

**Speaker: Gwenwah Kharbeet, Syrian Refugee**  
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The Syrian Refugee Crisis has been a huge issue ever since the Arab Spring in 2010. The Arab Spring was when several countries came together and protested against the dictators leading their countries. This happened with in the Middle East and northern Africa. Peaceful protests and marches were held. The Government took notice of what was going on, frustrated, they started arresting citizens. Citizens were tortured without having any rights. There were shootings at these protests and bombings in neighborhoods leaving people homeless. After being born in Syria, in 2015, Ghenwah Kharpeet left Syria with her brothers for a more peaceful life. They did not leave Syria on foot, they flew on a plane. One of Ghenwah's brothers is currently living in France and the other in Turkey living with her. In Turkey, Ghenwah says she is treated well but feels lonely, like no one is there to help her and that she doesn't feel that she would fit in anywhere. Turkey has given free medical care for refugees, makes it easy for refugees to gain citizenship and to go to university, which is amazing! Which are important rights as humans especially gaining access to medical care. The step that Turkey has made as a country is extremely beneficial to thousands of refugees, giving them the care they need and being open to welcoming them into their society.

The Syrian Refugee Crisis is a pressing issue because people are fleeing from their homes with nothing and hundreds of thousands of people have been killed since 2011. This is not equitable human rights and every human deserves to have a place to live with clean water, food and a peaceful environment. I think it is very interesting how these people are struggling emotionally and sometimes physically while many people in the USA are living their own life not knowing how many people are getting affected by these protests and bombings. Also, many people don't realize that people like Ghenwah and her brothers are still too, refugees just because they didn't leave the country by foot.