

21ST CENTURY SHOW # 39

SHOW OPEN AND MUSIC (24.75”)

TEASES

Coming up on 21st Century...

[SYRIA TEASE]

Making movies in no-man’s land: (*Sound up: “I said to them: why don't we put these all together in a film?”*) **The Palestinian refugees who starred in their own films. (14.00”)**

[TRINIDAD & TOBAGO TEASE]

Lured by quick money... vulnerable women get caught up in crime
“Sound Up: He told me to carry one kilo of cocaine”... crisscrossing international borders with illicit drugs... (12.88”)

ANCHOR INTRO #1 (21.74”)

Hello and welcome to 21st Century. I’m Daljit Dhaliwal.

[SYRIA TEASE]

Stranded in the desert, forgotten by most of the world, chased away by violence. That was the lot of several hundred Palestinian refugees who tried to flee the land they grew up in: Iraq. But the refugees found a creative way to change their lives for the better. Here’s their story.

SCRIPT – SEGMENT # 1 (12'45'')

Iraq's Refugee Filmmakers

VIDEO

AUDIO

NARRATION:

REFUGEES SAYING GOODBYE
AND HUGGING

Heartfelt goodbyes ... and tears. (4.28'')

It has been a long time. Many of these refugees – Palestinians who fled from Iraq – have been waiting for years to find a better life. They had given up hope – but now that's changed. (12.35'')

REFUGEE CAMP

The Al Tanf camp, where they have been stranded, is in the no-man's land between Syria and Iraq... It's a desolate place. (9.65'')

REFUGEES IN CAMP
IRAQ VIOLENCE SCENES

In 2006 hundreds of Palestinians, who had grown up in Iraq, set out across the desert. (6.37'')

WAR CAPTIVES

They were fleeing an upsurge in horrific violence – Palestinians were often the targets. (6.31'')

BUILDINGS BOMBED

Yet when they arrived at the Al Tanf border crossing, this is as far as they got. No country would let them in. (6.53'')

TENTS IN CAMP	The UN refugee agency set up this tent city in the desert – assuming it would stay here for only a few weeks. (6.09”)
WOMAN REFUGEE	Then the weeks turned into years... (1.66”)
ALI ON CAMERA	<u>ALI</u> : (In Arabic) “People began to be forced out when the militias arrived.” (2.60”)
ALI IN CAMP	<u>NARRATION</u> : Ali Salboud has been in Al Tanf for two years. In Baghdad he worked as a journalist. He was kidnapped twice ... and let go both times. But his family and colleagues did not escape the country’s wave of sectarian violence, often carried out by militia groups. (15.94”)
ALI ON CAMERA	<u>ALI</u> :(In Arabic) “We were told that we had to leave our home. We moved to the Dora area. Soon after that Dora became violent with people being displaced by force. They threatened families, telling them they had to leave their homes. We went to stay with my parents in Za’faraniyya. Then my brother was kidnapped. We still don’t know where he is today. I was also threatened at work. My editor was murdered and I was advised to disappear for a while. “ (28.34”)
ALI AND OTHER REFUGEES	
ALI ON CAMERA	

ALI AND FAMILY

NARRATION:

Ali entered Syria illegally with his family and went into hiding for months. Eventually they turned themselves in, hoping to be relocated to a new country, and they were sent to al Tanf. (10.84”)

ALI AT CAMP SCHOOL

Ali soon established himself as a key figure in the camp – becoming the principal of Al Tanaf’s small school, where he teaches science. Many of the young refugees, including 13-year-old Shehab, look up to him. (13.16”)

SHEHAB ON CAMERA

SHEHAB: (In Arabic)

“He’s become my mentor – he’s like my father. My childhood was taken from me when I left Iraq. But it’s the reality I have to deal with, whether I like it or not. “ (10.65”)

NIDAA EMPTYING RICE FROM
COOKING POT

NARRATION:

Nidaa Hassan’s family also suffered at the hands of militias. Masked men burst into her home and dragged away her husband – all this in front of her children. A month later, she went to the Baghdad morgue where she was shown a series of photos of mutilated bodies. (17.82”)

NIDAA ON CAMERA

NIDAA: :(In Arabic)

