2019 年度 第 **20**回 高校生エッセー・コンテスト/

Powerful letter by Syrian refugee and activist Muzoon

Some people call us the lost generation. We are not lost. We have not lost our love of learning. We have not lost our dreams for our future. We have not lost our hope.

Dear Fellow Refugee,

I want you to know that life will get better.

It is not that long ago that me and my family were right where you are now. Exhausted, scared and not knowing what tomorrow will bring.

I was 14 years old and in my last month of grade 9 when the bombing started. I loved my home. It was such a happy place. We had to leave everything behind and find somewhere new to start over. I was so scared. I didn't want to leave.

I know how you are feeling right now. It may feel like everything is dark and hopeless, but there is light ahead. Look how much you have been through and you are still standing. You are much stronger than you think.

Me and my family spent 3 years in a refugee camp, much like yours, and it is there that I started learning again. But in the camps, I saw many people—many girls—give up on education. Many would never return to school.

I want to encourage you not to give up on your hopes and dreams for the future. Do everything that you can to stay in school because an education will help you build that future. With knowledge, we grow stronger.

You may feel that no one will ever hear your voice, I want you to know that I hear you, and I am fighting for you and your right to an education.

One day, I hope to hear your stories about how my fellow refugees became engineers, doctors, lawyers and teachers. And how many returned to their homes, their countries – to build a new life, one better than before.

Never stop learning and never stop dreaming.

Never lose hope.

Sincerely, Muzoon

マズーンさんの動画は、ここで見ることができます▶ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qXGHe4oNvqI

