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INTERVIEW: Youth Interview

NAME LIKE TO BE CALLED: Achiel

COMPANY: Park Teen Center

HOMELAND: Khartoum, Sudan

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(HOW WOULD YOU SAY YOUR NAME IN YOUR COUNTRY?)

Ak-eel.

(SO IT'S A LITTLE DIFFERENT)

Yeah.

(UM... WHERE DOES YOUR FAMILY COME FROM?)

Um, we came from Sudan. South Sudan.

(WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER ABOUT THE SUDAN?)

Um, there were wars so kinda bad. So, yeah.

(HOW OLD WERE YOU WHEN YOU MOVED?)

About like 7.

(SEVEN. UM, WELL WHAT CITY DID YOU LIVE IN IN THE SUDAN?)

Khartoum

(HOW MUCH, HOW MUCH FAMILY DID YOU HAVE AROUND THERE?)

We have a lot of family.

(A LOT OF FAMILY)

Yeah.

(WAS ALL OF YOUR FAMILY AROUND THERE?)

Yeah. Most of em, mostly.

(WHAT FAMILY MEMBERS DO YOU REMEMBER?)

Uh, mostly my dad's side. Um, like my cousins and my aunts and uncles.

(GRANDPARENTS?)

Yeah.

(DID YOU HAVE GREAT GRANDPARENTS?)

Um, no.

(JUST GRANDPARENTS)

Yeah.

(DID SOME OF YOUR MOM'S FAMILY LIVE AROUND THERE?)

Yeah, they live around us, but we didn't live with them.

(DID YOU LIVE WITH YOUR DAD'S FAMILY?)

Yeah.

(UM, WHAT WAS THE CITY LIKE?)

What do you mean?

(WAS IT BIG, WAS IT AS BIG AS LINCOLN?)

Yeah, it was huge.

(IT WAS HUGE. KHARTOUM IS HUGE)

Um hum. (yes)

(WOULD YOU SAY IT'S ABOUT THE SIZE OF OMAHA? HAVE YOU BEEN TO OMAHA?)

I think it's bigger than Omaha. (BIGGER THAN OMAHA)

(WHAT WAS THE MAIN MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION THERE?)

What do you mean? Like the rides?

(YEAH, IF YOU HAD TO GO SOMEWHERE, HOW WOULD YOU GET THERE?)

Mostly there are busses, there are busses.

(EVERYBODY WOULD JUST HOP ON A BUS AND RIDE THE BUS)

Yeah.

(WERE THERE LOTS OF CARS?)

Not a lot of people have cars. There was just a lot of bus cause mostly people can't afford cars. (YEAH)

(UM, DID A LOT OF PEOPLE WALK?)

Yeah.

(RIDE BIKES?)

Yep.

(DO, WHAT WAS YOUR HOUSE LIKE?)

Oh, well we rented the house. It was huge. And the floor was like just, you know, sand. And the rooms were made out of, um, cement. And we, there was no door. And the outside is just like, you know, those walls but, uh, on top of it is, it's like opened up.

(THE ROOF?)

Yeah.

(IS OPEN?)

Yeah. The, the rooms, the roof of the rooms are closed but, you know, like when you guys have yards, but we don't have yards. It's just like this whole, the rooms are right here, this whole place is like opened up for, so you guys can just hang out over there. (OH) Yeah.

(SO IT'S KINDA LIKE AN ENCLOSED YARD)

Uh...

(WOULD YOU GUYS HAVE LIVING ROOMS THERE? IS THAT WHAT...)

Yeah, we had a living room by itself and then a place to sit there like in the afternoon, but when a visitor goes come they go to the living room. (HUM....) But sometimes we sleep out there when it's really hot.

(UM, WHO TELLS MOST OF THE, WHEN YOU GUYS GET TOGETHER AS A FAMILY, WHO LIKES TO TELL STORIES?)

It's mostly the grown ups.

(THE GROWN UPS DO?)

And they tell, they tell us about their experience.

(IN THE SUDAN?)

Yeah.

(ARE MOST OF THE STORIES POSITIVE OR NEGATIVE?)

They're mostly positive.

(MOSTLY POSITIVE)

Yeah.

(WHAT ARE SOME POSITIVE STORIES THEY LIKE TO TELL?)

Um, what they like to do when they were a kid and what their responsibilities were.

(DO YOUR PARENTS TELL YOU STORIES?)

Yeah.

