

## Topic: Information of Syrian refugees

**\*\*Introduction:** Why everyone is talking about Syrian refugees these days? Who are they? Why do they become refugees?

Breaking news from international news channels dropping the first bombshell: The huge number of Syrians arriving in Europe seeking international protection continues to increase and then news of the picture of three-three-years Syrian boy lying washed up on a Turkish beach was another bombshell.

You can see from the photo that the boat was absolutely overloaded.

I don't want to put the picture of three-three-years Syrian boy lying washed up on a Turkish beach as it's too sad to see it. But I attached another one to show a parent's love to their child.

Why those people put their loved ones on such risky ways to escape from their home?

How many people can make it to the Europe?



You must have the same questions when you saw this news.

So today we will introduce Syrian refugees issue to you so you will be getting know how these all happened.

**\*\*Preview:** We would like to divide this presentation into 3 parts: history and geography of Syria, what was the cause of Syrian refugees and how international organizations help Syrian refugees.

## (1) History and geography of Syria

### 1. Geography

Slightly larger than North Dakota, Syria lies at the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. It is bordered by Lebanon and Israel on the west, Turkey on the north, Iraq on the east, and Jordan on the south. Coastal Syria is a narrow plain, in back of which is a range of coastal mountains, and still farther inland a steppe area. In the east is the Syrian Desert and in the south is the Jebel Druze Range. The highest point in Syria is Mount Hermon (9,232 Ft; 2,814 m) on the Lebanese border.

### 2. History

Ancient Syria was conquered by Egypt about 1500 B.C. and after that by Hebrews, Assyrians, Chaldeans, Persians, and Alexander the Great of Macedonia. From 64 B.C.

until the Arab conquest in A.D. 636, it was part of the Roman Empire except during brief periods. The Arabs made it a trade center for their extensive empire, but it suffered severely from the Mongol invasion in 1260 and fell to the Ottoman Turks in 1516. Syria remained a Turkish province until World War I. A secret Anglo-French pact of 1916 put Syria in the French zone of influence. The League of Nations gave France a mandate over Syria after World War I, but the French were forced to put down several nationalist uprisings. In 1930, France recognized Syria as an independent republic but still subject to the mandate. After nationalist demonstrations in 1939, the French high commissioner suspended the Syrian constitution. In 1941, British and Free French forces invaded Syria to eliminate Vichy control. During the rest of World War II, Syria was an Allied base. Again in 1945, nationalist demonstrations broke into actual fighting, and British troops had to restore order. Syrian forces met a series of reverses while participating in the Arab invasion of Palestine in 1948. In 1958, Egypt and Syria formed the United Arab Republic, with Gamal Abdel Nasser of Egypt as president.

However, Syria became independent again on Sept. 29, 1961, following a revolution.

In the Arab-Israeli War of 1967, Israel quickly vanquished the Syrian army. Before acceding to the UN cease-fire, the Israeli forces took control of the fortified Golan Heights. Syria joined Egypt in attacking Israel in Oct. 1973 in the fourth Arab-Israeli

War, but was pushed back from initial successes on the Golan Heights and ended up losing more land. However, in the settlement worked out by U.S. secretary of state Henry A. Kissinger in 1974, the Syrians recovered all the territory lost in 1973. In the mid-1970s Syria sent some 20,000 troops to support Muslim Lebanese in their armed conflict with Christian militants supported by Israel during the civil war in Lebanon. Syrian troops frequently clashed with Israeli troops during Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon and remained thereafter as occupiers of large portions of Lebanon.





增加一段 transion:(The history and geographical location are important for the following historical events because they cause in the Syrians fleeing away from their nation and hence they become refugees.)

(2) What was the cause of Syrian Refugee

No issue can exceed the Syrian Refugees by the world now. Let's talk about “Why Syrians need to escape their country.”

