

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AS AN ORGANIZED CRIME IN PAKISTAN: THE CONTEXT OF CPEC ROUTES

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ABSTRACT

One of Pakistan's most serious problems is human trafficking, which includes the exploitation of people who are forced into prostitution. A comprehensive socio-legal study is necessary to understand the issue of human trafficking for prostitution in Pakistan, which is pervasive—various elements of this phenomenon. Examining the intricate relationship between human trafficking and prostitution is a complex issue that stems from a web of interrelated social, economic, and legal factors. In this study, a descriptive overview of the 112 participants is taken for data in this research to examine its impacts. This study uses the quantitative method to carry the research ahead. The researcher chose 100 samples, and for the qualitative research on this data, the researcher interviewed 12 respondents. The influence and use of CPEC routes on human trafficking are specifically examined in this research, which explores human trafficking within the context of the China-Europe-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Human trafficking is very prevalent in the existing literature to enlighten the impact and its role in the research, according to our statistical and qualitative analysis that used theme investigation.

Keywords: *Human Trafficking, Organized Crime, Criminology, CPEC*

Introduction

Human trafficking is the use of force, deceit, or compulsion to obtain employment or participate in commercial sexual acts. Each year, a significant number of persons, including men, women, and children, fall victim to human trafficking worldwide, including inside Pakistan's borders. Incidents may transpire in any community, and people of any age, race, gender, or nationality may be victimized (World Health Organization, 2012). Human trafficking is a criminal conduct that entails the exploitation of persons for coerced labor or commercial sexual acts by means such as physical force, fraud, or manipulation.

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Involving an individual under 18 in a commercial sex act is a criminal crime, regardless of the existence of force, fraud, or coercion. Victims may include persons from both global and local settings, including women and men, adults and children, citizens, and noncitizens (Stöckl et al., 2021). This exposes persons worldwide to possible victimization by human traffickers: the underprivileged and vulnerable face significant risk, particularly those without legal status. Individuals living in poverty, with limited access to education, healthcare, or viable career possibilities, may encounter discrimination, violence, or maltreatment. Marginalized groups in Pakistan are often the primary targets of traffickers (Glowacki, 2023).

The trafficking of individuals is a highly complex phenomenon with a ubiquitous character. It poses a worldwide danger to society with substantial consequences. The intricate nature encompasses the recruitment, transportation, relocation, and concealment of individuals via criminal fraud, deception, and exploitation. It encompasses several exploitative activities, including coerced employment, sexual servitude, and involuntary organ extraction. This is a grave breach of human rights across all civilizations (Cottingham, M., Nowak, T., Snyder, K., & Swauger, 2020). It establishes settings, events, and circumstances that facilitate the exploitation of people in many manners and styles. All forms of exploitation via physical, psychological, and commercial yield maximum profit and revenue for the perpetrators.

The subject concerns the Pak-China Economic Corridor and the potential challenges it poses with human trafficking of various kinds. The notion advances the comprehension of the issue and its ramifications for the area. The many forms and varieties provide a significant professional problem for social scientists, particularly criminologists. Development strategists, security analysts, and counter-terrorism enforcement officials are significantly apprehensive about the issue because of its dynamic interconnections with numerous domains (UN, 2008). Addressing the problem would be tricky because of its organized and syndicated nature. It adversely impacts human rights and human development, culture, business, and trade. Addressing trafficking is essential for formulating effective measures to address this gross infringement of human rights. Recently, criminologists have been actively comprehending the situation and formulating addressing mechanisms (UNESCO, 2008).

Human labor is trafficked in the form of children, women, and the elderly, who are exploited by traffickers across many trades, vocations, and commercial activities. This issue is not

confined to a single civilization or location; it impacts several societies, eliciting significant anxiety and concern from scholars and law enforcement authorities. The issue is ever-evolving with societal progress. This study is a unique effort to understand the situation and adequately provide suggestions for its resolution. This study encounters challenges due to the theme's previous lack of professional examination. The study will offer new opportunities for scholars and professionals in the community interested in the subject (Vidushy, 2016).

Statement of the Problem

A significant economic and infrastructure development undertaking, the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) connects Pakistan's Gwadar Port to China's Xinjiang area. It is China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) crown jewel. Although the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has many positive economic outcomes, such as increased regional connection and development, it has also had many adverse economic outcomes, such as a spike in human trafficking. Human trafficking networks have unwittingly found a welcoming environment in the CPEC zones due to the fast expansion and flow of people and products.

