

# Çîroka Silêman Zandinan

Sulaiman Zandinan's Story



Silêman Zandinan

Ezidi



Çîroka Silêman Zandinan

**Sulaiman Zandinan's Story**

Produced by the Toowoomba Ezidis

Ezidi  
Queensland, Australia

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Translated by Hassan Ali Ibrahim

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Navê min Silêman  
Zandinan e.

My name is Sulaiman  
Zandinan.

Ez xortekî êzîdî ji  
Iraqê me û nûha ji 29ê  
Gulana 2018 ve li  
Australya dijîm.

I am an Ezidi boy from  
Iraq and I've been  
living in Australia since  
29th of May 2018.

Îro ez ê çîroka xwe ya  
dema sala 2014 de bi  
malbata xwe re  
genocida Êzidiyan de ji  
aliyê DAÎŞ'ê ve hatim  
girtin ji we re bêjim.

Today, I'm going to tell  
you my story of when I  
was taken with my  
family by ISIS during  
the 2014 Ezidi  
genocide.

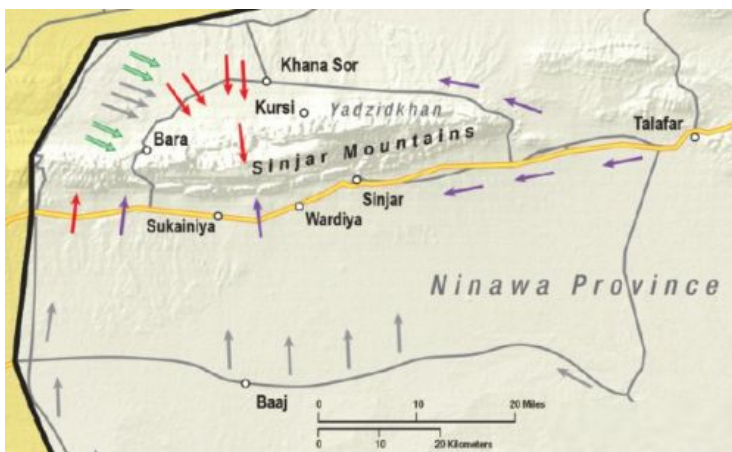


Ez yek ji hezaran  
malbatên ji aliyê  
DAIŞ'ê ve hatin girtin.

I am one of thousands  
of families who were  
taken by ISIS.

Ji ber destpêkirina  
çîroka min, di 3'ê  
Tebaxa 2014 de  
DAIŞ'ê êrîşî bajarê me  
kir û her tişt wêran kir,  
bi hezaran malbat  
kuştin, bi hezaran kes  
girtin, destavêtin bi  
hezaran keç û jinên  
ciwan.

To begin my story, on  
3rd of August 2014,  
ISIS attacked our city  
and destroyed  
everything, killing  
thousands of families,  
taking thousands of  
people hostage, and  
raping thousands of  
young girls and  
women.



Dema ku DAIŞ'ê êrîşî gundê me Wardiya yê li ser Şengalê kir, ez û 30 kesên ji malbata min - bira, xwişk, dak, bab, kormam, xal, biraziyên min û yê di... 31 kes birin!

Em birin gundekî bi navê “El-Ba'aj البعاج” û 1 sal û 7 mehan em li wir man, b av û xwarinê gelek kêr li wir hiştin.

When ISIS attacked our village of Wardiya near Sinjar, they took me and 30 people from my family - including my brothers, sisters, mum, dad, cousins, aunties, nephews, nieces and more... 31 people in total!

We were taken to a village called Al Baaj, and they kept us there for 1 year and 7 months with very little water and food.



Bi wan re jiyaneke  
zehmet derbas kir.

It was a terrible life  
with them.

Em gelek demên dijwar re bohrin ku em ê li jiyana xwe de te carî ji bîr nekin!

We faced a lot of hard moments that we will never forget for the rest of our lives!

Nêzîkî bîst meh derbasbûna bi DAIŞ'ê re ji me hemyan re zehmet bû.

Spending nearly twenty months with ISIS was absolutely terrible for all of us.





Tenê kurmamekê min û I had only one cousin  
xûşka min hebû ku di and one sister who  
wê heyamê de ji aliyê were not taken by ISIS  
DAIŞê ve nehatibûn during that period, and  
girtin û ew li cihekî they were in a safe  
eman bûn - Kurdistan. place - in Kurdistan.

Huhawe kirin They tried to help us to  
harikariya me bikin ku get someone to come  
kesek bi û me ji wî cihê and take us from that  
bibe cihêhekî aman. place and to a safe  
place.



Çend caran muhawele	They tried to send
kîrîn kesekî bişînin cihê	someone over to where
me da em ji destê	we were a few times so
DAIŞê, birevin lê	we could escape from
mixabin gelek caran ji	ISIS, but
ber tirsê me bi ser	unfortunately it failed
neket û nekarîn birevin	many times as we were
ji ber ku cîranên li rexê	scared, and couldn't
me hebûn ku ew jî b	escape because of
DAIŞê rê bûn.	neighbours around us
	who were also involved
	with ISIS.



