

Adham's portrait



The migratory phenomenon can lead to beautiful meetings and exchanges.

They are thousands, millions to have run away their native country to go to Europe in order to try to rebuild a new life. A lot of people are « migrants /refugees /exiles », and I'm going to talk about one of them : his name is Adham.

I met him thanks to my sister Lea who, with others students, created an organisation named « *Buddy system refugee* » in 2017, whose purpose is to put students in contact with migrants/refugees. I could take an interest in his path, and talk with him (and with a lot of other people with different nationalities) so, I asked him questions which he agreed to answer.

Can you introduce yourself please ?

“My name is Adham Ahmed Abdeljalil, I'm Sudanese and I'm 28.”

Since how much time are you in France ?

“I've arrived in France the 24th May of 2016, and now I live in Poitiers.”

If it's not too hard for you, do you agree to tell me your life before your exile and also why have you left your country ?

« I was born in a small town which is called Kara. We had a very simple life, my family and I, before the war of 2003. My village was attacked. When militias entered, we had to run away by leaving immediately Kara. During this attack, there were many deaths including my bother and my sister. Then, we took refuge in another town and we thought that we could live quietly but unfortunately the government has still attacked the town and in 2016 once again. I was arrested this day with my three friends.

They took us away to a village called «Gardoude» and accused us of belonging to the army movement in these regions. My three friends were killed. I stayed there for a month under the influence of torture. I was able to escape thanks to a childhood friend who works at the prison before the war because he were police officer. I went in a village called « Ammare jadide » where live my uncle. He hid me at his mother-in-law's house. The next day, the police arrived and and threatened my uncle with

death if he didn't betray me. I couldn't go back to the village because there was the militia everywhere. I was very scared because if I was arrested, I'd probably be killed. That's why I decided to leave my country without saying good bye to my family. When I arrived in Lybie, I learned that my father had was killed the day I was arrested »

Which countries did you go through before you arrived in france?

“I went through Libya and Italy”

How did you get welcomed in france?

“On my way, I met some French people who helped me. While I was at the Italian border and injured my knees, a frenchman took me in, gave me food, treated me and guided me into the mountains. After that, in Calais, there were many Europeans who helped us. Then to Châtellerault it's thanks to the French lessons with Dominique that I met French people and that I was able to make friends. Lastly in Poitiers, with the

"buddy system" I was able to meet nice people like Lea and Kiminta and continue to work on my French . I was also able thanks to these meetings adapt to a different culture ."

How did you learn French?

« I learnt French with volunteers. Before, I spoke not at all. I learnt French because it's essential to communicate with people and also, I didn't want to remain locked and to think about the wait of my papers and about the situation of my family in the war. Now, I am in the C.F.L.E (French as a Foreign Language Centre) at the university of Poitiers and I am for the level B1 until December. »

What vision have you of your future and what you would want to make?

« I know that life in France, it's not easy but not impossible. I have my papers. As I told you, I continue to learn French and if there is the possibility, I'd like to go back to school to become a teacher, otherwise I'd like to train as a nurse. » As I said at the beginning, adham is a "migrant/exile/refugee" but he is above all a man with his history and now it's also a part of mine...ours!

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