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MENACE OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN PAKISTAN ITS CAUSES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES

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During my posting as Special Judge (Central), Lahore for about 2-1/2 Years, a number of cases under the Immigration Ordinance, 1979 were dealt with by me. Each case had its own peculiar facts, some time pathetic and some time sensational and thrilling. This article is an attempt to cover the causes and implications for menace of human trafficking in Pakistan as well as the proposed remedies and measures may be taken at different forums to eliminate or minimize this menace.

Human trafficking is an intricate and complicated issue. It is not confined to a particular country or region but has spread its tentacle more menacingly in the third world countries especially in the sub continent. There are countless reasons for human trafficking all over the world and the dominant reason is the economic deprivation and inequality prevalent in the society. There is acute paucity to jobs especially for young educated persons. A job if fetched carries such a meager remuneration that it is difficult to make both ends meet. There is an unhealthy competition in our society to become rich overnight which compels our youth to indulge into adventurism. When unemployment, poverty, social injustice and inequality is prevailing in a society there are always two options for the young generation either to sustain constant agony of poverty, despondency and destitute or to break the law and explore some better avenues to lead some prosperous life. In this background majority of the young generation obviously look for foreign shores. They are also enamoured from the ostentation and opulence demonstrated by expatriates while living in their vicinity which is in fact youth in glum and gloom. It is matter of common experience that such like people easily fall prey to the travelling agents mafia. The economic