1. Syrian civil war: Since Arab spring on 2011, Syrians didn't broken dictatorship of Bashar al-Assad but unfortunately that descent into civil war. More than 250,000 Syrians have lost their lives in four-and-a-half years of armed conflict.
2. Homeless: War damaged the house more than 11 million people have been forced from their homes. We can see the picture cadavers and dilapidated building throughout the street.

3. Chemical weapons: Hundreds of people were killed by nerve agent sarin in August 2013, Assad agreed to the complete removal or destruction of Syria's chemical weapons after the US military intervention.
4. ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham) intervened: The world's most dangerous creature that capitalize on the chaos in the region intensify situation became more difficult.
5. Proxy war: What began as another Arab Spring uprising against an autocratic ruler has mushroomed into a brutal proxy war that has drawn in regional and world power. Iran and Russia have propped up the Alawite-led government of President Assad and gradually increased their support.
6. Children: Nearly 12 million Syrians have been forced from their homes by the fighting; half are children. Syria's conflict has devastated the nation. More than 240,000 people have been killed, including 12,000 children. One million more are wounded or permanently disabled. Children need a safe, protective environment and a chance to play and go to school. Owing to this reason, Syrians need to flee terror and find refuge to save their life and their children.

### (3) How international organizations help Syrian refugees

In the fifth year of the Syrian conflicts, millions of refugees are caught in

deteriorating conditions, facing an even bleaker future.

UNHCR provides basic and necessary humanitarian aid for Syrian refugees and helps the most vulnerable refugees with urgently needed relief - cash for medicine and food, stoves and fuel for heating, insulation for tents, thermal blankets and winter clothing.

UNICEF's humanitarian strategy for Syrian refugees is in line with the 2015-16 inter-agency Regional Refugee and Resilience Plan (3RP), which brings together humanitarian and resilience interventions to meet the needs of Syrian refugee children and their families, as well as other vulnerable groups impacted by the crisis.

Nearly five years after the outbreak of war, the International Rescue Committee has helped more than 3 million Syrian refugees and internally displaced people to recover and rebuild their lives. The IRC provide medical and other critical aid, ensure refugees have access to legal counseling, and help women and girls who are victims of violence.

The Bezos Family Foundation along with the International Rescue Committee and Global Nomads Group launched the Students Rebuild Healing Classrooms Challenge which will help Syrian refugee children in Lebanon and Iraq recover from crisis.

RI is equipping refugees with the knowledge they need to improve their lives, thereby giving them a degree of control over their situation and offering them hope for a better future.

If we help refugees rather than fear them, we stand a chance of breaking this cycle of violence. But we will never achieve an end to conflict if its victims continue to be mistaken for its cause.

**\*\*Review:** As we just mentioned history and geography of Syria, the reason how Syrian became refugees and how international organizations help Syrian refugees. I hope you could have a clear picture of this refugee issue.

**\*\*Conclusion:** we know Syrian refugees better and now shall we think about what we can do for Syrian refugees?

Is it just because Syria is the neighbor to Europe, the Europeans need to take care of Syrian refugee issue? Does it any effect to us living in Taiwan?

Actually it reminds me of the war in Taiwan back to 70 years ago. I am so surprised there are still so many people suffering from the war nowadays.

The Syrian refugee crisis is a humanitarian catastrophe of historic proportions. Men, women and children are risking their lives every day as they flee their homes in search of safety.

Being a human, we should help each other, no matter if we are from the same country, we all live in this planet. Maybe Taiwan is too small to accept refugees to immigrant

here, but we can help provide the lifesaving relief they desperately need and we can find the international organization to help deliver more lifesaving aid to Syrian refugees and families in crisis around the world.

I hope the war can be ended soon and everyone can have a happy life.

Thank you for your attention.

Members

Judy

Grace

Ellen

Jade

Dear all,

You did a good job. Please omit the yellow marks and add the red lettered words.

Good luck and I am looking forward to your presentation.

Lily