Piştire, li wê heyamê de, DAIŞê kehreb û telefon qut kir, ji ber wê jî kesi nikare bikar bîne û telefonê bike.

Li 4'ê Adara 2016 de we cara tali û şansê revê yê tali bû.

Li dora saet 21.00 kesek hat mala me. û ji me re got em saet 3ê sibê xwe karkin.

Later on, during that period, ISIS cut out the electricity and phone network so no one can use or make phone calls.

On the 4th of March 2016, was our last time and last chance to escape.

Someone came to our house about 9.00pm and told us to get ready at 3.00 o'clock in the morning.



Got ewê e me hemua  
bigihîne cihekê aman  
ku xwişk û kurmamet  
min ê din lê ne.

He said he will come  
take us all to a safe  
place where my other  
sister and cousin are.

Diviyabû ku me jê  
bawer bikira ji ber ku  
şanseke din tunebû.

We had to believe him  
as we didn't have any  
other chance.



Me dizanibû ku xwişk û We knew that our  
pismamê me yê din other sister and cousin  
hewl didin yekî bişînin were trying to send  
da ku em birevin, lê ji someone to help us  
ber ku demek dirêj escape, but because we  
têlefônên me tune bûn, hadn't had phones for  
em ditirsiyan ku em such a long time, we  
bawer bikin û ew zilam were afraid to believe,  
wê şevê hat lê di and that man came  
dawayê de me biryar that night, but at the  
da ku em bişopînin. end we decided to  
follow him.

Nexwe em ditirsiyan Otherwise we were  
ku DAIŞ her dem û afraid that ISIS will kill  
deqeyekê me bikuje. us any time, any  
minute.



Wê şevê, baran gelek  
bariya, em hemî şiyar  
bûn û me xwe hazir  
kirin ku em ji malê  
derkevin ber bi  
terempêla wî zilamî.

On that night, it was  
raining heavily, and we  
all were awake and got  
ready to start leaving  
the house towards that  
man's van.

Saet 3 de me dît  
terempêla wî ji mala ku  
em tê de diman tê.

At 3.00am we saw his  
car coming outside of  
the house in which we  
were living.

Em hemû qasî 100  
metreyî gelek bi lez  
meşyan û di bin  
barana zêde de ber bi  
terempêlê ve meşyan.

We all walked about  
100 metres very fast  
and quiet in heavy rain  
towards the van.





31 kes di kêmtirî 1  
deqîqê de li wê  
terempêlê siwar bûn, ji  
ber ku em kelek  
ditirsan ku kesek me li  
derve bibînê û DAIŞê  
pe b hisine, lê, em  
gelek bextewar bûn ku  
baraneke zêde bari, û  
di wê demê de kes li  
derve şiyar nebû!

Thirty-one people got  
in that small van in less  
than one minute, as we  
were very scared that  
someone would see us  
outside and let ISIS  
know, but we were  
very lucky it was  
raining heavily, and no  
one was outside and  
awake during that  
time!



Piştî ku em siwar bûn û	After we got into the
me dest bi meşyani kir,	van and started
di dema meşyani de,	moving, as we
dema ku baran dibari,	travelled, it was
terempêla me di nav	raining, and our car
avê de asê ma.	got stuck in the water.

Me çend caran	We tried several times
mehaweke da ku em wê	to push it out, but it
derînin ji ber ku	was very hard to move
terempêl nêzîk 30 kes	a van carrying about
tê de bûn.	30 people.

Paşe, me terempêl	After a while, we got
derani û dîsa dest bi	the van out, and
meşê kir.	started to move again.





Nêzîkî 5ê sibê em li gundekî sekinin û kesê em birin , terempêla xwe guhert û kir 2 terempêle cuda, da ku kes nikaribe jhe me zanibe.

Around 5.00am we stopped in a village and the man who was taking us, replaced his van with two cars so no one could track us if they tried.

Em ji wî gundê derketin û saet 7 de ber bi cihekî di ve çûn.

We left that village and drove to another place, arriving at 7.00am.

Careke di wî zîlamê terempêl guhert û 6 motorsîkletên di ên mezin kir.

Once again that man replaced the cars with another big van and six motorbikes.



Ji ber ku daxwaza me  
ev bû, wî jin li  
terempêla kirin û mên  
li motorsîkletan kirin.

He put females in the  
van and the males on  
motorbikes as per our  
request.

Me jê re got me dvet  
pêşî hemû jin biçin û  
piştî em karibin l pe  
wan bin.

We told him we wanted  
all the females to go  
first and that we would  
follow them.

Tali de, piştî reyek  
dirêj û gelek bi  
zehmet, em gihîştin  
cîhek eman ya nêzîkî  
Sûriyê.

Finally, after a very  
long and painful trip,  
we reached a place of  
safety near Syria.



Wî zîlamî em hemû bi  
qasî 200 metreyan  
dûrî şervanên êzîdî  
kirin û got, "Hinek  
alayên spî hildin û ber  
bi wan ve bimeşin."

