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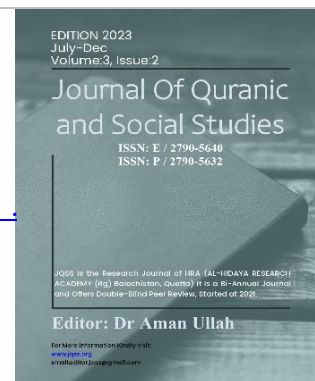
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## Indian Ocean: A Trade Route of Women Trafficking

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# Indian Ocean:A Trade Route of Women Trafficking

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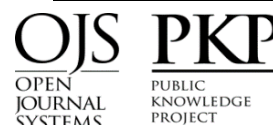
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## Abstract

Women trafficking is not a new phenomenon. Women trafficking became an established international industry. Women trafficking is the modern form of old slavery. Indian Ocean is the common path of women trafficking all over world. Women are trafficked for labour, begging, forcible marriages, for exploitation, to serve in sex industry, and to sell their body organs etc. The ship contains the millions of young girls through Indian ocean which are trafficked within Asia, Gulf and Europe. Women trafficking means it is nightmare in the dreamland. The south Asia, one of most growing regions of human trafficking. The major objectives are those factors which contributes towards women trafficking abroad. Apart from this to bring into limelight the magnitude of women trafficking in Indian ocean. Besides this is to prove that the human trafficking in women is human rights violation. Also suggest the counter –measure remedies include prevention, protection, and prosecution that how to stop this heinous crime. The qualitative and descriptive research methodology will be applied to this research paper. The socio-economic approach will be applied in this research paper to make an analysis. The data collection will take place through secondary resources i.e. Books, documentaries, news channels, journals, magazines, newspapers, survey reports and published interviews etc. at the end, the findings of research paper that from which countries mostly the women trafficking takes place through Indian ocean. Even the internal authorities are involved to support the women trafficking.

**Keywords:** Women Trafficking, An International Industry, Indian Ocean, Gender –Based Violence.

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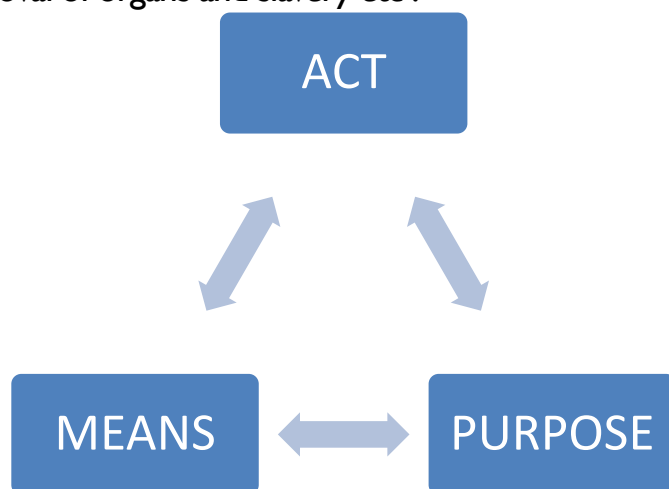
## Introduction:

Women trafficking is a modern form of slavery. It is called sexual slavery. It takes place in different capacities and women are exploited in different situations. Women trafficking is a very established heinous industry in entire world. It is recognized as an extreme form of violence and an international crime. Women trafficking can occur within a country or trans-nationally. It is the world most dangerous journey. It is the road to death. (1) According to United Nations the women trafficking can be defined: It is an organized network for sake of exploitation (prostitution ,exotic dancing ,lie sex shows and fake marriages )etc. (2)There are various causes contribute to women trafficking :poverty ,natural disaster , political instability ,social and cultural practices ,lack of human rights ,role of traffickers , deception ,displaced person and lack of education etc. . There is no specific age for women trafficking ,but mostly the young girls are trafficked .The women trafficking includes the process : recruitment ,transportation ,transfer ,intimidation or adoption of coercive methods and receiving payments and shifting for sake of exploitation ,forced labour and removal of organs etc .

