

Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants: The Unsung Heroes of the Global War on Terror



AFGHAN AND IRAQI SPECIAL IMMIGRANTS: More Information on Their Resettlement Outcomes Would Be Beneficial (GAO - DHHS)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants are the unsung heroes of the Global War on Terror. They served alongside American troops as interpreters, cultural advisors, and security personnel, putting their lives on the line to support the mission. Now, they and their families are facing an uncertain future as they are forced to flee their homes and seek refuge in the United States.

These brave men and women risked everything to help the United States achieve its goals in Afghanistan and Iraq. They provided invaluable support to our troops, helping them navigate unfamiliar cultures and languages, and keeping them safe from harm. They also played a vital role in building

relationships with local communities, helping to win hearts and minds and build a foundation for peace and stability.

In recognition of their service, the United States created the Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) program in 2009. This program provides a pathway to legal permanent residency for Afghan and Iraqi nationals who have worked with the U.S. government. However, the SIV program has been plagued by delays and bureaucracy, and many SIV applicants have been forced to wait years for their visas to be approved. This has put them and their families at risk of reprisals from the Taliban and other extremist groups.

In recent months, the Biden administration has taken steps to accelerate the processing of SIV applications. However, much more needs to be done to ensure that these brave men and women receive the support they need to rebuild their lives in the United States.

The United States has a moral obligation to provide Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants with the support they need. They have risked their lives to help us achieve our goals, and we must not abandon them now. We must provide them with the resources they need to resettle in the United States, including housing, education, and job training. We must also provide them with the legal protections they need to live safely and without fear of deportation.

Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants are the unsung heroes of the Global War on Terror. They deserve our gratitude and our support. We must not forget them, and we must do everything we can to help them rebuild their lives.

Here are some ways you can help Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants:

- Contact your elected officials and urge them to support legislation that would provide more support to SIV applicants.
- Donate to organizations that are providing support to SIV applicants, such as the International Refugee Assistance Project (IRAP) and the Human Rights First.
- Volunteer your time to help SIV applicants with resettlement, such as by providing them with housing, transportation, or job training.

Together, we can make a difference in the lives of Afghan and Iraqi Special Immigrants. Let's show them that we appreciate their service and that we are committed to helping them rebuild their lives.

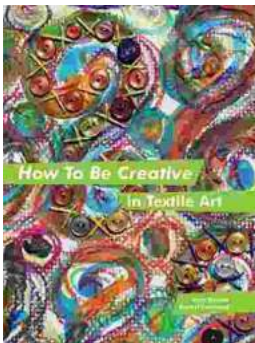




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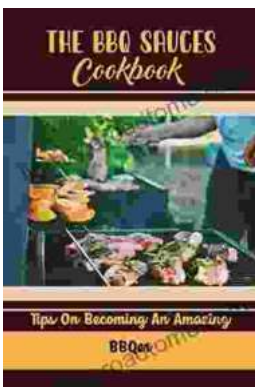
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