

I am Jimmy Pierre Kanizius, a Congolese by nationality male aged 17 yrs old a registered refugee from Kyangwali settlement camp residing in Mukarange village block 5.

The war of Congo started on Tuesday April 1996 during the night when we were sleeping. We waked up and moved to very night to the bush. My father's brother who was left sleeping was captured in the house and was burnt there together with his family and therefore died. We stayed in the bush for almost one week eating and drinking water from the tree. All borders to Uganda were closed with heavy gun and too heavy arm. When sleeping in the bush one day in the night, Rebels came and fire us hence ran stepping on dead people, people died and died passing in people blood flowing. We ran and lasted on a mountain called Bugusa where they destroyed Kinyamahura Catholic Church when we were seeing standing on the top of the mountain. When they saw us they fired us and we ran taking the direction of going to Goma.

One day when we moved yet the borders are still closed but looking for the way to cross, we were all tired and yet is coming to night, we lasted and slept in the church where we were looked for by the rebels and after sleeping to night. They came and captured us and began to shoot us, my elder brother way shoot and died from they, some other jumped through the windows and there legs where cut off. I had one my Aunt who was found remaining in that church after she had failed to run since she was tired and having too pregnant, She was ask where are others and after failing to tell, She caught, pierced a long sharpened tree from the anus passing through the stomach to the head. Please if I remember the death of my aunt I get pain to cry hence she died there where in that very night, I ran alone and since it was too night, I came to fall in a long big hole where they the rebels used to throw the dead people, I stayed in that hole for almost three days no food to eat no water to drink after I failed to came out since I was tired and even still young. I was about to die there. There came a man passing nearer to that hole this was by God's power and he struggled hard and removed me there and took me for first aid at Rwankuba hospital where I got to meet my parents after one week hungrily at a place known as Kitagoma where we took way through the bush to Uganda Kitagoma and we where taken in Nyakabande transit Kisoro by the help of one of a Samaritan tired who took us in the vehicle when he was working with UNHCR.

When it was in 1997, The UNHCR planned to transfer us in the camp. Here in this transit we faced many problems like lack of food, Lack of water to drink, cholera attack us and too insecurity, so they took us transferring us to another camp called Kyangwali in Hoima District. We use to sleep outside and it happened for almost three weeks, no food, water to drink, we use to lost ripen Bananas which led to diarrhea and many other died because of hunger like my you brother called Eric I also died too and I too slept in the bed and failed to come out because of hunger and they came to find about to die there. They picked me from the bed after three days, we got problems of snakes attack were my mother was bitten with a very big snake and was taken in the hospital and she was given first aid.

After here I planned to begin studies by fail where I used to go to school with hunger and under poor situation. Here we used to sleep on grasses and please since they were old they couldn't accommodate the family well I was picked among the 5 people to go for a bursary of football which lasted for two years and my club was called TUJENE FC and also managed to study by digging one term and another term I report to school.

Jimmy is sponsored by Beth and Jim Heckel through Educate! and now attends the African Leadership Academy in South Africa. He has been sponsored since August 2007.