## The Elements Of Women Trafficking:

There Are Following Elements Of Women Trafficking Process :

1. The Act: The action means the process involves the steps of recruitment ,transportation ,transfer ,selling and taking the receipt of the person .
2. The Means :This process involves use of force ,coercion ,intimidation ,fraud and abduction and transferring the person to the desired person .
3. The purpose :This process involves the exploitation of all forms : prostitution , forced marriages , forced labour ,physical and mental violence ,removal of organs and slavery etc .



### **Objectives:**

1. The major objectives of this research paper is to highlight the those factors which contributes towards women trafficking abroad.
2. Apart from this to highlight the magnitude of women trafficking in Indian ocean.
3. Also suggest the counter –measure remedies includes prevention, protection and prosecution that how to stop the women trafficking .

### **Research Questions:**

1. What are the main causes of human trafficking?
2. What has been done to combat trafficking in women at the international level?
3. What are the push and pull factors behind trafficking of women?

### **Methodology:**

The qualitative and descriptive research methodology will be applied upon this research paper. The socio-economic approach will be applied in this research paper .The data collection will takes place through secondary resources i.e.books ,documentaries ,news channels ,journals ,magazines ,newspapers ,survey reports and published interviews etc .

“In this research paper ,a rational choice framework will be applied to analyze the situation when the trafficker traps the victim by using different techniques .The traffickers are the rational actors and they know all type of tactics how to betray the victims by alluring her for bright future .They usually make their target to the young girls to sell them for exploitation .Apart from this ,the Development theory of crime will be applied on this research paper.This theory will enable to assess the rate of crime of women trafficking through Indian ocean ,(3)

### **Literature review:**

#### **Human Trafficking at Sea :**

In an article “ Human Trafficking at Sea “written by liouse Shelley published in women’s Studies Quarterly journal (Volume -45,numbers 1&2 Spring /Summer 2017) that slavery at Sea is very old and took place at the time of British period .At the colonial period ,the slavery was not ended .The slavery is emerged in various modern forms that millions of women and children are trafficked for exploitation and even authorities are involved in this business .(4)

#### **UN Report:**

According to United Nation report:” The women trafficking is very condemnable crime, which ruins the life of young and innocent girls . There is a need to adopt a collective strategy to combat this crime by defeating the traffickers.The states have to comply with

CEDAW(convention regarding the elimination of discrimination against women) and other international instruments to adopt a viable strategy to arrest these criminals .(5)

### **Maritime Security Threats:**

“There are several maritime security threats in Indian ocean. There are limited resources to combat these security threats, and there is a need to mobilize the local, national, regional, and international authorities to combat these threats. (6)

“The anti-trafficking initiative should be taken to prevent human trafficking .There is need to focus on sexual trade by understanding the problems of girls and boys .The root cause of trafficking is embedded in economic factors. (7)

### **Main Subject:**

It is called slavery at Sea. It is a modern form of slavery. It is a long –standing phenomenon of Asia that women trafficking has been increased from past decade. It is a rapidly growing criminal industry in the world. It is a highly lucrative industry in the world, and almost 5 billion \$ to 9 billion \$ are earned through this industry. The three perspectives are involved in women trafficking: human rights perspective, gender perspective and market –driven perspective. The Indian Ocean is a neglected route of slave trade. Women trafficking is the second largest illegal industry at global world. “The United Nations has drafted the Protocol regarding prevention of women Trafficking. The Trafficking Protocol was signed under the United Nations Conventions Against Transnational Crime. Women Trafficking for commercial sex trade is the common form of trafficking. The trafficker snatches numerous rights of women: right to life, “right to honors “, right to liberty “and “right to dignity .”(8)

### **Historical Background of Women Trafficking:**

“The Women trafficking is not a new phenomenon .It is existing in the dawn of civilization .It was existed before 1200 .Many women were trafficked from Africa to Europe .Women trafficking for the sake of sex exploitation was called as “White slavery”. There was lot of slave trade during British colonial period .”(9) Great Britain passed law by declaring the Transatlantic trade as an illegal .Mostly the young girls were used for exploitation purpose .The women trafficking taking place all over the world .The International organizations League of Nations and United Nations declared this practice as an illegal and should be abandoned .After the collapse of Communism as the global economy was isolated ,and it leaded towards chaotic conditions .The million of girls were trafficked by ship towards Europe for exploitation .

