

*** SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY.** Freedom will be approached on a selective basis with no guarantee of fair consideration. Haitian boat people beware. Think twice if you are a Muslim from the Middle East. And that includes children, too. At any given time, innocent people fleeing persecution, neglect, and abuse in their home countries can be found in prison-like facilities simply for seeking safety in the U.S.. That is not what the Statue of Liberty stands for. The poem inscribed at her base says, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." Today, the fine print tells a different story. Help us restore the welcome; help us push for asylum-seekers. Visit www.amnestyusa.org/refugee

REFUGEE



WELCOME TO AMERICA*



*NOW GO AWAY

PERSECUTION ENDS WHERE AMERICA BEGINS. OR DOES IT?

When people seeking asylum arrive in the U.S., they face an uphill battle. The "land of the free," where all are said to be created equal, often discriminates against new immigrants seeking asylum. The fair and prompt trials guaranteed to U.S. citizens accused of crimes are not guaranteed to the men, women and children whose only offense is arriving here to escape injustice elsewhere in the world.

Many are alone, with empty pockets and knowing no one. Today, virtually all asylum-seekers apprehended at our borders are subjected to lengthy detention regardless of their personal circumstances, leaving them prone to physical and psychological abuse. And because they are not entitled to a court-appointed attorney, most are forced to present their asylum claim without the benefit of a lawyer.

THERE'S NOTHING MORE FUNDAMENTAL TO HUMAN RIGHTS THAN THE RIGHT TO FLEE PERSECUTION

Amnesty International USA (AIUSA)'s Refugee Program helps hundreds of asylum-seekers every year by providing them with documentation of the dangers awaiting them in their homelands. This information can be used in court to verify their need for refuge. Among those whom AIUSA has helped in this way: a gay man vilified in Iran, a Haitian orphan whose home was torched by a mob, a Ugandan army deserter, a political dissident tortured in Liberia. All would have risked grave abuse or even death if forced to return. Today they live free.

AIUSA also advocates for humane treatment of asylum-seekers while their cases are pending. The Refugee Program calls on immigration officials to release from detention asylum-seekers who represent no danger to the community and who are likely to appear at their hearings.

AIUSA members write letters to government officials on behalf of refugees seeking just and humane treatment. They also visit detention centers and educate the public about issues facing refugees.

If you or someone you know is seeking asylum in the United States and needs human rights information to support an asylum claim, contact us at refugee@aiusa.org. We take as many cases as we can. We do not provide legal representation, though, nor can we help with immigration matters that don't pertain to a refugee claim.

We do need your help. There are thousands of people, many of them children, who find themselves in a foreign land, unable to speak the language, unable to afford a lawyer, and unable to understand why they are being held in detention. All they want is a chance. With all we have in America, a chance is the least we can provide.

The vast majority of the millions of refugees around the world never come to the United States. Therefore AIUSA's Refugee Program also works to improve the conditions of refugees abroad, especially those in particular danger. For example we persuaded the United States to resettle 7,000 Liberians who had fled to Cote d'Ivoire, only to find themselves trapped in another war.

YOUR ACTION CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

**We are making progress.
Join Amnesty International
to demand:**

- Improvement in the poor conditions facing asylum-seekers--- including lack of legal support, racial and ethnic discrimination, and physical abuse.
- Legislation to provide advice and legal care for children held alone in immigration detention.
- An end to the practice of detaining all arriving Haitian boat people and other groups on a blanket basis without regard for their personal circumstances.
- Assurance from the U.S. government that women fleeing domestic abuse, "honor killings," and genital mutilation who are not protected by their own governments may seek protection in the United States.
- Better legal and physical protection and humanitarian aid for at-risk refugees and displaced people worldwide, such as Chechens, Liberians, Sudanese, Colombians, and Afghans.

SOMETIMES AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL IS A REFUGEE'S ONLY HOPE JOIN US!


I would like to become a member of Amnesty International USA and the receive updates and actions from AIUSA's Refugee Program.

Enclosed are my membership dues of:
 \$25 individual \$40 couple \$15 student/senior/limited income

I am already a member and would like to receive updates and actions from AIUSA's Refugee Program

I am not a member but would like to receive updates and actions from AIUSA's Refugee Program

I would like to make an additional contribution towards Amnesty International's critical work. Enclosed is my gift of:
 \$15 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ _____

 All contributions to Amnesty International USA are tax deductible.
 Please send this coupon to: Amnesty International USA Refugee Program,
 600 Pennsylvania Ave. SE Washington, DC 20003
 Or obtain more information at www.amnestyusa.org/refugee

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____ Email _____

Enclosed is my check, payable to Amnesty International USA

Please charge my dues/gift of \$ _____ to:
 Visa Mastercard American Express Discover

Card Number _____

Expiration Date ____/____/____

Signature _____