The CPEC projects are crucial for the socio-economic advancement of Pakistani society; nevertheless, human trafficking poses a significant hazard and adversely affects this progress because of the improved infrastructure and extensive pathways connecting Pakistan, China, and other nations. Human trafficking is one of the contemporary kinds of slavery, which is the illicit sale of human beings for sexual exploitation, forced labour, and involuntary servitude. This problem worsens in areas where the economy changes quickly, regulations aren't always clear or enforced well, and vulnerable populations are more likely to suffer.

Much of the recent writing on CPEC has concentrated on the project's infrastructure improvements, geopolitical ramifications, and economic advantages. But studies looking at the criminal justice and societal consequences, including human trafficking, are conspicuously lacking. Current criminological research on human trafficking in South Asia often fails to account for the novel and ever-changing dynamics brought forth by CPEC. Therefore, it is critical to investigate the efficacy of CPEC because it has not yet been well studied in this area.

Research Gap

The phenomenon of organized crime in Pakistan has received surprisingly little academic attention. On top of that, when considering CPEC Pakistan, there are even fewer. In this analysis, we look at the complex facet of organized crime. The research would gather data using surveys. Social scientists have an excellent opportunity to study the dynamics of CPEC as they pertain to organized crime and counter-security measures.

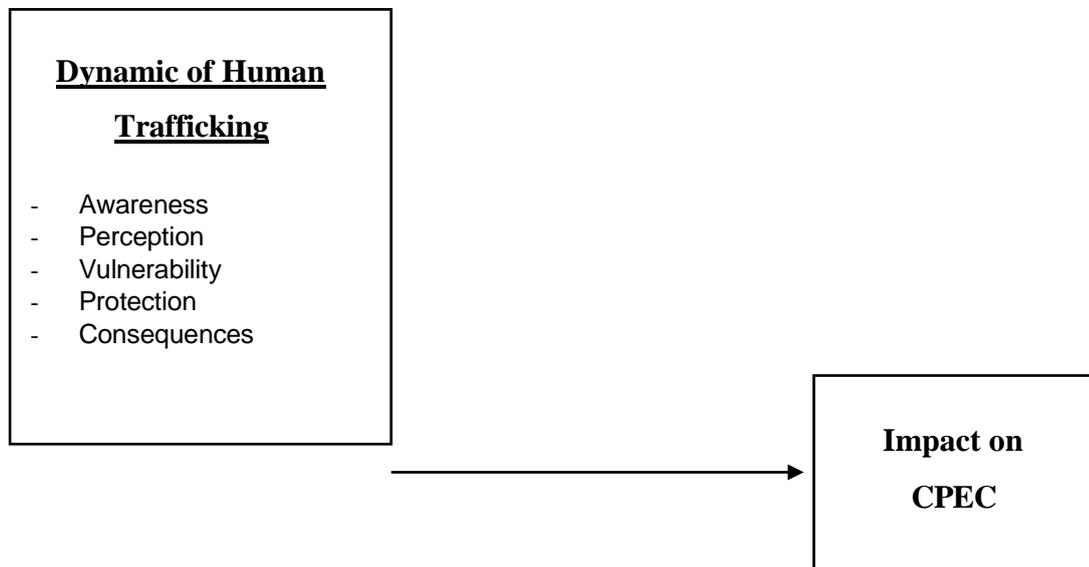
Objectives of the Research

- To explore the dynamics of human trafficking within the framework of CPEC.

Research Hypothesis

- Human trafficking has no substantial impact on the success of CPEC.