### **Causes of Women Trafficking:**

Trust is the mother of deceit. Men and women both have aspiration for the new life and they become agree to settle abroad to earn handsome amount. This world is full of cheaters and fraud people who entice young girls and boys for their vested interests .

### **Love And Deception:**

Women fell in love with traffickers .They became the victim of love.They are enticed to spend romantic holidays in Paris ,Dubai and Singapore etc .They are indulge in sex activities with their girl friends and ruin their life .

### **Poverty:**

Poverty is the most visible factor for women trafficking industry . Poverty is one of the single greatest predictors of vulnerability to trafficking .The women wants to get rid of extreme poverty.Most of the families sell their daughters to the traffickers due to issue of extreme poverty .The father ,brothers and husbands sell their daughters to the traffickers despite of knowing they will be destined to hell .The traffickers ensured parents that they will give glorious futures to their daughters .The girls are sold for fake marriage .

### **Slavery:**

Most of women and children are sold to consolidate the institution of slavery . They are sold to family who can afford to keep slaves .They are used for every purpose .

### **Displaced Persons**

Many displaced persons who see irregular migration as a viable option to pursue the better opportunities for bright future. They also seek assistance from human smugglers and are trapped in a vicious trap of exploitation .They face forced labour ,forced marriage and removal of body organs etc..

### **Conflict And Natural Disaster :**

The conflicts and natural disasters also provides an opportunity to the traffickers to take advantage of the situation ,and trap their victims .Due to the instability the vulnerable groups migrate towards other places ,and they are more vulnerable to traffickers attack .The traffickers offers fake jobs to people ,and trap them for their heinous designs .

### **Lack of Social or Economic Opportunity:**

When people lack legitimate economic opportunities ,that can lead to increased vulnerability to human trafficking .Groups that especially vulnerable in this area are migrants without work permits, those who lack education ,those who live in rural areas where there are less job opportunities available .The women are not considered eligible for certain jobs due to gender discrimination .The traffickers allure them to get jobs ,and they are forcibly pushed for forced labour ,sex trafficking ,and bonded labour etc .

### **Dangers From Conflict or Instability:**

The conflicts and natural disasters also provides the opportunity for women trafficking.The natural disasters leads towards economic instability .The women and children are vulnerable to trafficking amidst these risky circumstances .The traffickers tries to exploit the situation in an unsymthatic way .When the disasters effected migrate from one place to another ,they are more vulnerable to traffickers .

### **Social Factors and Cultural Practices:**

In certain countries, the social and cultural practices are cause of women trafficking .In some countries ,the parents use to sell their children due to poverty .The bonded labour is prevalent in some places .The remnants of slavery are present in certain areas ,where all the families from generation to generation are slaves .

### **Illiteracy and Minimal Education :**

The lack of education also leads towards the availability of less opportunities of jobs . The uneducated people are easily trapped by traffickers because they entice them for good jobs ,handsome salary and better standard of living .They lure them about beautiful life ,where there are lot of facilities and amenities .When they reach the destiny ,every thing is changed .They are trapped to serve as a sex slave .The ratio of uneducated women is more as compare to educated women in the hands of traffickers.

### **Broken Families**

The individuals or girls who leave their hearth and home and highly vulnerable to women trafficking .The girls who run away and turned homelessness and live in isolation are subject to women trafficking who are in search of prey to capture it .The alone individuals who are ignored by their families are ready to take risks.Some of the traffickers offer love to trap the girls for their desired objectives .