“You had to be attentive because you only saw each photo for five seconds. You hardly had any time. Then my husband’s

photo appeared, very briefly. “ (7.95”)

ARCHIVAL PHOTO OF NIDAA
AND FAMILY

NARRATION:

She had to go home and tell her children that their father was dead. (4.44”)

NIDAA CRYING ON CAMERA

NIDAA: :(In Arabic)

“My daughter asked me: ‘Mum is Dad dead? Did you see him among the dead bodies?’ I said yes. They started shouting and screaming. My son Abdul-Rahman didn't say a word, he just wept incessantly. I held them all, all of them. And a voice in my head said to me: You need to be strong; you need to be strong to care for your children. You are all that they have left. “ (32.12”)

NIDAA PACKING BOXES

NARRATION:

Nidaa borrowed money, bought false passports and fled to Damascus. She hid there for a year. (5.46”)

But life as an illegal immigrant offered no future for her family. They, too, turned themselves in and were sent to al Tanf in July 2009. (9.84”)

GENERAL SHOTS CAMP

Many of these refugees have been uprooted several times – and they are all completely dependent on the UN refugee agency, and other aid groups. (8.40”)

TRUCK FACING CAMERA	Food and water have to be trucked in from Syria. (3.88”)
MEDICAL CENTRE	The camp does have a few facilities – including a basic medical centre – and from time to time the barren stretches along the desert road become a playground of sorts ... but it’s a life of isolation and monotony. (14.41”)
CHILDREN AND KITES	
INTRO TO MUTASEM	Mutasem Hiyati is the UN refugee agency’s man on the ground. He grew up in a refugee camp himself. (5.78”)
MUTASSEM ON CAMERA	<u>MUTASEM:</u> (In Arabic) “We never expected that this would take three or four years. We imagined, and planned on the basis that there would be a solution in a couple of months – because it’s unacceptable that these people are left in such a situation. “ (10.84”)
REFUGEES DISMANTLING TENTS	<u>NARRATION:</u> Helping refugees relocate to a new country often takes years ... and gaining the world’s attention and assistance isn’t easy, especially when as many as two million Iraqis have fled their home country. (11.94”)
PAN OF CAMP	
ALI’S PROFILE	It was Ali – the ex-journalist who realized one day that he had a solution on his doorstep – a way to raise awareness of Al Tanaf. (8.72”)

ALI'S COMPUTER SCREEN	<p><u>ALI</u>: (In Arabic)</p> <p>“The boys used to be bored most of the time. I had a small digital camera and a computer so I went back to my old work, and became an amateur videographer. I</p>
ALI FILMING WITH HIS PHONE	<p>would film in the camp and organize screenings, then I said to them: why don't we put these all together in a film? “</p> <p>(15.21”)</p>
REFUGEES CHANTING/ HAPPY	<p><u>NARRATION</u>:</p> <p>There were happy moments ... but also disasters... (8.19”)</p>
CAMP FIRE	<p>Fires ... that reduced tents to ashes in minutes... (3.18”)</p>
SNOWY CAMP	<p>Snow.... sand storms... (7.37”)</p>
FLOODS	<p>...And floods that destroyed what little the refugees had ... but even then they kept a sense of humour. (9.62”)</p>
ALI SHOWING FILM EXTRACTS ON COMPUTER	<p><u>ALI</u>: (In Arabic)</p> <p>“It was so miserable that all the boys could do was laugh – there was a big pool of water and they were imagining themselves as Abu Dhabi National Geographic. “</p> <p>(8.87”)</p>
ALI ON CAMERA	<p>“Any group that came, either a relocation delegation or a visitor, we would give them</p>

copies of the films. These copies were widely distributed, and they appeared on the internet. “ (9.94”)

“Sometimes me and the guys would look at these films and think how were we able to achieve all this with such modest means? So it makes us proud.” (11.40”)

GRAPHICS OF “EVANA DREAMS” FILM

NARRATION:

One of the most successful films focused on a young girl living in the camp – it was called “Evana Dreams. (28.06”)

EVANA WALKING AND TALKING IN CAMP

EVANA: (In Arabic)

