

UPA 2: "Walking with the Excluded".

JCAP Education Secretaries — Taipei May 2019

What does walking with the excluded mean for us?



Walking with the Excluded.

 Walk alongside the poor, the vulnerable, the excluded and those whom society considers worthless, in a mission of reconciliation and justice.



A Refugee story – 1

 1979: a boat-person: journey by boat to Malaysia. Kuala Lumpur.

 19 days at Sea: ran out of supplies.



A Refugee story - 2

- One boy aged 10 died at sea
- "Will my brother be next?"
- "What about me?"



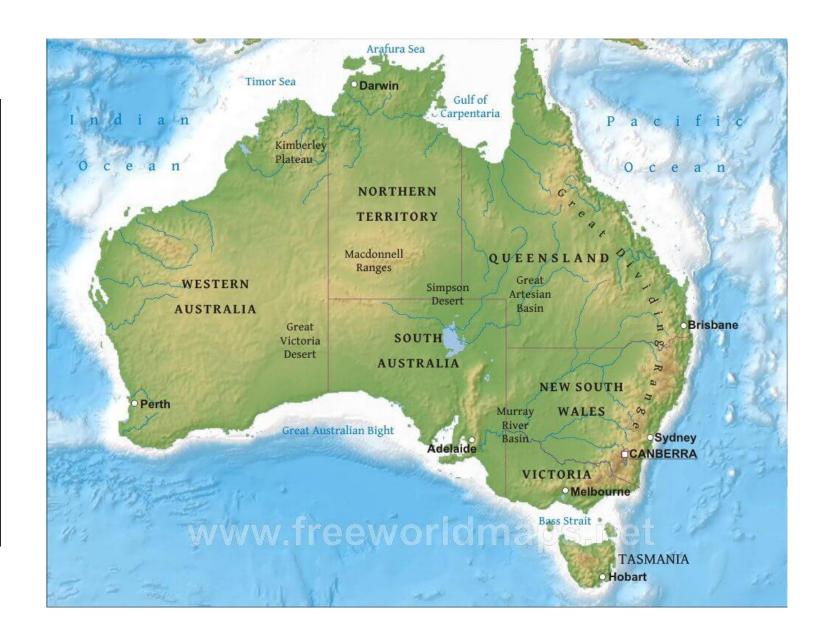
A Refugee story - 3

- Malaysia Refugee Camp for 1 year.
- "Sitting-duck": not very nice being in "Limbo"!
- You just wait, wait & wait to be called to meet an official for an interview.
- No education, no parents & survival of the **'fittest'** is common in a refugee camp.



A Refugee story - 4

- Arrived in Australia in 1980.
- Re-united with my family.



Challenges faced by Refugees

- Being "locked-up" in a camp that is worse than a prison.
- Being treated like
 "Criminals".
- Not knowing where your "future" lies.



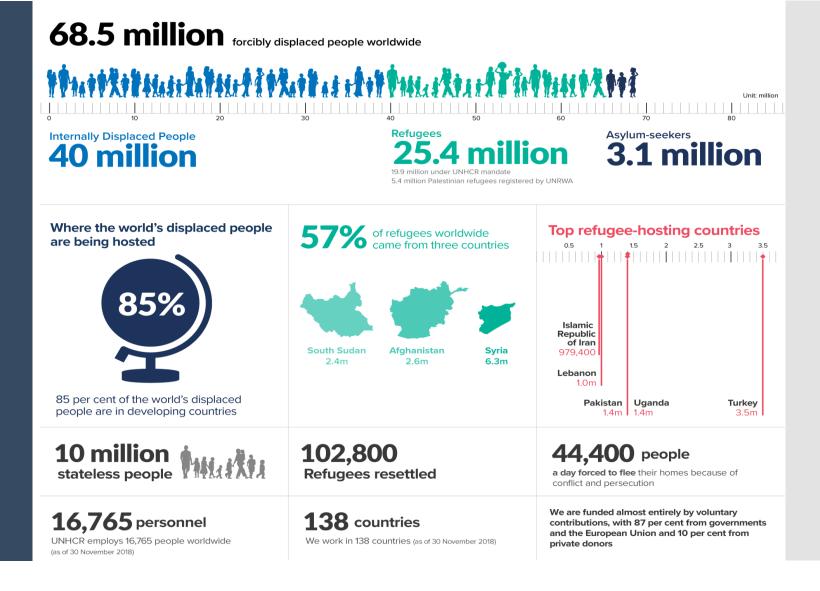
Difficulties for Today's Refugees

 No country want to welcome them.

They are considered not "human beings"



Statistics on Refugees

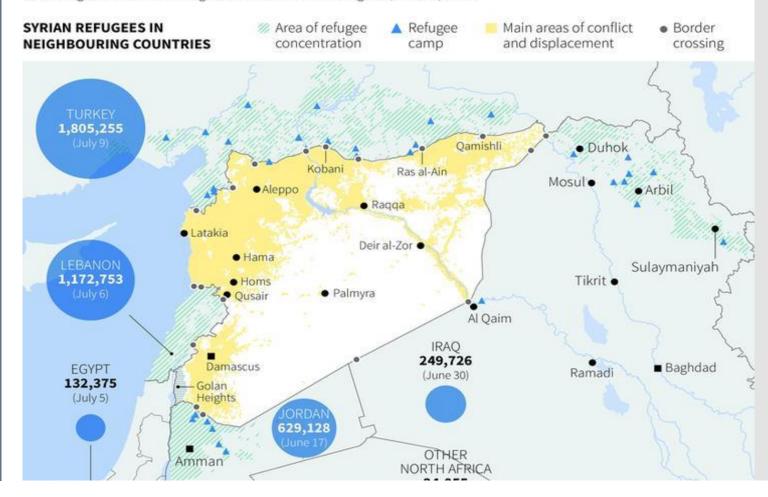


Hosting Countries of Syrian Refugees



Syrian refugee crisis

Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey are hosting more than four million Syrian refugees, according to the latest UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) data.



(a) Montagnard people – Vietnam





(b) Floating Village people: Vietnam







(c) Asylum Seekers: Africa, Uighurs ethnic minority-China, etc.

(d) People with Disabilities

"In Cambodia people with disabilities are invisible."





(e) People with HIV





God's Dream

- Jesus suffers and is crucified in and with His people, especially the little ones.
- He takes the hands of the excluded, abused and vulnerable.
- He says to them "Come, inherit the Kingdom". We are all God's children.



Our Response

- We desire a conversion in our own hearts, that makes us alive and sensitive to the suffering Christ in our midst.
- Our communities desire to be more hospitable and open, learning how to live more deeply in the Spirit of Jesus, a Spirit that welcomes.



Jesus' Response

Luke 10:25-29. The parable of the Good Samaritan.

"Go and Do Likewise"

Jesus' Response

Matthew 8:1-4. The healing of the Leper.

Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!"

Immediately he was cleansed of his leprosy.

Questions for Personal Reflection

- 40 years ago: people welcomed us with open-arms.
- Our family were one of the "lucky-ones" – WHY?
- If we are Refugees NOW we would be treated so different!
- I wouldn't be here and I wouldn't be helping the poor & lessprivileged.

