

Mook Chol Yol Mook

Age: 41

Region: Bahr al Ghazal

I was born on December 20th, 1966 in Abyei. In 1983 the government killed the people of Abyei one by one. We ran to Khartoum, but when you come from South Sudan, the government there doesn't respect you. I built buildings in Khartoum. We stayed in Khartoum until 1990 and then we went to Egypt. I was a car driver and brought people back and forth to their jobs and my wife cleaned houses.

In 2002, I came to America and went to Phoenix. My big brother, Yol Muk, lives here. I worked at Sun Land Beef Company as a butcher for one year. Then, I worked at the airport for Delta cleaning airplanes for one year. I worked for Fed Ex part-time loading trucks. Right now, I'm looking for a job. My wife works at the Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort in housekeeping.

Three weeks ago, the government of Khartoum came and killed the people of Abyei. My big sister is in the South of Sudan but she ran away one month ago. She called me and said she doesn't have food. If you need to send money to Abyei, you need to send it to Juba to someone who will bring it to Abyei. I don't have anyone in Juba who can bring the money I send to my sister. I'm going to Washington D.C. on June 26th for a rally for Abyei. I am going with my brother and with about six other people from Phoenix. We are meeting with other people from other states. We hope that American people will help my people in Abyei. They need food and medicine. I want to go to school and go back to Sudan and help my people in the South Sudan. I need to make some money.

My children go to school. My son is seventeen and next year he finishes high school and will go to college. My daughter will go to school and high school. My little boy will go to first grade and my little girl will go to Head Start next year.

Life is nice here. The U.S. is good. If you do your job and don't put yourself in a problem, you won't have a problem, you won't have a problem.