



Rethink Rebuild Society

A voice of the British Syrian community

Press Release

25 March 2019

RR Announces Launch of ‘Memories from Syria’ Videos 30 March in HOME at 2pm

Rethink Rebuild Society is pleased to announce the launch of a series of 50 videos titled ‘Memories from Syria’ which chronicle excerpts from the lives of 50 Syrian refugees currently residing in the UK. These videos will be launched at an **event in HOME on 30 March from 2-4 pm**. Select participants of this project will be present during this launch and **will be available for interview**. To attend the event, please register through the link: <https://homemcr.org/event/memories-from-syria-film-project-launch-event/>

The fifty videos showcase the stories of Syrian refugees in the UK who share, in their own words, some of the experiences that they underwent either throughout the conflict in Syria, through their journeys to reach the safety of Europe and the UK, and through rebuilding their lives here in the UK. Their stories will enable a British audience to understand why these people had to flee their home country, why they chose to come here, and how they are now actively working to improve their lives.

Dr Haytham Alhamwi, General Manager of Rethink Rebuild Society, says, *‘The driving reason behind this project is to dispel common misconceptions surrounding the Syrian refugee experience and to tackle the climate of xenophobia that has been worryingly taking root in some areas of British society regarding Syrian and other refugees. We thought what better way to do that than to allow the British people to hear from Syrian refugees themselves.’*

Amneh Khoulani, one of the participants of this project, left Syria with her family after she, her husband, and her three brothers were detained by the Assad regime. She says, *‘Syrian refugees didn’t flee Syria for materialistic reasons. We are here because our very lives, and those of our children, were at threat. We’ve gone through unimaginable experiences throughout the revolution in which we were calling for freedom and dignity, and the Assad regime responded with murder and detention. I was forced to leave Syria after being released from detention for fear of being detained again. I was happy to take part in the ‘Memories from Syria’ project so that I could share some of my story with the world.’*

This project is overseen by Rethink Rebuild Society and is funded by the Home Office’s ‘Building a Stronger Britain Together’ grant.

ENDS

For further information and press enquiries, please contact 07533155533 or email: moaz@rrsoc.org

Rethink Rebuild Society has established itself as a non-profit organisation that acts as an umbrella for the Syrian community in Manchester, and endeavours to promote peace and protection of civilians to its audience in the UK and the wider public.