(UM, WHAT DO THEY TELL YOU THEY LIKED TO DO WHEN THEY WERE KIDS?)

They liked to go to school.

(THEY LIKED SCHOOL?)

Yeah. (smile) (SMILE)

(WHAT ELSE DID THEY LIKE?)

They liked playing around, like all of the children do right now. (YEAH) They did.

(UM, WHAT OTHER POSITIVE STORIES DO YOU HEAR ABOUT THE SUDAN FROM YOUR FAMILY?)

Um, how other people made it and had a good education. Yeah.

(DO THEY EVER TELL NEGATIVE STORIES ABOUT THE SUDAN?)

Um, not really. (NO) Not that I can remember.

(UM, WHEN OTHER KIDS ASK YOU ABOUT THE SUDAN, WHAT STORIES DO YOU TELL THEM?)

Mostly, um, people when they say, when they hear that I'm from Africa, all they, all they think, because when they hear Africa, all they think is a jungle and animals stomping around. When I tell them I'm from Africa that's the only thing they think of. But I've persuaded them that we don't, part of Sudan is not, it's not just jungle. It's not even jungle there. It's like houses and stores. Just like the United State is not just like jungle everywhere.

(SO MOST OF THE TIME YOU JUST SPEND EXPLAINING TO THEM ITS NOT A JUNGLE)

Yeah, yeah. They just think the whole part of Sudan, I mean of Africa is, is animals and jungles and monkeys jumping around or stuff like that. (YEAH)

(UM, WHERE DID YOU LIVE AFTER THE SUDAN?)

Um, when, before we come to the United State we, um, before we, we live in Sudan, then we move to Egypt so we could, that's the way to come to United State. Cairo, Egypt.

(SO YOU LIVED IN CAIRO AND THEN YOU CAME TO THE UNITED STATES)

Yeah, for like about 10 months.

(YOU LIVED IN CAIRO FOR ABOUT 10 MONTHS?)

Yeah.

(BEFORE YOU CAME TO AMERICA)

Yeah.

(WHAT CITIES DID YOU LIVE IN IN AMERICA?)

Um, I used to live in Boston, Massachusetts. And Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Then I moved here a year ago to Lincoln.

(WHY, WHAT STORIES DOES YOUR FAMILY TELL ABOUT WANTING TO LEAVE THE SUDAN? WHY, WHY DID THEY WANT TO LEAVE THE SUDAN?)

Because, um, most of them did not have education and there were a lot of wars going

on and people were dying so they wanted a change for us to have an education. That's why we moved here. And when we were hungry there wasn't enough money. Our houses were being destroyed and stuff.

(SO NOT ONLY FOR EDUCATION BUT ALSO FOR SAFETY)

Yeah.

(NOW, WHAT, UM, WHAT DID YOUR FAMILY DO TO PREPARE TO LEAVE?)

I don't really know that. (UM,...) Oh yeah, we had to like go take our pictures and get the papers ready and signed and tell our family and say good bye and then move.

(DID YOU GUYS HAVE A CELEBRATION?)

Yeah.

(WHAT WAS THAT LIKE?)

Like they would cook and make dinner and people just sat down and talked and danced and sang.

(WAS IT A LOT OF FAMILY MEMBERS OR IS IT JUST FRIENDS?)

It was family, friends, people we knew mostly.

(WAS IT A BIG PARTY?)

Yeah. Like we did that, that was in Egypt is why I can remember. But I don't remember the Sudan part what we did.

(YEAH. WHERE DID YOU, WHAT DID YOUR FAMILY TELL YOU ABOUT AMERICA WHEN THEY TOLD YOU THAT'S WHERE YOU WERE MOVING?)

Oh, we were all excited about it because we heard it was a good place to live. It was fun. You could meet a lot of people.

(WHERE DID YOU LEARN ABOUT AMERICA?)

Before I came here?

(UM HUM)

I learned it mostly Americans there, it's their country.

(AMERICANS WHO WERE IN THE SUDAN?)

No. Americans like, the people that came here like from England or, yeah, something like that. And I learned you have to go to school there.

(NOW HOW DID, HOW DID YOUR FAMILY DECIDE WHERE THEY WOULD LIVE WHEN THEY CAME TO AMERICA?)

