

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 1 of 15

Start Time: 9:00a
End Time: 1:30p

Attorney: [REDACTED]	G-28: Y Waiver: N
Interpreter Name: [REDACTED]	Preparer Name: [REDACTED]
Applicant Oath: Y	Monitor ID: 10120
Interpreter Oath: Y	Monitor Start: 10:03a & 11:43a
Monitor Oath: Y	Monitor End: 11:13a & 12:45p
Applicant Name: [REDACTED]	Applicant Age: 38 DOB: [REDACTED]
Applicant Nationality: Bangladesh	Applicant Sex: F
Place of Entry: JFK	Visa Status: B2
Date of Entry: 5/22/13	Visa Valid Until: 11/22/13
Filed for Asylum: 5/16/14	One Year Deadline Met: Y

INTRODUCTION

Greeting - Hello, my name is Officer Famodimu, I will be interviewing you today, and I must note that you will not receive a decision today.

The purpose of today's interview is to provide additional information on your asylum application, to allow USCIS to make a decision on your eligibility for asylum. I have reviewed your file and have questions for you, but first I would like to explain today's process.

Everything you say today is confidential and will not be shared with anyone outside the United States Government or with anyone in your country. I will be asking you questions about your case; why you filed for asylum, what harm you suffered and why you fear to return to your country.

Notes: I will be taking notes on the computer to make sure I have an accurate record of what you say. Kindly speak in short sentences so I can take notes. If you do not understand any question please let me know and I will repeat or rephrase the question. If you do not know the answer to any question it is okay to say so, do not try to make up an answer. When I am done asking questions, please feel free to let me know if there is anything I did not ask you.

Identification Check – May I please see your passport or any identification you have with you today.

In a few minutes I will review your asylum application form with you to make sure the information on it is accurate.

A#: [REDACTED]

Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]

Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]

Date: Thursday June 26, 2014

Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)

Page 2 of 15

Applicant Oath: Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth? Y

Sign Declaration Form: Y

Monitor Oath: Y

PRE I-589 Questions:

Q: Did anyone help you with your application? No

- So your attorney did not help you? no he did

Q: Did he you review it, the application, with you to make sure it is correct? Yes

Q: Are you aware of the contents? Yes

Q: Do you confirm that the application is accurate and complete to the best of your knowledge? Yes

Q: Have you ever used any other name or identity in any other country, at any time? No, no

- On your visa to the US, [REDACTED] which is first name unknown please explain to me? When I come over here I just used it as one name and when I go to the hospital they at the hospital decided to separate it
- So what is your name? [REDACTED]
- Is that your first name? it is my first name
- What is your last name? I don't have one
- So what is your surname passed on from your father? He didn't get anything
- Why? I don't know why my father didn't pass on a last name
- Why does your daughter take her father's
- Why does your children have different last names? My father picked a name from the Koran for my son, and my father in law gave my daughter her name
- So [REDACTED] is the first name and there's no last name? yes

Q: Have you ever used a different date of birth? No

Q: Do you have additional documents to submit? No

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 3 of 15

TESTIMONY

Q: Why are you applying for asylum? I came here to apply

Why did you come here to apply? I came here b/c I was social worker and there was a lot of political cadre that threatened me. In 2013, my husband was kidnapped by them to stop my social work activities. When I rescued him by paying them money they hated my husband so badly, I saw a lot bruises on my husband from where they hurt him. Then I stopped working b/c fears of my case. When I started my working after one month, after that they keep me threatened by phone and the front of my house. I want to open up by explaining, that I started working as a social worker in 2008, to help all the woman that's why I working for social worker, when my govt made promise about a lot of thing, when the govt promised to do something it doesn't fulfill, within those sunsets, I keep fighting. I was fight for what was not fulfilled by the govt. the govt got disappointed from me b/c I fight for the promises.