Conceptual Framework



Source: Researcher Model, 2024

Literature Review

There are numerous sources available on human trafficking via books, documentaries, research articles, etc. According to (the National Geographic Society, 2005) report, many ways of trafficking are shown. "Throughout human history, migration has occurred from the first societies in Africa to the current global landscape"). The research traces human history, and ethnic groups reflect history and how people are used in human trafficking from their homes for various reasons. The causes may include environmental concerns, low-cost livelihoods, atmospheric challenges, law and order conditions, racial factors, and national economic conditions (NIOC, 2019). Over the last two decades, significant focus has been directed on the crime of human trafficking, which involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion over international or national boundaries, as well as inside a country, for purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labor (Punam, 2020). Sexual abuse is among the most swiftly escalating offenses in several domains. Currently, it is said that human trafficking is the second greatest crime behind drug smuggling. Sex trafficking emerged as a substantial issue in the USA by the late 1990s, culminating in the ratification of the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) on 16 October 2000 (Busch-armendariz, 2015). This legislation was enacted to address human trafficking and provide protection for victims. Human trafficking is the second most significant source of criminal revenue globally, behind narcotics trafficking. The integration of individuals has emerged as an important issue for several governments worldwide (Lachko, 2005).

Some organizations made laws, i.e., the anti-trafficking laws, were made to prevent human trafficking in 2003 and 2005. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), Report 2022 indicates that criminal profits from human trafficking exceed US\$ 150 billion, while US\$ 51 billion is generated from other financial activities, including forced economic exploitation in domestic work, agriculture, and various other sectors (Winkler, 2021). Report of the ILO Director-General 2022 Most trafficking experts contend that women and children predominantly fall victim to human trafficking; however, there is a paucity of systematic information concerning the extent of this phenomenon, the characteristics of victimization (including the ability to differentiate between adults and children, infants and toddlers, women and men), and their lives. This study brings an awareness of how to stop human trafficking through such sources, i.e., publications, research articles, books, pamphlets, and

doctoral works in this field to bring knowledge to the public. This is partly due to the lack of uniformity in the terminology and concepts used by governments, global organizations, NGOs, universities, and media, which hinders the response to sex trafficking. This lack of clarity leads individuals, researchers, and academics to conflate human trafficking with smuggling, illegal migration, and forced labor (Lee, 2007). In this study, the International Migration Georgetown University Research Institute initiated a study funded by a grant from the National Justice Institute (NIJ) as outlined below: Compile a comprehensive literature bibliography on English human trafficking study using EndNote software for electronic bibliography management. The researcher, in his report on the project above, presented a thorough account of the processes involved in identifying scientific literature about human trafficking, examined databases utilizing keywords to ascertain pertinent connections, discussed the formulation of a taxonomy for classifying articles, reports, and books in esteemed scientific journals, and concluded with a discourse on existing research gaps. The research will provide a comprehensive analysis of the issues surrounding Human Trafficking, a kind of crime present in all societies. It is often perpetrated by someone with respectability and substantial social connections (Bigio & Vogelstein, 2019; Magesa & Salaam, 2020; March 2023; Margarida, 2009; Wheaton et al., 2010).

Homo sapiens trafficking is a precise and very competitive term that scientists do not universally accept. Cameroon (2007) and Lee (2007) assert that the idea of human trafficking necessitates an understanding of the conditions and acts that render individuals susceptible to trafficking. There is abundant work on human trafficking that has shown its drawbacks in the present and future. The following cited scholars and their articles show how human trafficking is done, i.e. (Afzal, 2022; Greenbaum et al., 2020; Hemmert, 2018; UNESCO, 2008; World Health Organization, 2012). (Bigio & Vogelstein, 2019; Margarida, 2009; Miseikaite, 2023; Mlambo-Ngcuka, 2018; Wheaton et al., 2010). These works and their research articles describe that the trafficking of vulnerable individuals, particularly young women, and girls, for sexual servitude and other exploitative purposes has emerged as one of the most rapidly expanding criminal industries in the global economy. Similarly, this study highlights public safety agencies and organizations can stop it by enforcing laws that may bring solutions, as one of the reports taken by (UNESCO, 2008).

Practices Resembling Slavery

Human trafficking encompasses several participants from diverse backgrounds, including diplomats and multinational corporations aiming to engage young women in domestic labor and small enterprises, as reported by Shelley (2010). Smuggling citizens, Children, adults, and families have caused the way to trafficking (Busch- Armendariz, 2015; Khan et al., 2024). Furthermore, the exploitation of minors is another way of trafficking. ILO reports indicate that significant traffickers include immigration police and government officials who engage in the use of fraudulent birth certificates and documents, facilitate illegal border crossings, and shield the proprietors of shelters and attorneys involved in criminal defenses (NIOC, 2019; Punam, 2020; Rafferty, 2007). Deception and coercion make people vulnerable to human trafficking. Thus, it's essential to understand how structural elements and linked effects relate to this. Understanding the social, economic, and political dimensions of trafficking, as well as its time and method of occurrence, is crucial. It is equally essential to comprehend the systemic factors that contribute to human trafficking and how these factors link to other connected issues. There may be regional and even national differences in the root causes of human trafficking. Hidden and ever-changing, human trafficking is shaped by monetary, cultural, legal, and economic factors. It is possible to seek a better life among low-income people persistently. Similarly, traffickers utilize this purpose to track and enlist potential victims. Scarcity, oppression, low social and economic prospects, and human rights deficiencies are some of the local elements that motivate people to move in search of better circumstances (UNODC, 2012).