“I like the camp; I like all the people that are in it. If it wasn’t for the storms and the rain and the wind it would have been a normal life for me. But we don’t want tents, we want houses. We want children to go out and play outdoors and to be happy. Not just for me, for all the children. I like all the people here in the camp. “ (11.50”)

REFUGEES TEARING TENTS DOWN

NARRATION:

Films like this, along with the persistent efforts of the UN refugee agency, did eventually succeed in bringing the attention of the world – and that, in turn, brought practical results. (11.50”)

ALI ON CAMERA

ALI: (In Arabic)

“I have received my bags today and will

begin packing. I am pleased; this is the moment I've been waiting for. " (6.50")

NARRATION:

REFUGEES LEAVING CAMP
WITH SUITCASES

Ali is going to Italy. He's one of the last to leave. The first group of Al-Tanf refugees left for Chile in 2008 – then several European countries opened their doors ... as well as Canada. (8.25")

REFUGEES JUMPING WITH
JOY

Over 750 refugees have found new homes so far. (2.44")

Definitely worth a celebration. (2.00")

ALI AND FAMILY PACKING

EXCHANGE BETWEEN ALI AND SON: (In Arabic)

FATHER: "Leave it here – we can't take it with us." (1.34")

BOY: "No, I want to put it in the other bag." (1.34")

FATHER: "Leave it and they will send it to us later." (2.13")

BOY: "No." (0.50")

FATHER: "There isn't enough space, my love." (1.41")

FATHER: "Aren't you going to miss your friends here? " (1.53")

BOY: "Are there any left? " (0.50")

MOTHER ON CAMERA

MOTHER: "Not a single one of his friends is left. They have all gone. He's the last one here. " (3.81")

BAGS BEING PACKED	<p><u>NARRATION:</u> The joy at finally being able to escape Al Tanf camp is tempered by other feelings. (5.53”)</p>
ALI ON CAMERA	<p><u>ALI:</u> (In Arabic) “The weather has been strange and since nine this morning that I have been wandering around the camp, like a person who is going to be losing something. I have strange, mixed feelings – I’ll not have to worry about fires anymore – and thank God I’ll be able to keep my children safe. But I am afraid of the unknown and I don’t know what my destiny is going to be. I’m sad thinking about all the friends I’ve made in the past two years. I love them and they love me. “ (35.43”)</p>
GENERAL CAMP VIEWS	<p>I’ll be able to keep my children safe. But I am afraid of the unknown and I don’t know what my destiny is going to be. I’m sad thinking about all the friends I’ve made in the past two years. I love them and they love me. “ (35.43”)</p>
ALI CRYING	<p>“This is the hardest thing. The thing that I fear the most – is the moment of farewell. “ (6.06”)</p>
BIG MOVING TRUCK	<p><u>NARRATION:</u> In another corner of the camp ... the moving truck has arrived. Household goods are packed up. (6.72”)</p>
NIDAA PACKING IN HER TENT	<p>Nidaa is also moving her all her belongings. She is going to another refugee camp in north-eastern Syria where there is brick housing and a safer environment – but it’s</p>

only another temporary solution and it's a long way from the new life she craves. (14.32")

NIDAA ON CAMERA

NIDAA: (In Arabic)

I feel so scared but I am hoping there will be a solution for me, and for my children – and soon. Not in two years or three years, because time is going by. My children just think they are wasting the years. My children want to study. (18.72")

REFUGEES SAY GOODBYE

NARRATION:

It's time for goodbyes. Unlike Ali, young Shehab is still waiting to hear which country he will go to. (7.34")

REFUGEES CELEBRATING

For some of the refugees it will be years before they see their brothers, mothers, sons and daughters again. And yet, the memories of their life together in Al Tanf will always be preserved – thanks to their films. (13.53")

REFUGEES' FILMS

ANCHOR INTRO #2 (19.17")

[TRINIDAD & TOBAGO INTRO]

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the global drug trade is worth some 523 billion dollars. Caught in the middle are unsuspecting women, tempted by dealers to work as couriers. We spoke to two of them in Trinidad and Tobago. Here's our story...