Well we can't decide where to live. Just when, when they chose to come, for you to come to American in Egypt, they decide if you wanta, they decide if you, you have to tell story, you know, why you wanta go to America and they decide if the thing is, story is

true. To come here they let you, um, they sign paper and let you transfer to here and they just choose any city for you. But if, but if, but if your, like if you have relatives in America here and you're in Egypt, they'll just send this, I don't really know what it's called, this one, I think it's a paper to sign and with money sent so that person can come over here and the city that they wanta go. The city that the person, the person that signed em, that signed the paper. Yeah, that person have to come live with them. But, you know, you, you don't have to live with them but you have to go to that city. You can move anywhere you want after that.

(SO WERE YOU ASSIGNED BOSTON OR DID YOU GUYS HAVE FAMILY THERE?)

Yeah. We were assigned. We didn't know anyone there.

(AND WHAT BROUGHT YOU TO SIOUX FALLS?)

Well, my uncle live in Sioux Falls so he wanted us to move with him.

(AND THEN FINALLY IN LINCOLN. WHY LINCOLN?)

We just wanted a new city to live there... change. Cause we lived in South Dakota for four years and a half.

(DID YOU LIKE SOUTH DAKOTA?)

Yeah.

(THAT'S GOOD. DO YOU LIKE LINCOLN?)

Kind of.

(DO YOU LIKE SOUTH DAKOTA BETTER?)

Yeah.

(DO YOU LIKE BOSTON BETTER THAN EVERYTHING?)

I like Boston, yeah. A lot. I only live there for six months so I didn't really know everything there was.

(AH, YEAH. THAT'S OK. ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW IS THAT THEY HAVE THE RED SOX AND WE DON'T LIKE THE RED SOX. THE YANKEE! (SMILE)) (smile) (JUST KIDDING. NO I'M NOT. DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL IN THE SUDAN?)

Yeah, we went, I only went for about first and second grade.

(FIRST AND SECOND GRADE)

Yeah.

(DO YOU REMEMBER WHAT SCHOOL WAS LIKE?)

Yeah. We all had to wear like, it was like kind of private school cause every, all the schools was at any private school. There is no such thing as public. We all have to wear a uniform. Like how church people do. And (pause) and, um, there were like a chalk board and a long desk. Boys would sit on one side and girls on one side. And then

when it's lunch time we, they give us like a tray and groups and groups would just eat in (inaud). Yeah. Then after the bell rang and if you guys are not quiet, they come and whip you. (smile)

(WHUP YOU?)

Yeah. (smile)

(WITH WHAT?)

I don't know. Like anything. (LAUGH) (smile) Yeah.

(PEOPLE WOULD GET WHUPPED IF YORE NOT QUIET)

Yeah.

(HOW FAR AWAY WAS SCHOOL?)

I'm not sure, but...

(HOW WOULD YOU GET THERE?)

I walk every day.

(HOW LONG WOULD IT TAKE YOU TO TALK? DO YOU REMEMBER?)

I would say maybe 15 minutes.

(IT WASN'T TOO FAR AWAY)

Um, 15 to 20.

(NOW HOW LONG WERE THE SCHOOL DAYS?)

School day... I can not remember.

(DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL ALL DAY?)

Yeah. Not all days, but its almost like United States the time, but might be shorter.

(HOW MANY DAYS DID YOU GO TO SCHOOL?)

We went about Monday, went four days, four days of school. Yeah, four days. Four to five. One of these cause I think Thursday or Friday we had it off cause the most of them had to pray.

(OH, SO FRIDAYS YOU HAD OFF)

Friday or Thursday, one of these, I can't remember. I would say Thursday. Yeah, I would say Thursday.

(OK, SO YOU WOULD HAVE SCHOOL FOUR DAYS A WEEK?)

Yeah.

(AND HOW DID THE TEACHERS DISCIPLINE KIDS?)

What do you mean discipline?

(WELL IF YOU MIS-BEHAVED IN CLASS)

You would get whapped and they would tell your parents and your parents would talk to you. And then next day you won't do the same thing. (SMILE)

(THEY MADE SURE OF THAT)

Yep.

(UM, WHAT DO YOU MEAN WHUPPED?)

If somebody doesn't behave they get a, I don't know, a spanking (smile) or something. Like when you hit a little kid in the butt.

(YEAH. OK. HOW MANY STUDENTS WERE IN THE CLASS?)

I would say more than 30. It was full.

(AND HOW MANY TEACHERS IN, IN A CLASS?)

Just one.

(JUST ONE. THERE WAS A LOT, THERE WAS MORE KIDS)

Yeah.

