Jordan visit – Amman and Madaba

Refugee family - East Amman

Sarabyon (aged 64 and Armenian) and Nahrain (aged 58 and Syrian) (means 2 rivers) (no children)



Sarabyon from Armenia and Nahrain from Syria – met in Iraq and married 30 years.

October 2nd 2003 in Ramadi Sarabyon's brother William and a nephew were shot dead in a drive by killing. They were sitting outside the house in the evening drinking tea. Shortly after they were left a note with a bullet saying unless they left they too would be killed 'like William'

William was a professor of English who assisted the Americans. The nephew was 14.

Later another brother, a teacher, was kidnapped by Al Qaidah in broad daylight. They robbed him of his ring, necklace and belt and physically abused him. A ransom of \$10,000 was demanded. He was held for 3 days and then released after the money was raised from friends, from family and from the church.

Sarabyon was working as an engineer

They fled to Bagdad – to an area called Dora were there are many Christians. They were waiting for 4 years, with only Nahrain able to work as a primary school teacher, sharing living space with relatives to try and save money.

Arrived here on 13th august 2015

Brother still there with 6 children in Baghdad waiting for a visa for Jordan, living in a Christian area called Dora. Their only income is her pension – their rent is 160JD per month for a single room, bathroom and kitchen on a balcony. In this area schooling is available for some refugees – run by volunteer teachers who do it after hours.

Nahrain has diabetes, liver issues and blood pressure. She only has enough drugs for a month or so. She last worked as a teacher in 2014