SCRIPT – SEGMENT #2 (10'45")

Trinidad and Tobago: Just One Trip

VIDEO

AUDIO

ANIMATION – HIBISCUS

(NATSOT – DRUG MULE SKIT)

“He told me he would give me money.
He told me he would pay for my mother to
get well.
He told me he could solve all my problems.
He told me I had to make one little trip to
London.” (14.34”)

ANIMATION OF AIRPLANE
FLYING

NARRATION:

The film, “Eva Goes to Foreign”, shows
how some women are enticed into the drug
trade. (5.90”)

NICOLE’S PROFILE IN CAR

It’s a scene that 33-year-old Nicole knows
only too well. (4.00”)

NICOLE IN CAR

Nicole, who has asked us not to use her
real name, became a drug ‘courier’– a
person who carries drugs for traffickers.
(6.17”)

CARS AND STREETS

It all began one day in 2005 when she met
a friend in downtown Port-of-Spain, the
capital city of Trinidad & Tobago. Nicole
told him she was desperate. (13.30”)

NICOLE ON-CAMERA
NICOLE: (In English)
“I was talking to him about problems I was having at home with my husband. We were separating. He wasn’t caring for the kids and things were a bit hard.” (11.69”)

NICOLE AT A BAR
NARRATION:
With three children to feed, it was getting harder to support her family by herself. Nicole needed some quick cash. (6.71”)

NICOLE ON CAMERA
NICOLE: (In English)
“A girl passed by with her flashy car and he told me what she does. “ (5.00”)

PEOPLE IN STREET
NARRATION:
Her friend said that the girl was a courier. Nicole was intrigued. She thought this could help her start a new life in the UK. Her friend said he could help her out. (10.38”)

CARS IN STREET
NICOLE: (In English)
“He introduced me to his friends. He told me to carry one kilo of cocaine and he would give me some money. It was probably 500 US.” (12.46”)

NICOLE ON CAMERA
NARRATION:
Not much money compared to the street value of one kilo of cocaine – 70,000 US dollars in the UK. But for Nicole, every dollar counted. (10.13”)

HANDS HOLDING PACK OF COCAINE

NICOLE ON CAMERA

NICOLE: (In English)

"I said well why not. I'll carry it." (2.00")

ANIMATION: SILHOUETTE OF
WOMAN

NARRATION:

And with that, Nicole became one of the many couriers in Trinidad and Tobago. The twin-islands' strategic location makes it an ideal trans-shipment point for traffickers. According to the Caribbean Community and Common Market, CARICOM, some 310 metric tons of cocaine transit the Caribbean to Europe every year. Almost half of that is seized by customs. But drug couriers keep trying. (27.87")

NICOLE WALKING THROUGH
CORRIDOR TO BEDROOM

The dealers contacted Nicole two weeks after the initial rendezvous. They took her luggage and packed it. She collected it from them at the airport. (9.88")

(NATSOT - NICOLE IN CAR TO AIRPORT)

NICOLE CLOSING CAR TRUNK
AND WALKING INTO AIRPORT

NARRATION:

Ticket in hand, Nicole attempted to smuggle what she thought was one kilo of cocaine into England. (6.33")

NICOLE AT AIRPORT

NARRATION:

She was nervous ... her first hurdle was getting onto the plane. But Nicole got lucky. (5.47")

NICOLE WALKING THROUGH REVOLVING DOOR	<p><u>NICOLE:</u> (In English) “When we reached the airport, they had two flights in the same line. The flight was boarding, so they just took everybody and started to let them pass through... I didn’t get checked.” (13.52”)</p>
PLANE TAKING OFF	NATSOT – AIRPLANE LEAVING
PLANE IN AIR	<p><u>NARRATION:</u> Nicole had managed to evade customs in Trinidad... (3.30”)</p>
ARRIVING AT AIRPORT: BRITISH AIRWAYS PALNE PARKED	<p><i>NATSOT – DISSOLVE TO LONDON AIRPORT</i></p>
BAG ON CONVEYER BELT	<p><u>NARRATION:</u> But her luck ran out when she got to London. (3.20”)</p>
DOG ON CONVEYER BELT	<p><u>NICOLE:</u> (In English) “An immigration man stopped us. He said: ‘We believe that you have an illegal substance.’” (6.13”)</p>
PACKAGED COCAINE BAGS	<p><u>NARRATION:</u> They checked her suitcase. Instead of one kilo of cocaine, they found four. (7.57”)</p> <p><u>NARRATION:</u> Charged with narco-trafficking, Nicole was sentenced to seven years in prison. (5.43”)</p>