Human trafficking affects people of all generations, even the youngest among them. Factors that fall under the categories of push and pull pressures are the primary drivers of human trafficking. Motivated individuals are less likely to fall prey to human trafficking, while engaged people are more likely to seize advantageous opportunities. Whether it's legal or not, the incentives behind human trafficking and migration are compelling. National Geographic (2005) identifies economic, political, cultural, and environmental factors as the four primary drivers of migration and attraction. The complicated issues are the leading cause of human trafficking. The reasons that drive people to take advantage of themselves without complete knowledge include "poverty and joblessness," as stated by Harbilas (2013). Poverty, educational opportunities, and career prospects are the way to human trafficking. Among other

intriguing aspects, such as the presence of appealing chemicals that increase the desire of immigrants to travel to their destination, human trafficking is more prevalent in these nations. The following are the primary elements that impact demand in the target nations, according to the ILO information handbook: Rises in the wedding and bridal trade, the sex and entertainment industries, the unceremonious economy, the cost of labor, and export-oriented industry are all factors that contribute to rising prices (ILO, 2020). The desire for improved economic circumstances in the countries of destination is a significant motivator of human trafficking. In light of this, Cullen-DuPont is based on consumer demand and the economic promise (Cullen-DuPont, 2009).

According to the United Nations Development Program (2008), local problems such as social discontent, lack of opportunity, political instability, militarism, civil unrest, internal armed conflicts, and natural calamities might lead individuals to seek better conditions. There is no socioeconomic or racial categorization of home workers in the United Arab Emirates, contrary to popular belief about migrant labor. Companies keep a careful eye on migrant workers' whereabouts and social interactions. Therefore, the segregation of foreign workers in the UAE is rapidly becoming notable. Because human trafficking separates people from one another in many ways—physically, socially, culturally, and psychologically—their levels of isolation as domestic servants vary. While some individuals can overcome the mental and physical obstacles to interacting with others, others are forced to live in extreme isolation due to the prevalence of violence (Sabban, 2006). Psychological and physical seclusion is a method for migrant household management in the United Arab Emirates (Sabban, 2006).

Finally, most books and articles on human trafficking focus on the issues that traffickers encounter after they reach their final destinations. Migrants face several challenges while traversing various transit cities and abandoned human trafficking routes, as the researcher has previously discussed. Nevertheless, the difficulties encountered by migrants en route to human trafficking have not been documented in any published works. To adequately acknowledge the many challenges faced by victims of human trafficking, it is crucial to investigate these issues and include them in contemporary literature (Magesa & Salaam, 2020; Mlambo-Ngcuka, 2018; Rafferty, 2007; Winkler, 2021).

Human Trafficking Effects and Reasons

Many factors, such as political factors, uplift human trafficking, leading to the impact of social justice. Though the Trafficking Victims Protection Act was passed in 2000, it was not strictly followed by factors to prevent human trafficking. Besides, Trafficking Act (2015). This act was enforced to contribute to human trafficking to combat. The question arises: to what extent are different countries applying this act to combat human trafficking? This is shown in data and research in this field; otherwise, it is vice versa. Whether or not the government offers victim protection, the frequency of prosecutions and convictions, the total number of trafficking offenses, etc. According to the results, no country is treated fairly. They fall into three categories: Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3. The US government follows the procedures outlined for each tier to improve the country's standing. The State Department, even though sex trafficking and prostitution are two separate crimes, the public often confuses the two. Thinking the connection is substantial requires a lack of knowledge and understanding. To fight against and understand the phenomena, the feminist viewpoint is crucial. Their most influential work is their examination of the structural causes of human trafficking. In 2000, Pakistan's legal system became a signatory to the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime. The Palermo Protocol was accepted by Pakistan in 2010.