Okay I am very confused what did the govt promise, what were you fighting for, did you work for a social worker or as a social worker...so let's break down all you have said:

First, what promises the govt make and failed to fulfill? First they offered to help the women

What women? Uneducated poor women who can find sew machines; they told them that they will give them money

Help them how? The govt made a law, whoever gets training and the govt will give them money to buy the fabric to sew and sell to use to help them

When was this law passed? On 2005

And you say they failed to fulfill the promises or the law, is that correct? yes they did not do what they promised

So when did you start meeting with govt to fight against what they failed to fulfill their promises? When I started my organization, from 2009 I started to meet with govt

When did you start your organization? 2008

So did you meet with the govt in 2008 when you started the organization or was it 2009? I started training the women in 2008

This is what we call an inconsistency, and that's why I want to know why you gave two different years when I asked "So when did you start meeting with govt to fight against

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children ([REDACTED])
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 4 of 15

What is that they failed to fulfill their promises, pls explain that? I started my organization, but I didn't help all do anything against the govt at that time

What month in 2008 did you start your organization? January 2008

What is the name of your organization? [REDACTED]

Is this where you performed your social work duties? Yes

How did you become a social worker? I just become one

How? I don't understand what you mean

Did you have schooling or education? No

So how does one become a social worker in your country? I became one myself

So there's no formal process of being a social worker? No you can be a social worker if you help the women

So anyone can be a social worker? No

So what would stop someone from holding themselves out as being a social worker and not actually help woman as you say? Unresponsive

Ma'am pls answer my question, do you need me to repeat it? unresponsive

Counsel interjects: I don't think she is equipped to answer that question

AO: counsel I will re-iterate the ground rules that I mentioned at the beginning please reserve comment until the end of the interview, the applicant can state that she cannot answer the question, if she cannot

Ma'am? Unresponsive

Your claim is that you were harmed b/c you are a social worker helping women and the Awanmi League which the government cannot control is trying to harm you? yes

So I'm trying to understand what makes you a social worker, as opposed to a business owner, who is being harmed for money? I am a social worker helping the women

So how did you become a social worker? I just did

Who else worked with you in this center? My husband was, my father-in-law and some village women

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 5 of 15

When was your husband kidnapped? January 31, 2013

By the Awanmi League? yes

And how do you know that? that time I was there

What do you mean "that time I was there?" it was on the last day of international trade fair, I was with my husband in the stalls. When they take my husband, before that they ask for 1 Laka Takas, which is 100,000 takas, which is equivalent \$1200 USD.

Before they ask for that? yes

When? In 2013 on January 30 at 9pm

Where was this asked? In my stall

Where were these stalls? At the fair

And how long was the fairs? One month

Did you pay the amount that was demanded? I didn't want to give them, and that's why they kidnapped my husband. When they kidnapped my husband they then increased their demand to 5 Laka Takas, which is 500,000 takas (applicant) began crying. Government didn't help me, the government held the fair at the time. I informed the common oc, which is the police. When they threatened my husband

Is this the same time as the kidnapping or a different time? They gave them before

Gave them before? They threatened my husband on January 30th

After the threats you went to the common oc, who is the police? Yes

And what did they do, the police? When I went to the police at 2 am, the police said I will see to that next morning

That was the morning of January 31, 2013? Yes, I sent a letter to the police

Before or after the police station? After I went to the police then I sent a letter to the government

Okay do you have a copy of that letter? Yes, I do

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 6 of 15

I want to take a look? Okay let me pull it out for you officer

How do you send a letter to the government? Whoever the organizer of the fair I gave them the letter

So you gave the letter to someone that works for the government? I went to the office and gave the letter

What office did you go to? Export import bureau

And where is that located? Kawaranbazaar Dhaka, Bangladesh

At what time did you deliver this letter? On January 31, 2013 at 10:30 am

What if anything did government do after receipt of you letter? I got this letter and I will provide the safety and go to your stall and do your work there

That's what the government did? They didn't do anything

So are you saying they didn't do anything but said they would? Yes

What were you doing at the fair? I start my business in 2000

Not when your business started, but what were you doing there? I was selling my products at the fair

And what are your products? Bed sheets and covers, I have a picture

Who make these products? My females workers

So do you have male workers too? yes

When was your husband kidnapped? At 3pm

By whom? Awanmi League terrorists

How was he kidnapped? Political leaders say we need to talk to him and they took him outside and cover his eyes and take him to the car

How do you know this? When I bring my husband back he told me all the details

I thought you were there? Applicant began crying...I was there but I didn't see how they took him

A#: [REDACTED]

Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]

Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]

Date: Thursday June 26, 2014

Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)

Page 7 of 15

Explain how you were there, yet didn't see him get taken? I was busy selling my products when they called my husband and thought it was something normal I didn't think anything was wrong