LOCK ON DOOR KNOB	<p><u>OLGA HEAVEN:</u> (In English)</p> <p>“She was devastated by the sentence. I think at one time she protested her innocence but in the end I believe she pleaded guilty. I think to get a lesser sentence. “ (10.02”)</p>
OLGA ON CAMERA	
OLGA AND OFFICER WALKING INTO PRISON CORRIDOR	<p><u>NARRATION:</u></p> <p>Olga Heaven is the founder of Hibiscus – the charity that commissioned the video about Eva. She’s helping foreigners navigate the justice system. (8.57”)</p>
OLGA ON CAMERA	<p><u>HEAVEN:</u> (In English)</p> <p>“There is an assumption by women carrying drugs that if I go to this country I’m going to get away with it. This is what the organizers are telling them. I think we need to try and break that.” (9.30”)</p>
HANDS HOLDING CELLS BARS	<p><u>NARRATION:</u></p> <p>What they don’t tell them is that drug trafficking sentences can stretch from five to 15 years. (5.80”)</p>
BLACK CAR MAKING A TURN	<p><u>NARRATION:</u></p> <p>Some drug couriers get caught before they even leave the island. This young woman, whom we will call Tammy, is a British citizen. She got caught when she tried to smuggle cocaine into England but was stopped on her way out of the Caribbean. She claims that she was tricked by her</p>

friend. (18.70”)

CELL DOOR CLOSING,
TAMMY’S FACE BLURRED ON
CAMERA

TAMMY: (In English)

“He asked me to take some chocolates,
Trinidadian sweets, back to England for a
friend.” (6.75”)

HANDS OF POLICE LOOKING
INTO DRUG BAGS

NARRATION:

The police didn’t buy her story. Tammy’s
friend coaxed her into swallowing dozens of
cocaine pellets and to take some in her
luggage. But before she set foot on the
plane, police arrested her. She denied it
was cocaine and insisted it was chocolate.
(18.19”)

TAMMY’S HANDS STICKING
OUT OF CELL BARS

TAMMY: (In English)

“He said to me if this was really chocolate
you would bite it, right? And he asked me
to bite it. So I bit it. After five minutes, I
couldn’t stand, almost fainted, and the
police officers rushed me to the hospital.”
(15.35”)

FAST PAN OF STREETS

NARRATION:

HANDS HOLDING PELLETS

Tammy was lucky to survive. Others aren’t
as fortunate. Many drug couriers die each
year from accidentally overdosing on their
smuggled goods. This woman died when
cocaine pellets burst inside her. (14.03”)

DEAD WOMAN

CUSTOMS OFFICER: (In English)

PEOPLE WALKING IN AIRPORT

“I have actually witnessed a lady who came

into the UK from Madrid, but she originated from South America. (5.38”)

NARRATION:

FEMALE OFFICER ON CAMERA This customs officer asked us not to use her name. (2.40”)

CUSTOMS OFFICER: (In English)

“...And what had happened is that she had swallowed the packages, and some of them she had to re-swallow because of the length of time. And one of the packages burst and she died upstairs in the immigration holding area.” (13.37”)

NARRATION:

BAGS ON CONVEYER BELT Every year, UK customs discover thousands of women from West Africa and the Caribbean carrying illicit drugs. (7.53”)

CUSTOMS OFFICER: (In English)

OFFICER ON CAMERA “A lot of girls come through. If they are carrying drugs, they appear nervous or agitated.” (4.74”)

“Sometimes they dress themselves up to look very smart and it doesn’t look quite right when you have a lot of people still in their holiday outfits.” (8.95”)

NARRATION:

SCREENING AIRPORT MACHINE With new technology, it’s harder to trick customs officers. (3.26”)

