

I am Nsabimana Emmanuel a Congolese by nationality male aged 19 yrs old staying in Kyangwali Refugee Camp. I was born in the Democratic Republic of Congo in Northern Kivu. In 1996 I was forced to leave my country of origin due to civil war which left millions of people dead others left as orphans and others as lame. As we were running, I was with my whole family we were eight as a family where by we fell into the ambush of rebels. They ordered us to put our hands up and tied my father plus my elder brothers and told the mom and sister to put off then they did what is not supposed to be done ie sex and then after they also used tree in that act and left them dead in my eyes and too my father was hammered to death and too my brothers was were killed. Please was left with my two young ones.

From there, we didn't know which route to take so we went on back to our home were we got our grandparents but when they saw us they cried and ask me for the rest. When I told them they all fell down and died there and then. From there, we cried but it couldn't help us. Soon we heard fire gunshot and we took off and hid in the bush. We stayed for two days worried because we didn't know the route to take while crossing. It was on Thursday when we met an old man and we followed him and later joined a big group which was at his home and stayed for two weeks after rebels passed nearby at night but it was by luck that they didn't know that we are around so the following day we took the journey so as to cross, but the whole group was killed as we were behind them since we were weak, tired and we were saved in that way. We stayed in Gahinga game park for two weeks without food, water we could graze and eat fruits here the borders of Uganda were all closed by heavy army. It was by good luck that we met game rangers from Uganda helped us and crossed the border there we were received by the international committee of Red Cross to Nyakabande transit camp in Kisoro District.

Life in the camp was simple for us orphans and on top that being very young so it was difficult for us to get food accommodations and many others later on we got help from UN that is maize or popcorns which was not favourable to us because they are very hard and had no strong teeth to chew them so we could stay hungry .Then we stayed for six months and later transferred to Kyangwali.

Life in Kyangwali was very, very worst to us because it only depended on digging which was above our level of age and so it made us failed to get food clothings and shelter. We could only survive on fruits and bananas. After two years school started but it was difficult to us orphans. We got an assistance from the church ie food and a house for accommodation and started school though in critical condition we forced our selves because we saw that our future though through this conditions it is in education. We could wake early and go to dig before going to school and after school. Through that God blessed us as we continued with the studies and I managed to complete my Primary Level and passed well. After I had nothing to do I was totally confused of what to do without fees an idea came and I joined a football club whereby we could play for school fees that is to say you play well you get a fees for that term because it was once in a year. So I got that chance whereby I could play in first term and then go back home to dig and get money. I could dig from sunrise to sun set one USA dollar and then go back to school in third term and sit for final exam to promote me to another class and I managed up to senior two when they cut off that system and it was only left to Ugandans. From there I had nothing to do because I had no choice only that the Lord knows my sufferings.

Todays world without education is nothing, so I would like to receive an education so that i get more knowledge in order to uplift my families standards of living and help my country plus the world at large.

My dreams for the future is to became a journalist and education will help me in the way that I will get more knowledge and accomplish my dreams and achieve my goals.

My hobbies are, Playing football and volleyball plus athletics.

My parents were all killed during the war, so I have no parents I stay with my young brother and sister, so we are orphans.

My current situation is not good as I've explained in my life history above.

Thanks

I remain yours

Nsabimana emmanuel