(DO YOU REMEMBER ALL THE SUBJECTS THAT WERE TAUGHT?)

Um, I know we were taught history and math. Yeah, these two things I remember; history and math.

(WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE SUBJECT?)

Um, I think math. Math was my favorite.

(YEAH? DO YOU STILL LIKE MATH?)

A little bit.

(SO IF I WAS TO ASK YOU HOW ARE THE SCHOOLS DIFFERENT, WHAT WOULD YOU TELL ME? FROM HERE TO THE SUDAN?)

Well in Sudan you learned your lesson quickly cause once you get whapped you know you don't want that anymore so you change so that in the United States you just get detention. But you know you will still be doing bad things. And you just get detention or just like in, you get suspended from school. Some kids like that anyway. (smile)

(SOME KIDS LIKE THE DAY OFF?)

Yeah.

(SO MAYBE A WHUPPING WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE?)

Yeah.



(WHAT ELSE WOULD BE DIFFERENT?)

Well, um, well the food. Foods are different. You, in United States you get your own tray. But in Sudan you don't. But they might have changed that by now. But that's what they did when I was in school.

(YEAH. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE THAT WOULD BE DIFFERENT?)

I mean the desks, cause we just had like a row of desks and, and then one, girls have to sit on one side and boys have to sit on the other side. But in the United State we just all sit anywhere we're assigned to. And there are more subjects in United States now. And in private(?) school you could just wear anything you want, United States. But in Sudan you all have to wear uniform.

(HAVE TO WEAR THE SAME THING)

Um hum.

(WHEN YOU FIRST CAME HERE HOW, HOW DID YOU FEEL OTHERS TREATED YOU BECAUSE YOU WERE FROM SUDAN?)

Hum... (pause) They were quiet towards me because they knew I didn't speak English. And they thought I was very different from them cause I didn't speak the same language. So that's what I thought.

(WAS IT HARD TO LEARN ENGLISH?)

A little bit.

(HOW DID YOU FEEL ABOUT BEING IN ELL?)

I thought it was helpful.

(YEAH?)

Yeah.

(YOU REALLY LIKED IT?)

Um hum. (yes)

(HOW DID YOU FEEL OTHER KIDS TREATED YOU, UM, BECAUSE YOU SPOKE TWO LANGUAGES, BECAUSE YOU CAN SPEAK TWO LANGUAGES?)

Some students is it's, it's cool. They think if you speak two, more language you're two times smarter than other kids. I don't know about that. (smile)

(SO SOME KIDS THINK IT, IT'S COOL THAT YOU DO IT?)

Yeah.

(HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT SPEAKING TWO LANGUAGES?)

I think it's good to speak two language, other than speaking just one language.

(I'M SORRY, I SAY TWO LANGUAGES. HOW MANY LANGUAGES DO YOU SPEAK?)

I speak Danka and a little bit of Arabic and English. (OK)

(SO YOU KNOW THREE LANGUAGES)

Kind of. Two and a half. (smile) That's what I... (LAUGH)

(TWO AND A HALF LANGUAGES, OK.)

Yeah.

(UM, WHAT ADJUSTMENTS DID YOU HAVE TO MAKE IN ORDER TO FIT IN HERE?)

Well, I thought I was gonna dress like almost the same as I did in, in Sudan but they, but in United States we don't have to wear uniform so I have to like try to see what kind of clothes other people wear here and go almost by the same as what people wear here so they won't think I'm too weird or something.

(SMILE) (UM, DO YOU LISTEN TO DIFFERENT MUSIC THAN YOU WOULD IN SUDAN?)

Kind of, yeah. Yeah, I listen to different music. Sometimes rap, R&B. Sometime I listen to a little bit Arabic music or Danka songs. Sometimes Mexican music. (smile) A little.

(WHAT FAMILY TRADITIONS HAVE BEEN, UM, CARRIED OVER FROM THE SUDAN TO HERE?)

Well, um, for Christmas we always go shopping. Everyone has to have new clothes for Christmas and, um, (pause) we have like if somebody dies, um, only family goes and pray for that person. And like 40 days later everybody can be invited for the funeral. So we call it 40 day after funeral. And our, the way we cook is still, we still do it here. And, um, like how they dress, African dressed, they, they bring em here and sell them and hair stuff.

(A LOT OF THAT STUFF IS THE SAME)

Yeah.

(WHAT LANGUAGE IS SPOKEN IN YOUR HOME?)