OFFICER LOOKING AT X-RAYS ON COMPUTER SCREENS	<p><u>CUSTOMS OFFICER:</u> (In English)</p> <p>“We also have body scan machine which is very similar to an x-ray but not quite so powerful. And that will enable us to see all the intestines and the stomach area and we will be able to see any packages that are there.” (15.91”)</p>
ANIMATION	<p><u>NARRATION:</u></p> <p>Body searches, machine scans and canine checks help to deter would-be traffickers. And warning videos like “Eva Goes to Foreign” have stopped some couriers. (9.93”)</p>
WOMEN AROUND CONFERENCE TABLE LOOKING AT PROMOTIONAL POSTERS	<p><u>HEAVEN:</u> (In English)</p> <p>“There has been a fantastic decrease – in fact, I would say up to 85% or 90% decrease in the numbers of women who are bringing drugs from Jamaica. And also from places like Nigeria and Ghana for example that is cut down by 95%. We also launched a campaign in Trinidad and the number has dropped dramatically.” (18.67”)</p>
OFFICER USING METAL DETECTOR ON PASSENGER	<p><u>NARRATION:</u></p> <p>But with tighter security at airports, traffickers are becoming smarter. (3.73”)</p>
OPEN LUGGAGE	<p><u>PHILBERT:</u> (In English)</p> <p>“We have people being very ingenuous in</p>

the way they move drugs out of Trinidad and Tobago.” (6.65”)

CUSTOMS OFFICER
ONCAMERA

NARRATION:

James Philbert is Acting Commissioner of Police in Trinidad. He says traffickers are constantly searching for new ways to move their drugs. (7.44”)

PHILBERT ON CAMERA

PHILBERT: (In English)

“... Embedding the drugs into furniture then using the drugs as bits of artifacts.” (3.80”)

“Every conceivable method is being employed to take drugs out of the country.” (5.78”)

DEMONSTRATION OF DRUGS
HIDDEN IN BOXES

NATSOT – EXPLAINING ABOUT HIDDEN
DRUGS

NARRATION:

But stopping drugs from coming in, is another challenge. (3.69”)

BOAT ON WATER

Trinidad’s many ports and harbours are ideal for traffickers. Policing the waters is a strain on Trinidad and Tobago’s resources. But the international community is helping with intelligence, surveillance radars, and aerial patrols. And the coast guard is already putting that intelligence to work. (20.79”)

COAST GUARDS RUNNING

NATSOT – STOPPING SMALL BOAT

COAST GUARDS ON BOAT

With fast boats for missions both offshore and close to land, these marine patrols are effective. (9.23”)

TWO BOATS

This small boat was just fishermen on the way home. But this one, recently intercepted, was loaded with more than 800 kilos of drugs. (8.97”)

POLICE CAR WITH POLICEMEN

Police say that drug smugglers are also moving firearms into the country leading to a spike in gun-related crimes, as criminal gangs fight for their share in the drug trade. (11.12”)

PHILBERT ON CAMERA

PHILBERT: (In English)

“We can attribute a lot of the crime to the fact that the drugs are present and drugs are trafficked in Trinidad and Tobago.” (7.83”)

POLICE ON STREETS

NARRATION:

Police are responding with heavily armed foot patrols in Port-of-Spain neighbourhoods. (4.90”)

Their constant presence is intended to reassure and protect the public. (4.34”)

TRAFFICKERS WITH GUNS
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

But the traffickers aren’t giving up. (1.77”)

PHILBERT ON CAMERA	<u>PHILBERT:</u> (In English) "The drug pushers are very, very strong in pursuing what they want done. People still come here, unsuspecting people, who think that one trip could make them wealthy for the rest of their lives." (13.59")
PEOPLE ON BEACH	
TAMMY WALKING OUT OF DOOR	<u>NARRATION:</u> For Nicole and Tammy, they learned the hard way. (2.00")
NICOLE IRONING	Tammy is serving a five-year prison sentence while Nicole is out on parole. She is back with her family leading a quiet life. (8.49") Nicole cautions anyone looking to make quick money from smuggling drugs to think twice. (5.84")
NICOLE ON CAMERA	<u>NICOLE:</u> (In English) "You might think you have the biggest problem and this is the only way. This is not the only way. You'll have more problems down the road." (7.00")
CELL DOOR CLOSING	
[SHOW CLOSE] (8.00")	

That's all for this edition of 21st CENTURY. I'm Daljit Dhaliwal. We'll see you next time. Until then, goodbye.

CREDITS #39 (38.97”):

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