

SC-349: Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, Dayton Refugee Oral Histories

Collection Number: SC-349

Title: Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, Dayton Refugee Oral Histories

Dates: 2019

Creator: Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley

Summary/Abstract:

The collection documents the stories of six (6) local Dayton area refugees who originated from Congo, Iraq, Burundi, and Ethiopia. It contains audio oral histories, transcripts, and project documentation.

Quantity/Physical Description: 281 Megabytes

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092, library-archives@wright.edu

Restrictions on Access:

There are no donor-imposed restrictions on accessing material in this collection. All electronic records (indicated by an e-number, e.g., sc349_e0002) listed in this finding aid are processed and available; however, researchers are requested to contact us at least two (2) days in advance to request electronic records. Archives staff reserve the right to restrict access to files with privacy or confidentiality concerns. Access to original electronic media (if any) is restricted.

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Preferred Citation:

[Description of item, Date], SC-349, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, Dayton Refugee Oral Histories, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Acquisition:

The collection was donated to Special Collections and Archives, Wright State University Libraries, in May 2020, by Hayley Green, the project coordinator.

Sponsor:

The project was conducted by the resettlement agency, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, in collaboration with university students and refugees, as well as Americorps VISTA.

Existence and Location of Copies:

The entire collection is available online in Wright State University's institutional repository, CORE Scholar, at https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/.

These oral histories are also available at Princeton University, as part of their Religion and Forced Migration Project, <https://religionforcedmigration.princeton.edu/>.

Other Finding Aid:

The finding aid is available on the Special Collections & Archives, Wright State University Libraries web site at <https://www.libraries.wright.edu/special/collectionguides/files/sc349.pdf>. It is also available in the OhioLINK Finding Aid Repository at <http://ead.ohiolink.edu/xtf-ead/>.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

Electronic files require the use of appropriate computer hardware and software. File formats in this collection include MP3, PDF, DOCX, and PPTX. (Note: All DOCX and PPTX files also have a PDF preservation copy.)

Processing Information:

The transcriptions were provided by the donor.

The original, unprocessed files, in original order (by file type), can be found in sc349_e0001; there is no restriction on this material. The processed files, arranged by interviewee name and including preservation format PDFs, can be found in sc349_e0002.

Processed by:

Finding aid written according to DACS standards by Lisa Rickey, May 2020.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged in two series:

Series I: Project Documentation, 2019

Series II: Interviews and Transcripts, 2019

Biographical/Historical Note:

The project was conducted by the resettlement agency, Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley, in collaboration with university students and refugees. The aim of the project was to archive stories that the community, local refugees, desired to preserve and access for years to come. At the time of the project, the Dayton area was home to a number of refugee populations, including Congolese, Iraqi, Afghan, Eritrean, Colombian, and Bhutanese. Hayley Green, an Americorps VISTA member, coordinated the project. The interviews were conducted by journalism students from Miami University of Ohio in October and November 2019, at the Dayton Metro Library Main Branch (215 E. Third Street, Dayton).

Scope and Content Note:

The collection documents the stories of six (6) local Dayton area refugees who originated from Congo, Iraq, Burundi, and Ethiopia. It contains audio oral histories, transcripts, and project documentation. The interviewees describe their lives and social conditions in their homelands, the circumstances which caused them to leave, life in the refugee camps, how they came to the United States, and what their lives here have been like. Specific conflicts discussed include the civil war in Congo and Rwanda (mid-1990s), the Persian Gulf War (1991) and the later U.S.-Iraqi conflicts in early 2000s, and discrimination (both in their homelands and in the United States). Other common topics include the roles of the United Nations and Catholic Social Services in assisting refugees, as well as the interviewees' school experiences in the Dayton area (including Wright State University, Sinclair Community College, and Dayton Public Schools).

Series I: Project Documentation, includes administrative materials, such as background information about the project (DOCX, PPTX, and PDF) and release forms (PDF) for all interviewees and interviewers. Materials in this series are dated 2019.

Series II: Interviews and Transcripts, contains the actual audio oral history files (MP3), as well as transcripts (DOCX and PDF). All interviews were conducted in October and November 2019.

Subject Terms

Persons/Families

Al-Hamdani, Mohamed, 1981-
Bonanni, Bridget
Gafishi, Augustin, 1990-
Gigante, Peyton
Green, Hayley
Headley, Duard
Keck, Patrick
Kohina, Burzin
Mbonigaba, Rumenge
Murdock, Chloe
Omot, Okway, 1985-
Ramadhan, Ndayisaba
Sifa, Jeanne

Organizations/Corporate Names

Catholic Social Services of the Miami Valley

Places

Africa -- History
Africa -- Social conditions

Subjects (General)

Refugees -- Ohio -- Dayton
Refugees -- Iraq

Refugees -- Congo
 Refugees -- Burundi
 Refugees -- Ethiopia
 Persian Gulf War, 1991 -- Refugees

Material Types

Oral histories
 Sound recordings
 Electronic records (digital records)

Collection Inventory

<u>E-Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Date</u>
Series I: Project Documentation		2019
sc349_e0002	Project Information	2019
sc349_e0002	Release Forms	2019 Oct.-Nov.
Series II: Interviews and Transcripts		2019 Oct.-Nov.
sc349_e0002	Al-Hamdani, Mohamed, from Iraq, interviewed by Bridget Bonanni https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/5	2019 Nov. 8
sc349_e0002	Gafishi, Augustin, from Congo and Rwanda, interviewed by Duard Headley https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/6	2019 Oct. 26
sc349_e0002	Mbonigaba, Rumenge, from Congo, interviewed by Burzin Kohina https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/4	2019 Oct. 26
sc349_e0002	Omot, Okway, from Ethiopia, interviewed by Patrick Keck https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/3	2019 Oct. 25
sc349_e0002	Ramadhan, Ndayisaba, from Burundi, interviewed by Chloe Murdock https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/2	2019 Nov. 16
sc349_e0002	Sifa, Jeanne, from Congo, interviewed by Peyton Gigante https://corescholar.libraries.wright.edu/special_sc349/1	2019 Oct. 25