

# Center for the Victims of Torture

## Torture, Former Combatants, Political Prisoners, Terror Suspects, & Terrorists

<https://www.cvt.org/what-we-do/survivor-stories/samer%E2%80%99s-story>

### Campaign and Advocacy

**Because I am a religious minority, I had no advocates.**

In my religion, we were minorities in Iraq, and we are fought everywhere. We had no rights and are considered second or third class at best. We arent allowed jobs or activities we are considered infidels even though we have one God. We are original natives.

I went through terrible experiences. I was personally threatened and had to flee Iraq. One of my brothers was killed. My daughter was attacked on the street. But we are a minority. You cannot make a complaint to anyone. Then authorities threatened to detain my wife and daughter unless I paid them, but I could not afford it. Because I am a religious minority, I had no advocates.

So we came to Jordan. I heard about CVTs sessions, and I was motivated to come because they give psychological service. After all that I went through, I was very tired. I came to CVT for my mental health.

I got very good response; I felt treated humanely in a very kind way. Before CVT, I was very mentally exhausted and I didnt know how to vent. My emotions built up I could not talk to anyone. I couldnt tell my story to anyone. When CVT started having meetings, I went to each one. I noticed that it was not only me who had difficult stories each person in the group had a different story, different details. And the exercises were good for me. It resulted in physical and mental improvement.

They also helped me connect with other organizations CVT called these organizations for me. Social work is one of the important things that CVT does. Physiotherapy and psychological care made improvements but I still needed more the social work helped me.

Today life is still hard, I still suffer fear of the future and hope for resettlement. CVT cant contribute to that. But things are better. Sometimes in situations with friends, I explain the benefits of CVT I tell people to try to come here. I tell them what I received from CVT helps others.

CVT deserves thanks its very high class treatment. People were very kind. I am grateful for all the staff and management. CVT should be everywhere.

*\*Name and some details have been changed for safety and to protect confidentiality.*

*Photo by Dreamstime.*

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Funding provided by the United States Government.

We **heal victims** of torture through unique services and professional care worldwide.

Funding is also provided by the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture. [Read More](#)

We **strengthen partners** who heal torture survivors and work to prevent torture.

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We **advocate** for the protection & care of torture survivors and an end to torture.

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