

An Unforgiving Diaspora following the journeys of Somali war refugees

Somalis continue to experience one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world. As of September 2013, there were more than 1.1 million Somalis displaced internally and nearly one million refugees living in neighboring countries such as Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen.

Somalia has been engulfed in conflict since the Siad Barre regime collapsed in 1991, and many of its citizens have been displaced ever since. Spikes in violence and drought conditions have caused multiple waves of displacement over the years, and most recently the 2011-12 famine claimed over 260,000 lives. The government installed in 2012 controls only a fraction of the country, and those areas remains fragile in the face of tension between competing warlords and frequent attacks from the Al Shabab terrorist group.

Dadaab, the world's largest refugee camp is located in the deserts of east Kenya, and holds 500,000 refugees, over half of the total registered refugee population in Africa. Refugees are rarely allowed to leave the camp, have little food and water, and have minimal living conditions, often staying in makeshift homes.

965,664 Somali refugees
Kenya: 427,550 refugees
Ethiopia: 245,853 refugees
Yemen: 236,803 refugees

1 in 9 Somalis is a refugee



Cartographer: Jonathan McHugh. Projection: Orthographic centered on 95° E, 10° N. Refugee data: data.unhcr.org. "Registered Somali Refugee Population."