

## Women trafficking in Balochistan

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### Abstract:

*Women trafficking is a most sensitive issue in today's modern era. Across the world many women are being trafficked and sexually exploited. Apart from the fact, in the context of Balochistan, women trafficking is nonetheless have been a serious concern over the past few decades. Additionally, this study tries to analyze the underlying factors of women trafficking with special reference to Balochistan. Women Trafficking in Balochistan an alarming issue. It needs multiple institutional approach to control the menace. Trafficking of human being is a gross rights violation of people which requires all national and international stakeholders to collectively counter the problem and human rights to be protected.*

**Key Words:** Women Trafficking, factors, Balochistan

### 1. Introduction:

Trafficking of women is not a new phenomenon. It is as old as human history. Women for the purpose of sex trade and exploitation is rooted from the colonial period. This trend of exploiting of women had been popular during 19th Century. In the 19th Century women trafficking were exceedingly common. In overall countries for example, women were trafficked from Japan, Central Europe, Latin America, Eastern Europe, South Asia, South East Asia and USA. Most importantly, for a century this issue had been a widest concern by overall developing and developed states including Pakistan. However, several states along with human rights

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organizations perceived this act is a supreme human rights violation and modern-day slavery (Trafficking in women 2008). This issue has been a subject of discussion by several political scientists and human rights activists. In modern time, this is the biggest challenges for the modern society (Lee, 2007). Generally, women trafficking is said to be define as “trafficking in person or modern-day slavery, is a crime to compel anyone to do the work forcefully. It is the exploitation of person physically, sexually, and psychologically. Under the protocol Article 3 of United Nations, trafficking means to sell, transfer any person through force, violence, abduction, and deceit them to give for the purpose of giving jobs. Later, they are exploited physically, sexually an emotionally (UN 2000: 2 Article3a,).

As far as the trafficking of women in the province of Balochistan concerned, SoBalochistan is experiencing many issues of trafficking into different routes form various districts. Women trafficking is formidable challenge for Balochistan that every year multiple girls are trafficked. The women are enticed, allured and attracted by the traffickers to be entrapped in this vicious trap. Human trafficking is highly reflected a massive misconduct of human dignity and its violation against their will. Nevertheless, it is the same case with women of Balochistan. Women in Balochistan are trafficked across the border. They are being deceived in which later they are to be sold, raped, prostitute and most importantly placed under the forced labor. Women trafficking is escalating in Balochistan. Smugglers have been using land routes of Mand and Taftan, without being challenged by the authorities concerned. People involved in this unlawful business used to deceive unemployed women by promising them employment opportunities in Iran and Turkey on payment of a considerable amount of cash (Hafiz, J. 2011). Thus, this paper will specifically concentrate the problem of women trafficking in Balochistan and try to provide some combating instruments to handle the cause with immediate efforts.

**HRCIP has mentioned the Following Provinces and Districts are the main Hub of Women Trafficking in Pakistan.**

<b>Province</b>	<b>Districts</b>
<b>Balochistan</b>	Gawadar, Quetta, Taftan, Turbat
<b>NWFP</b>	Mardan, Peshawar, Swat, Takhtbai, Swabi, Naushehra,
<b>Punjab</b>	Muzafargarh, Rahim Yar Khan, Gujrat, Gujranwala,

Sialkot.

**Sindh** Jacobabad, NausheroFeroze

**The Routs of Human Trafficking and Smuggling:**

**FIA listed the following main route of human traffickers and human smugglers out of Pakistan.**

Pakistan,Oman,Iran , United Arab Emirates (UAE)

Pakistan,Turkey,Iran ,Greece

Pakistan, Gulf Countries, West African Countries, Spain

Pakistan, WestEurope, East Europe

**Elements of Women Trafficking:**

**The Palermo Trafficking Protocol has given these three basic definition of trafficking.**

1. **The Act:** Transportation, Recruitment, TransferHarboring or receipt of person.
2. **The Means:** Abduction, Deception,Abuse of position of vulnerability, Giving/receiving payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person.
3. **The Purpose :**Exploitation , Different forms of sexual exploitation, Service, slavery Forced Labour , Removing organs

**1.1 Forms of Trafficking**

**There are two main forms of trafficking which are s mentioned under below.**

1. **Internal Trafficking :** Internal trafficking include , Sexual abuse , Forced LabourBride Exchange or WattaSatta Bride PriceSexual exploitation
2. **External Trafficking :**External trafficking include, Trafficking Child for the purpose of camel joking,Women and girls used for sex truism and exploitation , Trafficking for Forced Labour ,Commercial sexual exploitation, Trafficking of Organs, Trafficking for adoption of children.

