

Erasmus+ project 2016-
2019

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Refugees



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Refugee stories

Stories of refugees from the site <https://www.sos-childrensvillages.org/>



Stories of refugees
from the book

“Monologues of the Aegean”

In this book, refugees explain why they had to leave their country. The reasons were:



➤ the war



poverty



➤ **financial difficulties**



➤ **family dissolution**



➤ terrorism

People's stories

- **Taker, 4 yrs, Syria**

Because of the war his house was destroyed.

- **Omar 15 yrs**

Their home was destroyed and they were forced to leave.

- **Elyas, 8 yrs, Syria**

“All I remember from Syria is shootings, explosions and bombs”.



People's stories

- **Liliane, 10 yrs, Syria**

When a bomb hit her house during the war her father and brother died.

- **Rian, 32 yrs, Iran**

They left Iran because they wanted a better life and freedom.



The problems they had to face were:

- ❖ Walking long distances
- ❖ Dangerous sea trips
- ❖ They didn't know the language
- ❖ Loneliness



Difficulties - Interviews

- **Tarek, 4 yrs, Syria**

“We were living on the street in Beirut in a cardboard box, relying on the generosity of people”.

- **Ali, 15 yrs, Afganistan**

“In one of the countries I tried to cross the border. I was caught by the police and I was jailed for twelve days”.



Difficulties - Interviews

- **Omar, 15 yrs, Syria**

Victim of smugglers, who put him inside an overcrowded boat. Sometimes the smugglers pushed people off their boats.

- **Zolman, 15 yrs, Afganistan**

“It took three months to arrive in Greece. I starved, I was thirsty and I almost drowned in the Aegean”.



How the locals welcomed the refugees

Most were welcomed with friendliness and help,
others weren't welcomed well.

Mainly because lots of them polluted areas they where in.

They wanted to become a part of society and learn the language.