Um, English and Danka.

(HAVE YOU EVER HAD TO TRANSLATE FOR ANYBODY?)

Yeah. For my mom.

(FOR YOUR MOM?)

Um hum. (yes)

(DO YOU LIKE TRANSLATING?)

Sometimes. (smile) Not really. A little bit.

(MY WIFE HAD A GERMAN FAMILY, SHE, SHE WENT TO GERMANY AND SHE STAYED WITH A FAMILY. THAT FAMILY CAME OVER HERE TO VISIT US, AND THE WHOLE TIME THEY WERE HERE THEY SPOKE GERMAN. AND, UH, SHE HAD TO TRANSLATE FOR ME. I DON'T SPEAK GERMAN.)

Your wife speaks German?

(YEAH)

Oh. (smile)

(AND MY WIFE HATED IT BECAUSE I JUST STARE AND BE LIKE "WHAT, WHAT DID THEY SAY, WHAT DID THEY SAY?") (laugh) (AND SO IT WAS, SHE, SHE DID NOT LIKE TRANSLATING FOR ME ALL THE TIME.) (laugh) (AND YEAH, IT WAS, IT CAN BE HARD SOMETIMES.)

(UM, DO YOU EVER FEEL LIKE SOMETIMES YOU LEAD A DOUBLE LIFE? LIKE A SUDANESE LIFESTYLE AT HOME AND AN AMERICAN LIFESTYLE AT SCHOOL?)  
Yeah.

(WHAT'S THAT LIKE?)

What's it like. It's our tradition for girls to always go home and cook and clean. But in American way they, I think they get, I think parents mostly have to do things for the children. But I just have to get used to being responsible, cause they're teaching us, teaching us our own responsible when we grow up. We start out when we are kids, when when we're like from nine to (inaud).

(HOW DOES THIS DOUBLE LIFE PLAY A ROLE IN HAVING FRIENDS OVER TO YOUR HOUSE?)

Can you explain to me...?

(YEAH. UM, IS IT OK, ARE YOU OK WITH HAVING FRIENDS COME OVER TO THE HOUSE?)

Yeah. It's like, um, when we have, if we're, if we're going to play(?) school with a friend, we have to ask my parents like same as United States. It's kinda the same. Like I can't say nothing about that. (YEAH) Just have to ask parents for permission and stuff.

(UH, HOW DOES YOUR FAMILY MAINTAIN CULTURAL TIES WITH THE, WITH SUDAN?)

Hum?

(DO THEY STILL TALK TO FAMILY MEMBERS A LOT?)

Yeah, they call them in Africa every week or stuff like that. They still talk on the phone.

(AND WHEN YOU TALK TO YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS ON THE PHONE, DO YOU TALK ABOUT AMERICA?)

They ask question like how is it and what do you guys do and what do you guys, you guys eat...

(WHAT DO YOU TELL THEM?)

Well, we say it's big and we know the English now. So like they have a lot of questions that they, that they'll think is here but when they come here it's like just different of what they think of.

(LIKE WHAT? DO YOU HAVE AN EXAMPLE?)

Like, like when I was in Egypt, I thought I was, I just have to sit home, you know, those chairs that move around, I could just slide down and go to the store with them or (SMILE) ride a bike all the time. And just sit there and not do anything. And have a maid clean up for me. (LAUGH) But it was, I was wrong. (LAUGH)

(SO WHAT DO YOU TELL THEM ARE FUN THINGS TO DO HERE IN AMERICA?)

Um, we say you have a lot of stuff like we can go to a park or things like that, friend houses, play computer, phones and... (pause) And they have pools and stuff. But over there they have a beach so its different. But there aren't animals in the pool so that's kinda different. (SMILE) Oh, but when I got, when I was in Egypt I thought I was gonna learn like English in two days. But I was wrong. (smile) (LAUGH)

(IT TOOK MORE THAN TWO DAYS? IT TOOK LIKE FOUR DAYS?)

It was years.

(SMILE) (I KNOW. IT'S TOUGH TO LEARN ANOTHER LANGUAGE. NOW ARE THERE ANY HOLIDAYS THAT YOU CELEBRATED IN SUDAN THAT YOU CELEBRATE HERE OR...)

Mostly celebrate Christmas. That's our tradition.

(IS THERE ANY OTHER HOLIDAY THAT YOU CELEBRATED IN SUDAN?)

Not that I remember. Only thing I remember is Christmas.