**1.2 Research Methodology**

The qualitative approach is used to explore literature regarding the core matter.Various opinions and facts have been collected form the trafficking victims in Balochistan. However, secondly, the research provides deep

knowledge-oriented views and analysis about the core issue of women trafficking in Balochistan. Much of literature would be useful and accurate to explore various factors which have become responsible for the trafficking of women in the context of Balochistan. The data collected from secondary sources which include books, magazine, journal, research paper.

### **1.3 Research Objective**

- ✓ To highlight the major causes that lead to women trafficking
- ✓ To know the main routes of women trafficking in Balochistan.

### **1.4 Research Question**

- ✓ What is women trafficking?
- ✓ How women trafficking can be controlled in Balochistan?

## **2. Literature Review.**

Women trafficking in the lap of Balochistan is an alarming issue in the recent time. Women in Balochistan smuggled via through many routes like Taftan ,Chaman, Chagi, Turbat and Quetta . The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) assured that these routes Anti Human Trafficking Circles (AHTCs) are also operational in Karachi Lahore, Quetta Peshawar, Faisalabad, Hyderabad, Multan, Rawalpindi, Turbat Gujranwala, Chaman, and Taftan ( FIA, 2014). FIA figures mentioned in different districts of the Balochistan like Gwadar, Wahsuk, Pahsin and Quetta are the primary source of women trafficking. The report further said that the victim women are mostly from Lahore, Sialkot, Gujranwala, Gujrat, Wazirabad and Jhelum. Although their destination is said to be Greece via Iran and Turkey, they rarely reach it. These people pay about Rs500,000 per head to their agents for facilitating and helping them to cross the borders illegally.

In an interview to SAMMA TV, the Interior Minister of Balochistan Mr Zia Lango said there are three major routes of human trafficking such as through Chaman route, Taftan, and some international networks are also involved for human trafficking in Balochistan. Another expert Advocate Ali Muhammad Kakkar pointed that women trafficking of people particularly women in Balochistan have been a foremost challenge. Most of women in Hazara communities are under the victim of trafficking (Mohmmad, A. 2020). According to the Balochistan Home Department the grave issue of human trafficking is a matter that concerns the statecrafts of

Balochistan. The recruitment, transfer and sale of vulnerable people women, children and men is a gross violation of human rights. Trapped through various forms of coercion or deception, trafficked persons are kept restrained by their abductors, frequently under appalling conditions. They are incapable to escape. In this trade human life is reduced to a commodity. Exact numbers are impossible to estimate as this problem is kept hidden from public outreach. However, reports indicate that this ranks third among organized crimes, after drugs and firearms in Balochistan (Fahad, N. 2018)

### **3. Causes of Women Trafficking in Balochistan:**

There are several contributing factors of women trafficking in Balochistan.

- **Poverty**
- **Illiteracy**
- **Lack of education**

#### **3.1 Poverty:**

Poverty is regarded as one of the social problems and it is considered a multidimensional issue nationally and globally. The root cause of poverty in Balochistan against women lives have been accepted a harsh reality. Many women in Balochistan suffer from the extreme level of poverty ( wajid, G, 2017).Professor le expressed poverty is a chief determinant of women trafficking. Furthermore, he said that due to poverty women lives have become miserable in various aspects. This tense situation created many hardships and difficulties for the women. However, there are various forms of poverty which include lack of access to basic services, disempowerment as human agency, insecurity in daily life, and the inability to speak out with dignity. As a result, women are forced by their parents to do prostitution and dirty works. (Le, 2017A research conducted by Aurat Foundation which claimed that poverty is a one of the major fault out in internal trafficking of women in Balochistan. It also states that poverty forced the parents to sell their daughter for the sexual abuse and prostitution (Hussain, M 2012).

#### **3.2 Illiteracy:**

Illiteracy is the second key determinant of women trafficking. In Balochistan women have been considered less inferior to men. They are to be given little chances and opportunities which eventually result gender discrimination and women trafficking. However, literacy rate of women in

Balochistan is low against males. Balochistan is in top rank ranking in the term of female illiteracy, gender disparities and unemployment. The literacy rate of female in Balochistan is 2 percent in rural Balochistan, compared to 26 percent for the province as a whole. Interestingly, Makran division which consist Kech, Gawadar, Pnajgure districts female literacy is high comparatively in the other division of Balochistan.

