



reflected detailed knowledge of Cameroon politics (Tr. at 52, 88-9). Finally the Immigration Judge's comment that the respondent's asylum request was similar to other applications from Cameroon that the Immigration Judge has adjudicated was inappropriate. The record reflects that the respondent testified in a detailed and consistent manner regarding her political activities, crucial dates significant to her claim, and the circumstances of her detentions and mistreatment.

An alien may establish eligibility for asylum by showing that he suffered persecution in the past on account of a protected ground. 8 C.F.R. § 1208.13(b)(1). In our review, we find that the respondent has demonstrated past persecution that was motivated on account of her political beliefs and activities. *See Singh v. Ilchert*, 63 F.3d 1501 (9th Cir. 1995). We find that the respondent has demonstrated that her mistreatment was motivated on account of her political beliefs, and her support for the SDF and SCNC. The police mentioned these activities as the basis for her detention and mistreatment. The respondent's mistreatment by the police, including the beatings and rape, was so severe as to rise to the level of persecution. *Desir v. Ilchert*, 840 F.2d 723 (9th Cir. 1988).

Once an alien has established past persecution, a presumption arises that the alien has a well-founded fear of persecution on the basis of the original claim. 8 C.F.R. § 1208.13(b)(1). In such case, the burden of proof then shifts to the Department of Homeland Security ("DHS") to rebut the presumption of a well-founded fear of persecution. 8 C.F.R. § 1208.13(b)(1)(ii). The DHS may meet this burden by showing, by a preponderance of the evidence, that there has been a "fundamental change in circumstances such that the applicant no longer has a well-founded fear of persecution." 8 C.F.R. § 1208.13(b)(1)(A). The DHS may also rebut the presumption of a well-founded fear of persecution by showing that the applicant for asylum could avoid future persecution by internal relocation to another part of the country where he or she fears persecution, and if, "under all circumstances, it would be reasonable to expect the applicant to do so." 8 C.F.R. § 1208.13(b)(1)(B).

In the present case, the DHS has not met its burden to show that the respondent could relocate in Cameroon or that conditions have changed so that the respondent no longer possesses a well-founded fear based on events since the respondent's departure. We shall remand proceedings however so that the respondent can comply with the required background checks.

ORDER: The appeal is sustained.

FURTHER ORDER: Pursuant to 8 C.F.R. § 1003.1(d)(6), the record is remanded to the Immigration Judge for the purpose of allowing the Department of Homeland Security the opportunity to complete or update identity, law enforcement, or security investigations or examinations, and further proceedings, if necessary, and for the entry of an order as provided by 8 C.F.R. § 1003.47(h).

  
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