Interviews

- **Tarek, 4 yrs, Syria**

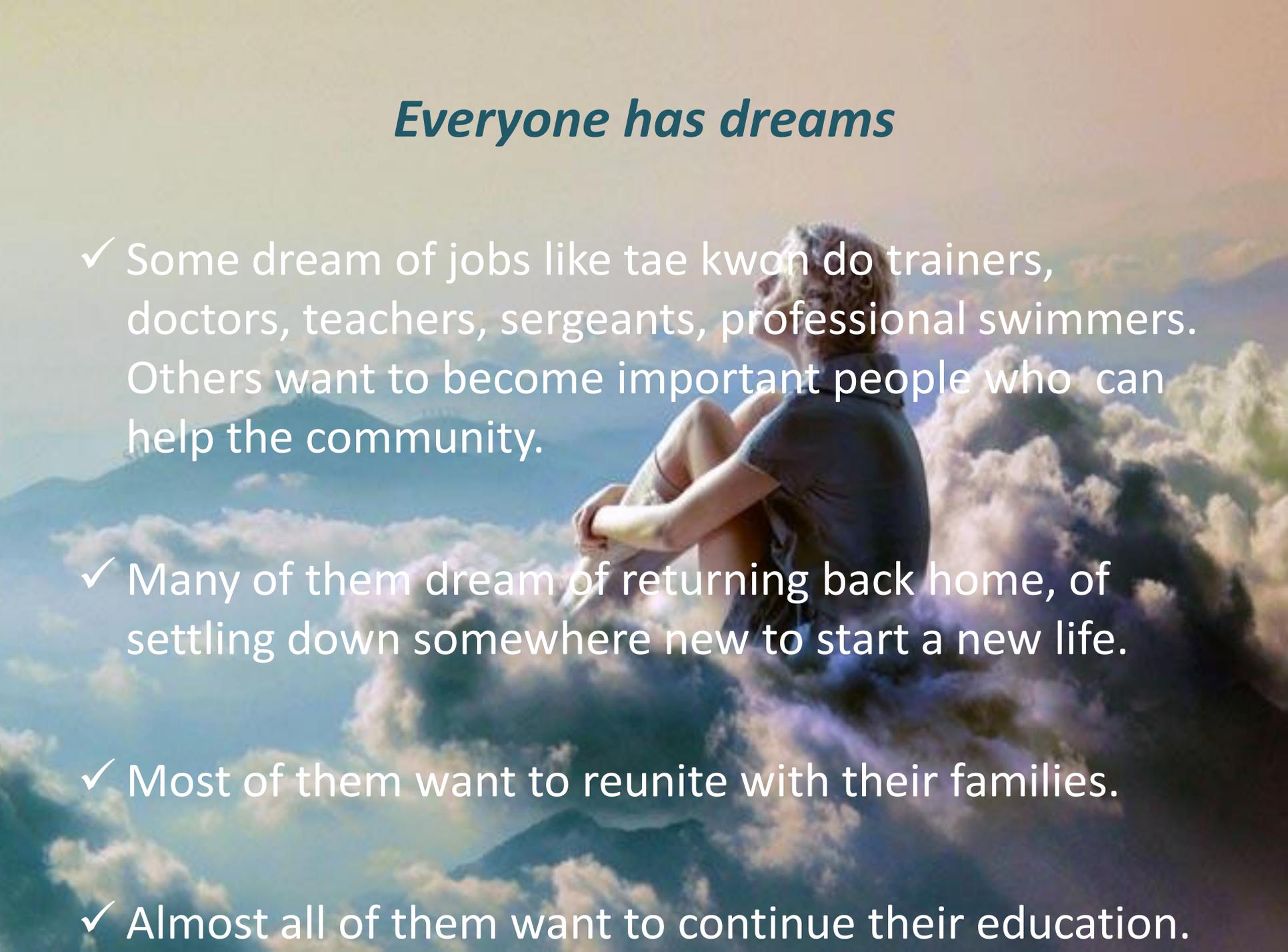
They were found and given place at Children's Villages Care Centre in Lebanon, where his brothers now also attend school.