How many ppl came to demand money? Two ppl

Do you know them? Yes

Who are they? one is Awanmi League secretary in Farmgate branch and the other is a worker

How do you know that? they are very famous and dangerous in Bangladesh and that how I know

How many ppl took your husband? I saw four of them

Earlier you said you didn't see them, now you say you saw them? I saw four of them to talk to my husband but didn't realize they were trying to kidnap him

Do you know the 4 ppl? Two of them yes not the other two

Who were the 2 you knew? The same two who came to demand money

Didn't you find it suspect that the two ppl who demanded an exorbitant amount of money approach your husband the next day with an additional two ppl? I wasn't worried b/c the police said they would protect us

But I thought you said it was the government official that you gave the letter to not the police, since they sent you away? The government official gave the letter to the police

Earlier you didn't say that, you said the following "I got this letter and I will provide the safety and go to your stall and do your work there" that statement does not say anything about the police being involved, so how and when did you learn that the police was informed? At 12pm on January 31, the official I gave the letter to government official told a police officer at the fair to take care of us

When did you learn that your husband was kidnapped? When I called him at about 4pm, his phone was turned off. I suspected something was wrong, at 9pm I got a phone call, then I told the police about this and told the government officials, and the media

Do you have any documents to support what you are saying? I told them on vocal words, but not written documents

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 8 of 15

What about a police report or record? I do have it but not with me now, I didn't bring that letter with me

Today or to America, you didn't bring the police report? No I didn't bring it to America

Why not? I didn't think I would file for asylum

Can you get the police report? I will try it, I am over here maybe I will need to sign for it

I thought you had the report in your possession? No I have to go to the police

Why didn't you ever get a police report at the time you filed it? they gave me a copy

Where is that copy? I was moving from my house and I don't know where I put it I might have lost it

After the kidnapping what happened? They beat my husband the political cadre, when I learned of the kidnapping I told the govt, and they didn't help me at all. I told my husband's friend about this when the political cadre demanded 500, 000 takas, I take my father-in-law and my husband's friend and gave them what they requested and rescued my husband

So what happened next? I took my husband home and my cousin, who is a doctor, gave my husband primary care at home

I suppose you affidavit to that effect? Yes

From whom are the affidavits? My husband, my husband friend, my father-in-law and my store worker

What if anything does your store worker know about this matter? The worker knows about the kidnapping

Do you have an affidavit from the cousin who is a doctor? No, I don't have it right now, but I can bring it from him

What do you mean bring it from him, is he here in the US? He's in Bangladesh and I'll get him to write it and I'll bring it here

Why didn't you get the affidavit from before? I didn't know I needed for my application

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 9 of 15

What happened next? I stopped working as social worker for one month, then when I started working again as a social worker. Then the political cadre, Awanmi League political cadre, threatened me that I would be killed or my husband if I continued my social work

What month did you not work as a social worker? Feb 2013

When was this threat made? March 2013

Who was present when the threat was made? Awanmi League secretary and worker made threats to me at my store my worker was there

Is this the same worker that I have an affidavit of? Yes same worker

They wrote their affidavit in English? No it was written in Bengli and they translated and sent that

So who signed the affidavit? He signed it in Benglai and in English

But does he read in English? Yes he could read in English

They are all written in the same paper? Yes they all go to one place to make the affidavit but they are different person

Do you have any documents to show the existence of this Kushanti Community Organization?

In one affidavit by the women that are benefiting from your organization, how would women who are uneducated in Bangladesh be able to understand and write in English? Whoever is uneducated, I started with the illiterate in 2008 and I continued and everything and I get some educated ppl also

Are you saying the educated ppl are the ones who wrote the affidavit? The affidavit is done by the workers the educated ppl

I see you are still looking for the documents to support the existence of your organization? Yes, sorry ma'am

I see in one affidavit it shows a picture of three women and the dob says 9.6.19, which I think means the 9th day of June of 1919 or 2019? The ladies in the picture don't look unborn or 94 or 95 years old? No that's a mistake she was born in 1975 she is my friend

What is this? Trade license

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children ([REDACTED])
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 10 of 15

It says a 2014? Yes I have to renewed every year

A trade is different from being or performing as a social worker? To be a social worker I a license to do so