(WHAT HOLIDAYS DO YOU CELEBRATE NOW?)

We celebrate Christmas and that's all.

(DO YOU GUYS DO ANYTHING FOR THANKSGIVING?)

Sometimes. Maybe sometimes. We don't always do every year. (YEAH) Sometimes we have turkeys, sometimes we don't.

(WHAT ABOUT HALLOWEEN?)

Um, yeah, Halloween we go sometimes trick or treating, but every year we do.

(UM, FOURTH OF JULY?)

We don't really do anything for that.

(NO?)

No.

(ST. PATRICK'S DAY?)

No.

(VALENTINES DAY?)

Just give out candies and stuff to other kids. (YEAH)

(WHAT HAS YOUR FAMILY DONE TO BECOME MORE AMERICAN?)

We try to get used to the culture. Like instead of dri-, walking to or taking a bus to work, we usually take, drive their own cars now. And buy some American foods. And work with American people.

(DO YOU WATCH AMERICAN TV?)

Yeah, a lot.

(A LOT?)

Yeah.

(WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SHOW?)

That's, uh, Raymond. Like Disney Channel, I like that stuff. And the CW.

(DO YOU LIKE, UH, EVERYBODY HATES CHRIS?)

Yeah. (LAUGH) That's funny.

(I THOUGHT THAT WHEN YOU SAID CW, I THOUGHT EVERYBODY HATES CHRIS. THAT IS A GOOD SHOW. CHRIS, CHRIS IS FUNNY. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU COULD TELL ME ABOUT THE SUDAN?)

Um, (pause) I don't know. (pause) There, there might be some, there is some poor people and there are some rich people around the area. So, um, in order for us to have the money, the poor people will have to work for the rich people. That's how we used to be. Cleaning their house, yeah, you'll get the money.

(WHAT ELSE CAN YOU TELL ME ABOUT MOVING HERE AND WHAT IT'S BEEN LIKE?)

Like first time we got on a plane, I mean when we had to take the boat to the, from Sudan to Egypt, we didn't like it cause it was kinda dirty and we didn't, we didn't, we're not used to their foods, their Egyptian foods. And then we were coming from Egypt to Boston, and it was our first time to be on a plane, and we, my sister threw up cause she wasn't used to the smell of that, you know, the (inaud) or how the planes move. Like

when the plane is landing, how your ears is closed.

(YEAH, IT POPS)

Yeah. So we were, we didn't like all that stuff. And the first, when we, when we first, we didn't like being like, you know, like Taxi or cars when we came to America. It almost, it all makes us, um, vomit and stuff, until we got used to it.

(HUM. WHAT HAS MOVING BEEN LIKE FROM BOSTON TO SOUTH DAKOTA?)

Uh, we liked it because we didn't know a lot of people in Boston. Cause it was, since we were new. But in, but in South Dakota we knew a lot of Sudanese and they helped us around till we got to know a lot more people.

(DID YOU, DID YOU DRIVE THERE?)

Yeah. One day and a half. My uncle came and picked us up and took us back to, I mean took, he went back and took us with him.

(DID YOU LIKE SEEING SOME OF THE COUNTRY?)

Um hum. (yes) Cause there are like a lot of lights and we liked it and everything and water and stores.

(DID YOU EAT A LOT OF JUNK FOOD IN THE CAR?)

Not really, cause we, we, we still weren't used to American food. Cause we eat some stuff that we were familiar to from Egypt and got like chips or potato, and all that stuff. That's the stuff I remember. And drinks were soda. We, we had that in our Sudan and in Egypt so we were used to those stuff.

(SO WHAT WOULD YOU TELL YOUR COUSINS IF THEY WOULD, WHAT WOULD YOU TELL THEM TO HELP THEM PREPARE TO COME TO AMERICA IF THEY WERE GOING TO?)

Um, bring your clothes with you. Cause we thought we were gonna have clothes right away and we gave our clothes to our cousins. And bring some stuff with you, like stuff that you might need in the house. Cause later when you move around here, we always ask people that are going to, from, from America here to E-, to Africa, to bring stuff with them for us. So the stuff that you think is important, to, to bring em.

(IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D TELL EM?)

Say bye to your friends, cause we never got to do that.

(OH. WELL IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO SAY ABOUT ANYTHING?)

Um, not really. No.

(NO? WELL THAT'S THE END OF THE INTERVIEW. THANKS FOR DOING THE INTERVIEW)

You're welcome.