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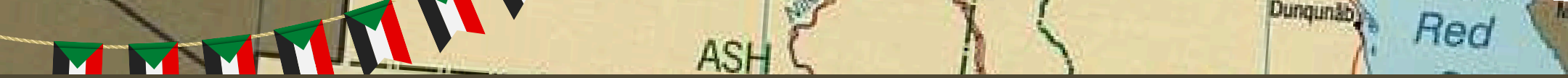
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What is your migration experience? Has your migration status made it possible to view Kuwait as your home? Why?

When I first came to Kuwait, I came on a 90-day visit visa to see my family during the month of Ramadan. In the middle of Ramadan, the conflicts started in Khartoum, and I was not able to return home, so I was stuck with my family in Kuwait, having to renew my visa every 90 days. After around 8 months, I luckily got a work iqama through a wasta, and am happy to say I can now return whenever I want to. Currently, I am living in Saudi Arabia for university, and am here on a visit visa [that needs to be renewed every 3 months]. I think having my family in Kuwait and now being able to go see them whenever I want has made Kuwait feel much more like home to me, even though it can never become my home the way Sudan was and always will be.

What factors contribute to establishing your sense of belonging to Sudan?

Well, firstly, our country has to be able to recover from this war in many aspects; opportunities for work and education have to be brought back for people to want to come back to Sudan. Also, if the country is not politically stable, people will not be able to live in peace, and we won't be able to go back there.

What factors influence your sense of stability and long-term belonging in Kuwait? Are these accessible?

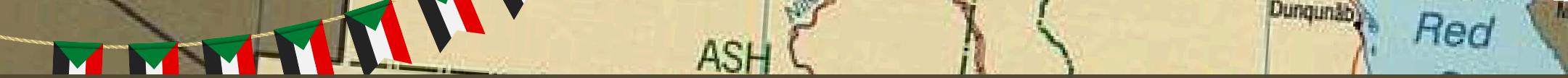
I think having measures to help people in such difficult and complicated situations, such as visas and access to long term citizenship in these countries that are so close to ours, would really help.

How have you been impacted by the ongoing atrocities in your home country?

I think the war in Sudan has had a severe impact on mine and many people's mental health, and educational and financial lives. Hundreds of thousands of people have lost their homes, their jobs, their family, and any sense of stability they might have had, and this has been detrimental for the lives of the Sudanese people.

What role does having an established community/support system play in maintaining your connection to Sudan?

I think having my university peers with me, the ones that made it out of Sudan, makes me feel much better, and a lot less alone. Also, having my family by my side has made it much easier to live outside of my home country. Most of the news I hear about the war is from them, and they help in being able to stay in contact with my family that is still in Sudan.

A decorative banner at the top of the page features a string of small flags in green, white, and red. Below the banner is a map showing parts of the Middle East, with labels for 'ASH' and 'Red'.

Looking ahead, what changes would you like to see on a legal and social level that support migrants' experiences by protecting long-term belonging and stability in Kuwait?

There are many changes I would like to see on a legal level to support the rights of those migrating to seek refuge away from war, such as the Sudanese people. I would like for the countries in the GCC to introduce a long term visa for Sudanese migrants that allow them to work much more freely and be able to not worry about being forced back into the war zone due to their visa expirations, as many people have had done to them. I think the war has really highlighted the lack of legal action to help Sudanese migrants, especially in Kuwait.