Trade indicates the sale of goods? Yes

But social work is more civic oriented; helping ppl so is there anything to show the establishment of your organization? I have to make a license in Bangladesh to work, but officer I have more proof

Like what? I have this

Okay this document is showing that you got this women entrepreneur certificate in 2001, so how does that indicate or show me about an organization that was created in 2008? We have all of them in Bangladesh they have to show a trade license

Why is this women entrepreneur certificate in 2001 in English? I got them from women entrepreneur and the others from the govt so that's is why it is in English

The documents you gave me are about import and export business, this doesn't have anything to do with social work? no

So far you haven't shown me that the organization exists? The organization stopped

Do you have evidence to show it ever existed the organization? Applicant looks through her bag

When did you decide to leave your country? April 2013 I decided to leave my country

Why? After the incidents I still get threats, and I don't want to lose my kids I am scarred

If returned to your country what will happen? If I go back I will have to work as a social worker and they will hurt me or my family, after I came to America to stop the social work. I have a copy of the police report where my father-in-law made the report; I have a copy of it

Counsel Comments:

- Testimony shows that she has been threatened and husband was kidnapped b/c she has tried to uplift the status of women.

A#: [REDACTED]
Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]
Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]
Date: Thursday June 26, 2014
Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)
Page 11 of 15

- The organization serves a dual purpose to be a business and to improve the plight of the women, this is an organization that helps women get out of the male dominated society in Bangladesh

So what document if any shows that is not an ordinary business as opposed to a civic development that also sells things to keep the business afloat? Unresponsive

Let me break that question down for you, it was long so I apologize:

Do you have anything to show me, that this business was to help women? No

How can I tell it is not just a for profit business? b/c I tell you

Is there anything else? No

MANDATORY BARS

I am almost done but I have few more questions to ask you:

Q: Have you ever harmed anyone or helped someone harm someone else for any reason?
No

Q: Did you travel to or through another country before coming to the United States? No,
the plane stopped Qatar but I didn't leave the airport

Q: Do you have citizenship, permanent residence or lawful status in any other country?
No

Q: Have you been offered lawful status in another country? No

Q: Have you ever been arrested, detained or charged with a crime in any country? No

Q: Have you ever been convicted of or sentenced for a crime in any country? No

Q: Have you served in the police, military, or any paramilitary organization? No

Q: Have you been a member of any armed or terrorist group or organization? No

A#: [REDACTED]

Applicant's Name: [REDACTED]

Bangladesh/Married/ 2 children 3 dependents Husband and two children [REDACTED]

Date: Thursday June 26, 2014

Officer T. Famodimu (ZNK 157)

Page 12 of 15

Q: Have you ever participated in a terrorist activity e.g. have you ever used a weapon or explosive device, committed a hijacking, kidnapped an individual or committed any violent act.? No

Q: Have you ever provided any kind of support, e.g. food, money, housing, weapons, transportation, to an armed group or terrorist organization.? No

CONCLUSION:

Thank you for answering the questions. We made changes in your application. I will now ask you to sign here.

PICK UP or MAIL OUT: The decision will be not be ready today. You will return to our office on July 10, 2014 to pick up your decision.

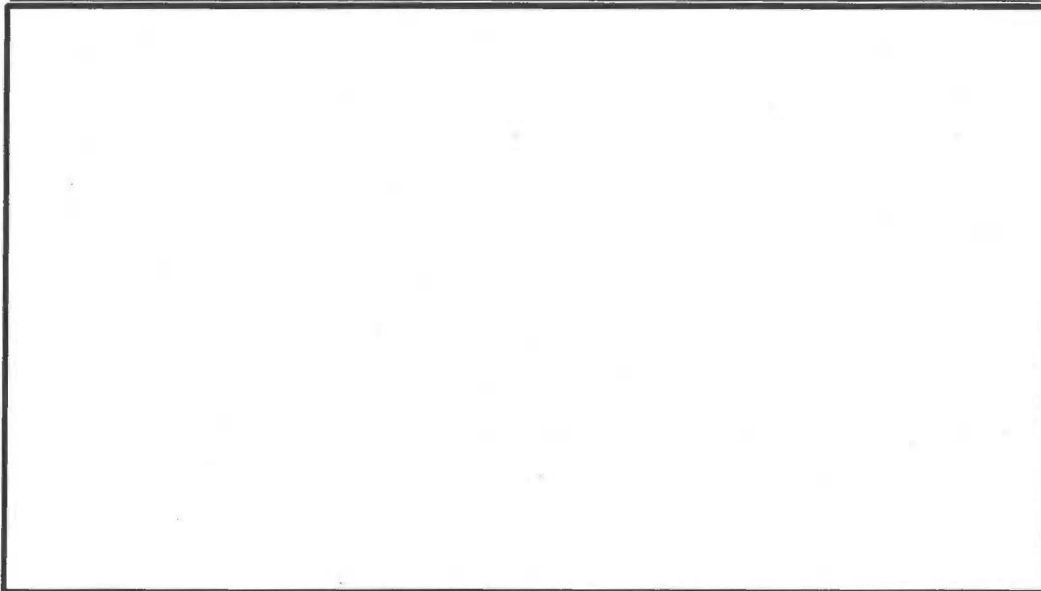
OUTCOME: There are two possible outcomes; one is that your asylum is granted, and the other is that your case is referred to an Immigration judge. A referral is not a denial; it means that we cannot grant your asylum. You will have the opportunity to represent your case before the immigration judge.