Piştî vê yekê em di tali  
de ketin aman de.

Em nêzîk 2 saetan li  
wir man û piştî em  
birin kampê.

That man dropped all  
of us about 200 meters  
away from a group of  
Ezidi fighters and said,  
"Raise some white  
flags and keep walking  
towards them."

After that, we were  
finally safe.

We stayed there for  
about 2 hours and then  
they took us to the  
camp.



Min xwişk û kormamen xwe ditin - herdo kesên gelek misaada me kirin em j DAIŞ'êxilasbin.	I met with my sister and cousin - the two people who had worked very hard to get us out from the ISIS territories.
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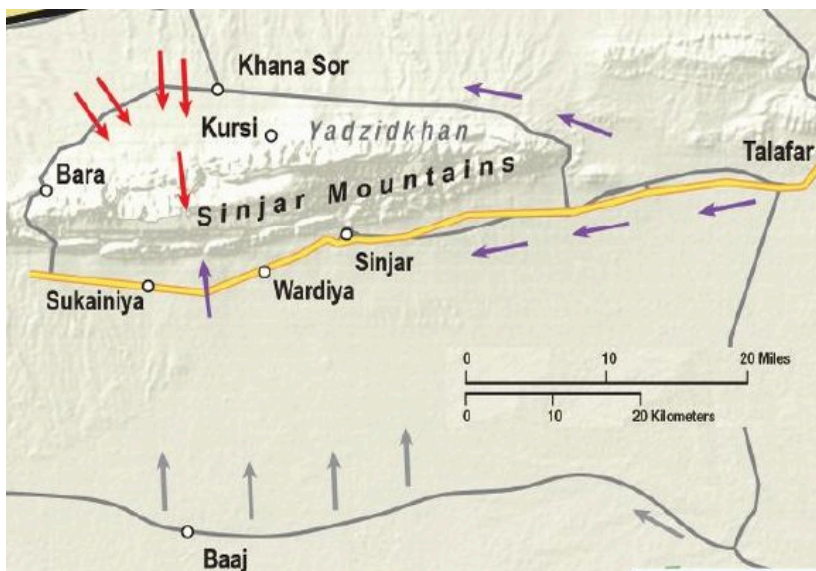
Em elek kêfxweş bûn! Lêbelê, em c carî wan demên dijwar ên di jiyana me de qewimîn ji bîr nekin.	We were just so happy! However, we will never forget those hard moments that happened in our lives.
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Tali de, j mere	Finally, we were given
derfetek peyda bû em	an opportunity to move
ji Iraqê derkevin û	out of Iraq to have a
hayateka baştir hebe u	better life, if we
lazim me qirar dabe.	decided to take it.

Em l talya sala 2018 de	We finally moved to a
cune welatê azadîxwaz	country of freedom,
"Australia" û ji wê	Australia, in 2018, and
demê ve em gelek	have been so happy
kêfxweş bûn ku em li	and pleased to live
vir dijîn.	here since then.

Li ser navê xwe û	On behalf of myself
hemû civaka Êzidî, em	and all of the Ezidi
bi vê derfetê supasiya	community, we would
Awustralya û xelke wê	like to take this
ed kin ji ber her tiştê	opportunity to thank
wan ji mere kiriye.	Australia and their
	people for everything
	they've done for us.



## Discussion Questions

### Pîrsên Nîqaşê

- #01: What happened to Sulaiman Zandinan's family in August 2014?
- #01: Li Tebaxa 2014 de çi hat serê malbata Silêman Zandinan?
- #02: Study the map. Approximately how many kilometers from Wardia village to El Baaj?
- #02: Nexşeyê lêkolîn bikin. Ji gundê Wardia heta El Baaj bi qasê çend kîlometreyan?



#03: For how many months did Sulaiman Zandinan's family stay in El Baaj?

#03: Malbata Silêman Zandinan çend mehan li Baajê man?

#04: What did Sulaiman's family in Kurdistan try to do?

#04: Malbata Silêman li Kurdistanê çi qirar da?

#05: Why is 4 March 2016 a special day for Sulaiman's family?

#05: Çima 4ê Adara 2016 de rojeke taybet e ji mala Silêman re?





#06: What things helped Sulaiman's family to escape from ISIS?

#06: Çi tişt misada mala Silêman kir ku ji destê DAIŞê birevin?

#07: What kind of vehicles did Suliman's family use during their escape?

#07: Mala Silêman di dema revîna xwe de ç jure terempila bikar anîne?

#08: When did Sulaiman Zandinan's family reach Australia?

#08: Mala Silêman Zandinan kengê gihîştin Australya?





#09: In what ways is your experience similar to that of Sulaiman Zandinan?

#09: Serpêhatiya te bi çi awayî weke ya Silêman Zandinan?

#10: How can your experiences of settling in Australia help you to assist other Ezidi people when they first come to Australia?

#10: Serpêhatiyên we yên bicihbûna li Australya çawa dikarin ji we re bibin musaada da hûn musaada xelkê Êzidî yên di bikin dema ew car berî werin Australya?



