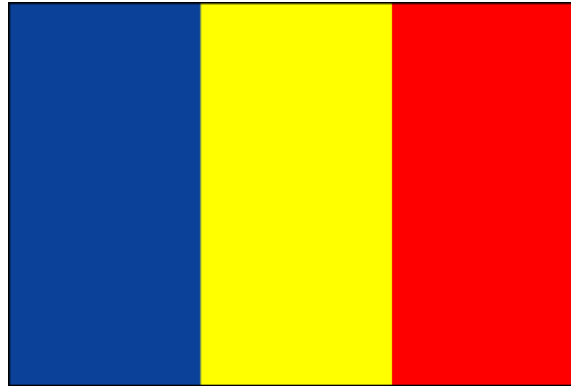


At the end of each episode, an evangelist or pastor will conclude with commentary made by professors with the word of love from Christ and God to let new immigrants know that they are blessed to now be in the country of freedom and that their success in this country depends upon their choices and behavior.

I strongly believe this project will educate and help Americans, particularly Iowans, as well as new immigrants develop deeper understandings about one another's cultures and selves.

This will add to the economy and the education system, and will build upon culture and traditions of Iowa in making it a more positive and culturally sound place to live.



Puisse la paix régner dans le monde.
Que la paix soit au Tchad.



Journey To Forgiveness and Peace

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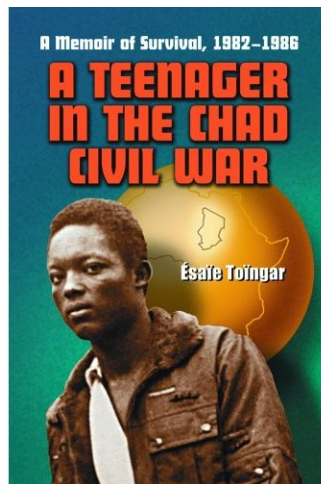
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Coming to the United States as a refugee is a life changing journey. I say journey- because in being displaced, and in waiting to be placed, and then adjusting to that new place is much more than an experience, it's a journey. As refugees we flee from our home countries because of war, disaster, political oppression, and/or religious persecution.

We leave everything we have come to know in our lives to start a new one in a new land whose laws, customs, and society are foreign to us- and we are foreign to them. Many of us come with different educational backgrounds than what is used here, and many of us begin to learn English after our arrival to this country.

After coming to Iowa and stammering through the language barrier, difference in education and contrasts in cultures and traditions, I looked to education as means of survival and it far exceeded my expectations, it changed my life.

Effectively, my education here has helped me to share my story through a number of means. Most reputable, my novel, ***Teenager in the Chad Civil War: A Memoir of Survival 1982-1986***, that was published last year and can now be found in libraries of over eighty universities throughout the United States.



My education also gave me the opportunity to found two non-profit organizations, Journey To Forgiveness And Peace (www.journeytoforgivenessandpeace.org) and Wake Up For Your Rights (www.wakeupforyourrights.org) which have become a 501(c) 3 organizations and are recognized by the Iowa Secretary of State, the Governor, and the IRS.

In coming to understand my purpose here in the United States, I look to my experiences. I, like many others have discovered, where there is a will there is a way. I am now at a point in my life, where I have the cultural capital necessary to help both old and new immigrants living in the United States.

Refugees, by nature, face a multitude of problems in beginning new lives and trying to adjust and integrate into new societies. To address these issues and make this transition more manageable for these populations I am directing a six part documentary series.

After identifying major problematic areas faced by refugee populations, we will provide the following information in the series:

1. General “welcome to America” information to aid refugees in adjusting to American society. This will include the “how to” education necessary to become a successful members of their new communities, basic cultural knowledge, the “dos and don’ts in American society” what’s services are available to them, and how to avoid conflict and better understand the system.
2. Information to help Iowans better understand the difficulties and problems refugees face through documented accounts and real life stories
3. Cultural competency for companies so that differences of cultures and traditions can be better understood.
4. Cultural competency for refugees from companies/businesses/organizations so that problems and conflict in the workplace can be better addressed and/or avoided.
5. Information for University students to discover the socio-political and socio-economic psychology that new immigrants, especially those whom have come to the country as displaced persons, have in our lives.