

# Dalya's Syrian Kitchen, Home, and Journey

## An Education Supplement



**Meet the Alrefaai Family** On June 17, 2013, the Alrefaai's home in Syria was hit with two bombs. Dalya was home with the four children. The youngest was only three months old at the time. The family spent five months living with several families in a mosque. Then in late 2013, they walked a long distance to a refugee camp in Jordan where they stayed for 2-3 weeks. It was a challenging place to be with four children. They left the camp and rented a home nearby, awaiting word from the United Nations. On Dec 23, 2016, they received papers from the UN that they would be relocated to the United States. They were very grateful to be in the U.S. while knowing that there would still be economic hardship, and language/cultural challenges. They originally lived in a typical middle class, small town and, through no fault of their own, were uprooted from generations of history and family and are now trying to 'make it' with four children living in a major urban area in the U.S.

October 23, 2017

Assad regime      Syrian rebels  
Kurdish groups      Islamic State



Location of Alrefaai home that was bombed



Beautiful Syrian countryside



Zaatari Refugee camp in Jordan houses over 80K refugees

**Why is Syria at war** In 2011 Arab countries began overthrowing their authoritarian leaders. Initially, Syria's leader seemed to make a shift toward democratic rule, but that ended and as the citizens protested, troops opened fire. Learn more (2019 video): <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFpanWNgfQY>



**Why you matter** Your support through our cooking fundraiser tells Dalya and her family that they matter and are valued here. It also supports Catholic Relief Services' work during this humanitarian crisis. Hunger, lack of physical shelters, medical needs and trauma are widespread concerns. Working with Caritas Jordan and Caritas Lebanon, CRS provides food, medical care, emergency household supplies like bedding and fans, and supports hygiene and sanitation efforts. Learn more at: <https://www.crs.org/get-involved/advocate/public-policy/syria>