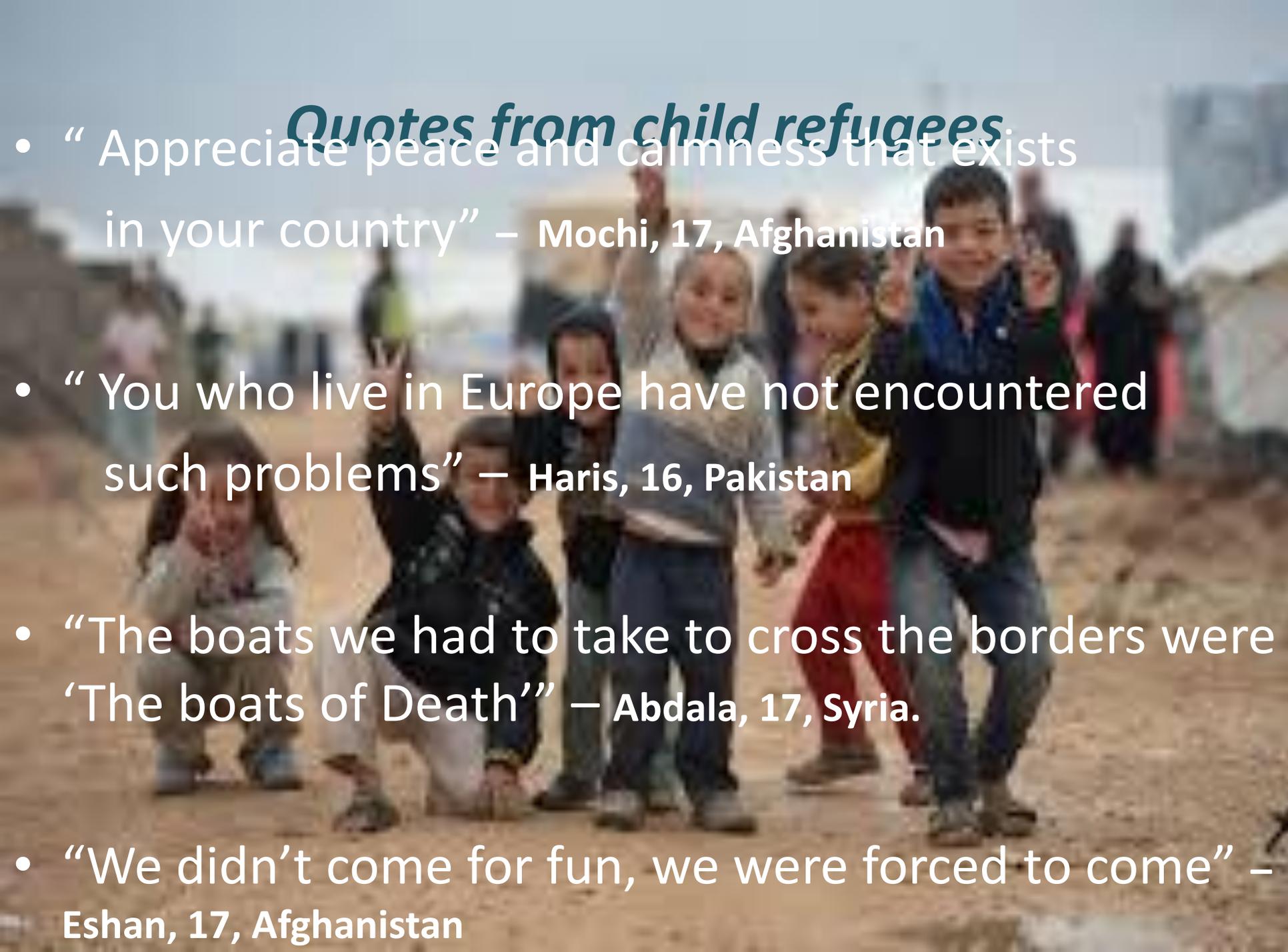
- **Abdala, 17 yrs, Syria**

“I was sent to Patras, a beautiful touristic city. I met an Art teacher there and with her help I made an important art exhibition. The best thing that has happened in my life... I have met many friendly people and it is important for me to live among them”.

Everyone has dreams

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- A person with long hair, wearing a dark t-shirt and shorts, is sitting on a large, fluffy white cloud. They are looking upwards and to the right with a thoughtful expression. The background shows a vast landscape of rolling hills and mountains under a bright, hazy sky. The overall mood is one of aspiration and hope.
- ✓ Some dream of jobs like tae kwon do trainers, doctors, teachers, sergeants, professional swimmers. Others want to become important people who can help the community.
 - ✓ Many of them dream of returning back home, of settling down somewhere new to start a new life.
 - ✓ Most of them want to reunite with their families.
 - ✓ Almost all of them want to continue their education.

Quotes from child refugees

- “ Appreciate peace and calmness that exists in your country” – Mochi, 17, Afghanistan
 - “ You who live in Europe have not encountered such problems” – Haris, 16, Pakistan
 - “The boats we had to take to cross the borders were ‘The boats of Death’” – Abdala, 17, Syria.
 - “We didn’t come for fun, we were forced to come” – Eshan, 17, Afghanistan
- 
- A group of children, likely refugees, are standing on a dirt path in a camp. They are dressed in winter clothing. Some children are waving their hands, and one child in the foreground is sitting on the ground. The background shows other people and structures, suggesting a crowded living environment.

What we found was common in almost all of the stories we read was the fact that all the children still had dreams and hopes.

It was something that we believed was very important because hope is the main thing that keeps people going.



They appreciated the help they got from the hosting country and was a helpful stepping stone as they were provided with some education in order to continue their journey...



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Thank you for watching!

Junior High School of Petra, Lesbos