Iran and have a wife and two small children. I was away visiting family when a friend informed me that my home in had been searched and they had found documents that were against the beliefs of the government. I knew it would not be safe to return, that the government will be looking to punish me and my family. We managed to travel to the UK to escape. Back home I had a job, car, house, I was respected - here I have nothing and I cannot work - we just have to wait to see if we can stay, this could take a long time. I just want my children to be safe and have a happy future.

My name is Kasim, I'm from Iraq. I am a Christian but Iraq became too dangerous to live when extremist groups started targeting our small Christian community. We were attacked several times and received death threats, we were told we must renounce our religion. We had to leave and are in Egypt now but we are just staying with friends, we cannot stay here and we have nowhere to live next. I do not know what the future holds for me and my family.