Therefore, Pakistan must pass laws based on the aforementioned convention and agreement. Human trafficking is a serious problem, and Pakistan has laws to address it. On the federal level, in October 2002, the "Prevention & Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance, 2002," also called the Inhibition and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance, came into effect. Forcible labor, sexual exploitation, and any other kind of human trafficking were made illegal by this law. Section 292 -A deals with child pornography, Section 292-B with crimes committed against children, and Section 292-C, which increases the government's power to punish violators under Section 377-A, strengthens legal protections for children. In memory of the tragedy in Kasur, the notification is the Zainab Alert Act 2020. The irony is that criminal activity peaked on the same day the law was passed. The purpose of the law is to establish a system of alerts for situations involving kidnapping or missing children by establishing an organization for a response mechanism. Passed into law in 1973, the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan contains several important provisions that guarantee fundamental rights as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and allow for the collective and individual

organization of our lives. Slavery and other forms of forced work are outright forbidden under Article 11 of the United States Constitution. Human trafficking and forced labor are both outright forbidden under Article 11, Section 2. No job, including mining, may employ a kid under fourteen, as stated in Subclause 3 of Article 11 of the Constitution. Like the provisions of Article 4 of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, the provisions of Article 11 are similar. The Indian Constitution, namely Article 23, and the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution. The third Fundamental Rule of the Constitution of 1962 and the sixteenth Article 1956.A servant. The word "slaves" comes from the Old English word "Slav," meaning "noble," and the "Slavi" people who lived in central Europe in the past. The Romans and those who conquered them took their slaves with them. The name "slaves" came from their enslavement and subsequent distribution throughout Europe. As stated in Section 374 of the Penal Code of Pakistan. No one has the right to force another person to do anything against their will. All forms of human trafficking and forced labor are outlawed under the Constitution in Clause 2 of Article 11, except jail labor or work allowed by law for public purposes. Some states have passed laws requiring all men between the ages of 21 and 45 to serve in the military, while others have passed similar laws requiring all men between the ages of 21 and 45 to work six days a year on public highways. Hence, the state may legitimately justify the imposition of forced work for valid reasons, but private individuals cannot. However, "public purposes must contain some aim or goal that directly benefits the collective interest of society" is still required. A private citizen cannot be held in custody of a legal person by any legislation. Instead of referring to simple physical imprisonment, the term "detention" implies unlawful captivity. The criminal procedure code (Section 491) and the constitution (Article 199) make it clear that any restriction on freedom may result in penalties. According to PLD 2009 S.C. 507, any contract in which a person gives up their freedom to work and travel as they choose or gives up the right to sell or utilize their labor at market value is null and invalid. The High Court has wide-ranging authority to forcefully defend basic rights, including those against commercial entities and public agencies. Sections of the Pakistan Penal Code 1860 (PPC) dealing with various types of human trafficking are still enforced by the police. Still, the High Court is the only body with the authority to issue directives to effectively enforce fundamental rights against private entities, including those protected by Articles 11 and 22 of the Constitution. The Protection of Women Act VI of 2006 established Section 371.A and 371. B, which makes it illegal to buy or sell women or girls for

prostitution. Penalties for this crime include fines and imprisonment for 25 years. Sections 371 -A and 371-B of the Penal Code. This only applies to those who commit the offense intending to use the victim or anybody else for sexual exploitation. After giving it some thought, lawmakers took cultural norms into account. They concluded that allowing trials based on espionage information or anonymous complaints would lead to the prosecution of innocent people falsely accused of evil actions.

Result and Discussion

Respondents’ Demographic Information

Department					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid		25	25.0	25.0	25.0
		25	25.0	25.0	50.0
		25	25.0	25.0	75.0
		25	25.0	25.0	100.
					0
	Total	100	100.	100.	0
Qualification					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	2 Bachelor	22	22	22.0	22.0
				.0	
	3 Master	76	76	76.0	98.0
				.0	
	4 M.Phil.	2	2.	2.0	100.0
				0	
	Total	100	100.0	100.0	