The main reasons behind the progress of Makran division in educational field is the role of Co-educational private schools. These schools have produced an educated class of women, who today have established themselves as educators, politicians, and doctors. Among 64%, the female literacy rate is 39% as compare to men ( Miko, T., 2017). Education is the fundamental human rights. According to the constitution of Pakistan every individuals has the right to gain education and access to legal protection (Saleem, F , 2015). Apart from the getting legal rights, many victims feel threat and terror to approach legal system. Besides, it is exaggerated that due to weak law, poor legislation and implementation of law in true sense cited as a contributing factor of women trafficking in Pakistan ( Hafiz, A, 2014). In the category of literacy rate Pakistan is ranked 16th position in the lists of number of countries which has the lowest position. Low literacy rate has produced enormous issues related to high population growth ( Asim, M, 2014). Hence, Illiteracy, lack of proper education, employment opportunities and as well as not giving equal rights lead to trafficking.

### **3.3 Culture Barriers**

Cultural barrier contributed grave in promoting women trafficking in Balochistan. Being the male dominated society, women have been always ignored in all decisions making process in Pakistan. Women have been suppressed in all sphere which consequently produced risk factor for women ( Saima F, 2010). Traditional, norms, values and culture restraint and patriarchal attitudes give rise of so much hopelessness to women. UN Protocol suggest that behind the degree of sex trafficking in Pakistan depend on social and culture milieu which the trafficking of women rise up ( Kholi f, 2004). Munir 2013 regards that women in Balochistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK) are terribly victim of prejudices and culture constraint. In the book “Pakistan a Hard Country by Anatol Lieven women are deprived of their basic and constitutional rights because of irrational cultural norms

and practices. In the book the idea has been more explained that culture relativism is another factor of gender imbalance. In Pakistan, culture relativistic qualities have ruined the Islamic and constitutional rights of women ( Lieven A, 2011).

### **3.4 Lack of education**

Lack of education is an important factor of women trafficking in Balochistan. Most of the Women do not have access to education. The quality of women education in Balochistan is very low in which women do not understand their constitutional rights. As a result, trafficking of women occurred across the region (Hashim, 2003). Education is the basic human rights for all gender that open everyone eyes towards right path.

### **4.Recommendation:**

- The government of Balochistan should install regulatory team to check all borders of Balochistan in every day.
- Local agents should make people aware of the negative affect of unlawful activities.
- Women should be given equal rights and opportunities in all fields.
- Trafficking person should be publically punished.
- Women education should be given utmost importance and priorities.
- Gender discrimination, aggressive attitudes and male dominance should be discouraged in the province.
- Balochistan government should create more job opportunities for women.
- The government should respect all international instruments and treaties.
- Non-governmental organizations and civil societies should play active role to demoralize such human crimes.
- FIA should perform its duty honestly.
- Women empowerment should be the key priorities of the Balochistan government.
- There should be check and balanced in free movement of people across the broader.

- Balochistan government needs to install victim center in all districts or divisional level.
- Civil societies play their key role to eliminate the trafficking in the province.
- All laws related women has to be formulated.
- Free movement of the migrant in border should be kept under great consideration.
- Women irrespective of all rights should be equally treated.

### **5. Conclusion:**

Thus, the root of human trafficking in Balochistan is matter of great concerned and subject of question for all authorities. The illegal smuggling, transferring of women and girls across the border is a violation of human rights. Traffickers used different deception methods to deceive the women for the aim of sex and prostitution (Voice of Balochistan, 2018). Traditionally, Balochistan being the male dominated province women have little space in the sphere of politics, culture, economic, or social field. Conditions are even worse for Balochistan's women in rural areas. Consequently, this space is created a lot of problem of women trafficking in Balochistan. This issue seem to be a huge humanistic crisis. Women suffer from extreme form of trafficking in different ways in the province. Many women in Balochistan from different communities have been deceived by some of the local agents for especial jobs in abroad but later on they were forced to do sex and prostitution. Thus, it is need of time that the government of Balochistan and authorities concerned should pay great concentration over the issue of women trafficking in the respective province Balochistan and should have coordination with federal government and law enforcement agencies.

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