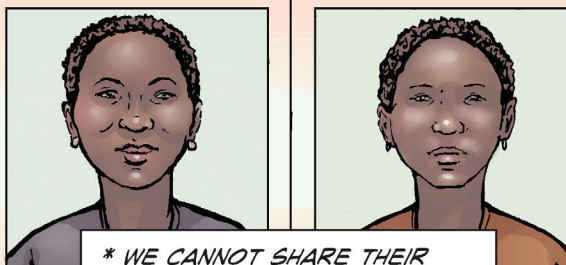


THE COUNTRY OF UGANDA SUFFERS FROM ONE OF THE HIGHEST UNEMPLOYMENT RATES IN AFRICA (13.3%). MANY YOUNG UGANDANS SEEK JOBS IN PARTS OF THE WORLD WITH A HIGH DEMAND FOR DOMESTIC AND MENIAL LABORERS, SUCH AS THE OIL-RICH UNITED ARAB EMIRATES (UAE).

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GRACE (25) AND AMINAH (23) *
ARE TWO UGANDAN WOMEN
WHO SOUGHT WORK IN THE UAE.



* WE CANNOT SHARE THEIR
FULL NAMES OR REAL IMAGES.

GRACE GRADUATED FROM UNIVERSITY
BUT COULD ONLY FIND A JOB AS
A KINDERGARTEN TEACHER PAYING
ROUGHLY \$80 A MONTH.

AMINAH COULD NOT FIND A JOB AT ALL.
BOTH HEARD OF WOMEN WHO WORKED IN THE UAE
AND RETURNED HOME WITH ENOUGH MONEY TO
BUILD A HOUSE AND PROVIDE FOR THEIR FAMILIES.

RELUCTANTLY, BOTH BEGAN TO SEEK WAYS TO TRAVEL. GRACE WORKED TO GET OFFICIAL PERMITS, WHICH
TOOK ALMOST A YEAR AND COST HER \$1,100. AMINAH PAID LARGE AMOUNTS TO AN INFORMAL RECRUITER.

GRACE ENDED UP
WORKING AS A
CLEANER IN A HOTEL.
ALTHOUGH IT WAS
HARD WORK,
SHE WAS ABLE TO
BUILD UP SOME
SAVINGS AND
RETURN HOME
TO BUILD A HOUSE.

I'M THINKING
OF GOING BACK.

AMINAH'S EXPERIENCE
WAS DIFFERENT.
SHE WORKED FOR
A PRIVATE FAMILY.
HER PASSPORT WAS
TAKEN FROM HER,
AND SHE WAS NEVER
ALLOWED TO LEAVE
THE HOUSE.

SHE WORKED
20 HOUR DAYS,
WITH NO BREAKS,
AND WAS ABUSED.
SHE WAS NEVER
ACTUALLY PAID
FOR HER WORK.

THEY NEVER GAVE ME
ENOUGH FOOD. I THOUGHT
I WAS GOING TO DIE, AND
SOMETIMES I JUST ASKED
GOD TO KILL ME.

BECAUSE OF EXPERIENCES LIKE AMINAH'S,
IN 2016 UGANDA BANNED ITS CITIZENS FROM
TAKING JOBS AS DOMESTIC WORKERS
IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE UAE.

ALTHOUGH AN AGREEMENT
HAS NOW BEEN SIGNED
REQUIRING BETTER TREATMENT,
MIGRANT WORKERS CONTINUE
TO BE AT RISK OF
MALTREATMENT AND ABUSE
AROUND THE WORLD.