### **Trafficking Generates A Large Profit:**

Women trafficking is very profitable business .There is an incentive for the traffickers to indulge women for sex trafficking and forcible marriages and forced laborers. They get cheap labour at a very low cost and take their services and sell the product at a very high rate in the market. In the sex trafficking ,they establish a kind of brothel by charging price for every night from customers . They force the girls to adopt this profession.They are threaten them that they will be killed if not agree with their terms and conditions .

### **Effects of human trafficking on the victims**

#### **Mental Trauma**

The victim of women trafficking faces devastating physical and mental trauma during their experience. Most of the victims experience post-traumatic stress due to anxiety and fear.

#### **Physical Trauma**

Many victims also experience physical injuries.They are brutally exploited by the traffickers.They are raped and abused over a long period of time.They are afflicted with serious diseases due to perpetual torture .

#### **Ostracism:**

The victim is isolated from their family members and friends.The girls who are successful to escape from this situation are even not accepted by their family members.

### **Lack of Independent Living Skills:**

The most of victims who escape from traffickers trap, do not possess any skill to live independently. They are not aware about other country's language and their laws. They face very adverse circumstances for their livelihood .

### **Effects of human trafficking on the trafficker(s)**

#### **Money:**

Human trafficking is a very lucrative industry of the world. The traffickers generate \$150 billion per year.

#### **Cheap Labor:**

The trafficker involve the victims in cheap labour in various types of industries. They have to work whole for little or no payment.

### **Escape from Victimization**

The victim sometimes accepts the job of trafficker. They start to exploit others. Human traffickers proliferate in this way.

### **Cases of Women Trafficking are Difficult to Identify:**

It is very difficult to identify the cases of women trafficking because they are hidden and traumatized . They can not tell that they forcibly doing this business .

### **Purpose of Women Trafficking:**

The women are trafficked for sake to use them as a forced labour in different factories ,sexual exploitation for commercial purpose and forced marriages .

### **Kofi Anan Speech about Women Trafficking:**

There is a global struggle for the rule of Law .The United Nations Convention is against Transnational crime and it is global challenge with global response .We have to identify those factors which are involved in exploitation of human rights and women trafficking .The countries have weaker law and institutions to control women trafficking .It is our Millennium Developmental Goals to stop the women from forcible prostitution and forcible marriages etc .It is growing day by day .The women trafficking is rooted in socio-economic conditions from which countries the victim is coming .”(10)

### **Banki Moon Speech on Women Trafficking Day -**

“Women trafficking is most desperate and vulnerable .The migrants and refugees should be protected and especially the young girls and boys should be protected from exploitation by providing them better ,safer and more dignified future .“(11)

### **Magnitude of Women Trafficking:**

Human trafficking is most prevalent in Asia. Almost 800,000 people are annually trafficked. The majority is exploited for sexual purposes. In the present age of globalization, the number of children and women trafficking number is increasing. Pakistan and India are patriarchal societies, where the girls have little economic opportunities .The girls are lured by traffickers for better job opportunities abroad .



### **Indian Ocean :Path Of Women Trafficking :**

The Indian ocean is the common and famous path of women trafficking .The ship passes by containing the million of young girls towards UAE , Europe and Asia .Indian ocean is not a safe route .The illegal modern slave trade is easily taking place .The authorities are also involved in this sex trade .The Bay of Bengal ,which is situated in the northeastern part of the Indian ocean is notorious for criminal activities i.e trafficking in person and smuggling of migrants .

### **Sex Industry Is an Established Industry :**

In South Asia ,a large number of young women are abducted or lured from Pakistan ,India ,Bangladesh ,Cambodia and Mynamar .They are forced to work on brothel to adopt the profession of prostitution .The sex-tourism industry of Thailand ,India and Dubai are famous all over the world .

