

On May 15, 1986 seven-year old Francis Bok was selling eggs and peanuts near his village in South Sudan when Arab militia attacked the marketplace, murdering men

and rounding up women and children. "I saw many people on the ground, shot...I saw people with their heads cut off with swords and shot in the head," Francis remembers. Strapped to horses Francis and others were taken to North Sudan and sold into slavery.

For ten years, Bok served his Arab master sleeping with a cattle and enduring hard labor, constant beatings, humiliation and forced Islamization. He was given an Arab name was taunted as "abeed," a black slave.

After two failed attempts to flee-each bringing severe beatings and death threats-Francis finally escaped at age seventeen. He was jailed in Khartoum for seven months and lived in refugee camps in Egypt for three years before the United Nations granted him a passage to America where he became a modern day abolitionist.

Bok was the first escaped slave to testify before the United States Senate. He met with George W. Bush, Madeleine Albright, Condoleezza Rice and many other American leaders, educating them about the plight of modern day slaves. He was honored by the U.S. Olympic Committee and the Boston Celtics. He spoke alongside Coretta Scott King, widow of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the Boston Freedom Award ceremony and headlined a panel discussion on slavery at

Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Bok's autobiography *Escape from Slavery: The True Story of My Ten Years in Captivity and My Journey to Freedom in America*, published by St. Martin's Press, received a wide critical acclaim. He has been featured in *The Boston Globe*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *Christian Science Monitor* and many other newspapers. He has appeared on numerous radio and TV shows including BET, Fox News and CNN.

In 2010 Francis founded the Francis Bok Foundation to raise funds to build a school and a medical clinic in his hometown of Gor Ayen. He is an Associate of the Boston-based human rights organization American Anti-Slavery Group and of Kansas-based Sudan Sunrise.

Francis, his wife Atong and his children live in the Boston area.

Mr. Bok is available for speaking and media engagements.

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~~Francis Bok is a young man who has been in the U.S. military since he was 17 years old. He is currently in the U.S. military and is serving in the U.S. Army. He is currently in the U.S. Army and is serving in the U.S. Army. He is currently in the U.S. Army and is serving in the U.S. Army.~~