

HISHAM'S STORY

I'm originally from northern Syria, where life was once very good. But everything changed when the uprising began—violence spread, security collapsed, and many lives were lost. Even now, peace has not returned. I left not only for my own safety, but also to protect my children.

I appreciate the kindness of Scottish people, the beauty of the country, and the sense of civilization.

Leaving was heartbreaking. Syria is my homeland, where I grew up, made memories, and had many friends and relatives. My house was destroyed, and my older sibling couldn't come with us. My family and I lived in Türkiye for years, waiting nearly a decade for the UN resettlement program to call us. The wait was incredibly hard.

As Syrians, we faced racism in many forms. Thankfully, resettlement support and other organisations helped us. Now, I've been in North East Scotland for almost two years. The only real challenge is the language, but I'm learning English to improve communication and independence.

I studied in Syria and worked as an automotive mechanical engineer in Türkiye, earning certificates. To work here, I need a British qualification. I'm hopeful—my wife, children, and I all have dreams, and with support from the government and local associations, we believe we can achieve them.