### **Interviews and Stories From Trafficked Women :**

This Story is taken from B.B.C (Magazine ,date-30 March , 2016 ) of girl name Shandra Worth. She is sex trafficking victim in USA. She came to USA to start a new career in a hotel. She found that she has been trafficked in to sex slavery . I arrived in the United States in the first week of June, 2001. To me, America was a place of promise and opportunity. As I moved through immigration, I felt excited to be in a new country, The things turned strange when the taxi Driver rushed towards an unknown place. I was freaked out Afterwards, I came to know that I had been trafficked . I was put in a brothel to serve various clients.“(12)

### **Who Are the Traffickers?**

The traffickers are exploiters who entraps the victims for sake of exploitation. They can be both in the guise of public or private agents .There is an organized network and it includes the involvement of multiple actors etc. It includes taxi-drivers ,shippers ,owners of hotels ,authorities .The internet services and electronic and printed media is used for fraudulent advertisement .

### **Interviews From Traffickers:**

An interview from Thai women trafficker : (source –Vice of America).“Noi is an old lady living in Thailand ,runs the business of women trafficking .She pays handsomely to police not to arrest her . She said that authorities of Bangladesh , Mynamar ,Malaysia and Thailand work with us to traffick the girls .Thai marine polic provides me complete information about the refugees ,which are landed offshore .They traffick the girls for sex industry .They beat these women to faster money .When the brothel women won,t cooperate ,even they electrocute them.”(13)

### **Swot Analysis : Strength :**

It is the strength of the traffickers to lure the victims by enticing for better standard of living. They use every type of tactics to trap the victims . They use internet

sources to advertise new job opportunities to attract the victim .The internal and external authorities are also involved with traffickers in this heinous business .

**Threats:**

The women traffickers most of the use the threats to entrap the traffickers .They threat to abduct or kidnap forcibly to the victim for their desired purpose .If the victim does not comply with their terms and conditions ,they threat to beat them or even kill them .They are brutally murdered by the traffickers .

**Opportunities:**

The kidnappers are always in search of opportunities that how to trap the victim by adopting various types of tactics .They advertise the fake jobs and allure the young girls for very charming life .The girls are easily trapped that they will get rid of poverty and their life standard will be improved .

**Weaknesses:**

The major weakness is this that government and ministry of home also involved in this heinous crime . From taxi driver on airport till brothel owner are all involved in this business.The culprit are not arrested due to corrupt police and bureaucracy .The black sheep are existing everywhere . The notorious underworld is also involved in women trafficking all over the world .The victim can not dare to escape from these dangerous gangs .

**Recommendations:**

1. The government should identify the victim of trafficking ,and convicted traffickers should be arrested,and shelter should be provided to female who are trafficked .
2. The National Action Plan should be enforced to control women trafficking .
3. To ensure an ongoing database to identify and locate the missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.
4. To develop a protocol of accountability for those in positions of authority that further victimized indigenous women and girls through sexual exploitation .
5. The government should increase its efforts to provide shelter to these victims .
6. There is a need of establishment of Rehabilitation and vocational training centre for women who are trafficked .Most of the girls rescue from this trap ,so they should be provided with proper shelter to start a new and secure life .
7. There should be proper legislation in each and every country to comply with CEDAW (1979).The black sheep should be identified and culprits should be awarded with exemplary punishments.

8. United Nations have women trafficking cell .It can assist to draft laws in local capacity to adopt practical tools to do cross-border investigation to arrest the traffickers .

### **Conclusion:**

Women trafficking is a heinous crime at global level.A philosopher said that I have been born in an unsympathetic world .This world is full of traps and frauds .The women trafficking is rapidly growing in the entire world . It is not astonishing to know that custodians became the exploiters ,that even fathers ,brothers and husbands are selling their own daughters ,sisters and their wives to the traffickers to take them to the brothels .The traffickers adopts various types of tactics to trap the victims .This crime should be seriously addressed at global level .The via national and international strategy should be adopted to combat the crime .

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