Here is a letter indicating you attended this interview today and telling you the pickup date/when the decision will be mailed out. Please bring this letter and photo identification when you come.

Do you have any questions? No

(b)(6)

Thank you, I will now escort you out.



2NK

Form I-589 Processing Sheet
Screening

For cases received after 06/30/02
keep with the application throughout processing

1. Is the applicant's address within this Center's jurisdiction? (If NO, move to reject process.) ☒ Yes ☐ No
2. In question 17, did the applicant select "I am now in removal proceedings"? (If YES, move to reject process) ☐ Yes ☒ No
3. Is the I-589 the 10/18/01 revision or later? (If NO, move to reject process.) ☒ Yes ☐ No
4. Number of persons included in application:
Applicant + ☐ None ☐ One ☐ Two ☒ Three ☐ Four ☐ Five ☐ More than five: _____
5. Is Part D of the I-589 signed by the applicant? ☒ Yes ☐ No
6. Did someone other than your spouse, parent or child(ren) prepare this application?
• If Yes, did he or she sign the I-589? ☒ Yes ☐ No
7. Are all questions on the I-589 responded to? ☒ Yes ☐ No
8. Is there a passport-style photo of the applicant?
• Does it meet the specifications? ☒ Yes ☐ No
9. Are there 2 extra copies of the I-589 for the applicant?
• Does each copy appear to have a complete set of the supporting documentation and evidence submitted with the originally signed application? ☒ Yes ☐ No
10. For each family member included in Part B of the application:
• Is there an additional copy of the I-589? ☒ Yes ☐ No
• Is there a photo? ☒ Yes ☐ No
• Does it meet the specifications? ☒ Yes ☐ No
• Does there appear to be a full set of the supporting documentation and evidence submitted with the principal's application? ☒ Yes ☐ No

Assembly G-28? ☒ Yes - signed ☐ Yes - invalid ☐ No
Check one: ☒ Application complete ☐ Application incomplete (See processing guide)

Screening and assembly by VT1634

Records Checks For principal applicant (Use a Form I-589 Processing Sheet for each included family member)

A# CIS ☐ Existing - Exact Match ☒ New - No Match ☐ New - Multiple Hits

Included (b)(6)
A# Month Day Year
A# (5) (16) (14)
A# () () ()
A# () () ()

Record checks by: VT1634

← Receipt date

Final assembly by: VT1634

ADN File ☐ In use - don't transfer at this time ☐ Not in use - Transfer w/application
Review ☐ File relates to person ☐ File does not relate to person - create new A-file
☐ Other _____

RAPS ☐ RAPS shows pending asylum app. - forward as duplicate/supplemental

☐ RAPS shows asylum granted - reject ☐ RAPS shows asylum denied - final assembly, update (route to Asylum office)

EOIR ☐ EOIR shows person in proceedings - reject ☐ EOIR shows proceedings closed - final assembly, receipt (route to Asylum office)

☐ EOIR shows outstanding order of exclusion/deportation - reject

(EOIR showing in proceedings or outstanding order - Overrides RAPS)

ADN Review by: _____

Rejection of principal for any reason means rejection of entire package, including sets of included family members.

07/01/2013