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Gender						
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative	
					Percent	
Valid	1	100	100.0	100.0	100.0	
	Male					
Age						
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative	
					e Percent	
Valid	1	Under 2	2	2.0	2.0	2.0
	30yrs					
	2	31-40yrs	7	7.0	7.0	9.0
	3	41-50yrs	79	79.0	79.0	88.0
	4	51-60yrs	12	12.0	12.0	100.0
	Total		100	100.0	100.0	
Experience						

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					Cumulative
Frequency			Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	2	6-10 yrs	4	4.0	4.0
	3	11-15 yrs	85	85.0	89.0
			0		
	4	More than 15 yrs	11	11.0	100.0
			0		
	Total		100	100.0	0.0

Nature of Job					
					Cumulative
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Percent
Valid	1	Law enforcement agency	10	100.0	100.0
			0		

Location					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	1	Islamabad	11	11.0	11.0
				0	
	2	Rawalpindi	19	19.0	30.0
				0	
	3	Lahore	13	13.0	43.0
				0	
	4	Sukkur	13	13.0	56.0
				0	

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5 Multan	17	17.0	17.	73.0
			0	
6 Quetta	12	12.0	12.	85.0
			0	
7 Peshawar	15	15.0	15.	100.0
			0	
Total	100	100.	10	
		0	0.0	

Table No: 1 Awareness

Awareness	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Human Trafficking is a global issue.	100	2.63	.849
Human trafficking persists in Pakistan.	100	2.78	.938
There are several channels for human trafficking in Pakistan.	100	2.67	.900
Many innovative methods are being used for human trafficking in Pakistan.	100	3.03	.893
There is a prevalence of sex, labor, and organs for human trafficking in Pakistan.	100	2.99	.969
I am familiar with the signs of human trafficking.	100	2.66	.956
Media can play a significant role in raising awareness about human trafficking.	100	3.22	1.011
Awareness	100	2.85	.616

Analysis: The table presents the mean and standard deviation of officials' knowledge of human trafficking. With a mean score of 2.85, it indicates a deficiency in understanding. The majority of respondents concurred that several inventive strategies are used for human trafficking in Pakistan. Many respondents agreed that the media may play a crucial role in raising awareness.

Table No: 2 Perception

Perception	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
I believe that human trafficking has the potential to impede our economy.	100	2.53	1.029
I believe that human traffickers may exploit CPEC routes.	100	2.57	.924
I perceive that CPEC may function as a handy channel for the trafficking of women and children.	100	3.19	.961
I perceive that Pakistan might be held responsible for fostering a bad image due to its involvement in human trafficking.	100	3.68	.566
I believe that the presence of CPEC routes will lead to a significant security issue in the form of human trafficking.	100	3.78	.504
I believe that due to human trafficking, the socioeconomic status of Pakistan has several negative impacts.	100	3.75	.520
I believe that technology facilitates human trafficking in the country.	100	3.63	.661
I believe that good, straight, long roads of CPEC projects facilitate human trafficking.	100	3.65	.592
Perception	100	3.35	.372

Analysis: The table displays the mean and standard deviation of perceptions regarding the human trafficking issue in Pakistan along the CPEC routes. The majority of respondents concurred, as indicated by a mean score of 3.35, suggesting that most believe human trafficking poses a significant risk to CPEC projects and could become a serious threat in the future if not addressed appropriately.

Table No: 3 Vulnerability

Vulnerability	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Poverty makes human trafficking easy in the country.	100	2.84	.861
Illiteracy increases human trafficking incidents.	100	2.86	.876
Unemployed youths in the country are vulnerable to human trafficking.	100	2.92	.813
Victims of ethnic, religious, and sectarian issues in Pakistan are more vulnerable to human trafficking.	100	2.84	.775
The lack of educational opportunities in the country pushes people into human trafficking.	100	2.85	.833
Women and children are a more vulnerable segment of society to human trafficking.	99	2.90	.920
Vulnerability	100	2.87	.740

Analysis: The table presents the mean and standard deviation of vulnerability, with the mean score at 2.87 and a standard deviation of 0.740, indicating that respondents concurred that poverty and illiteracy exacerbate the prevalence and ease of human trafficking. Additionally, the majority of respondents agreed that women and children are more susceptible to human trafficking.

Table No: 4 Protection

Protection	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
There are significant laws and policies against human trafficking in Pakistan.	100	2.62	.972

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There are supportive services for human trafficking victims in our country.	100	2.88	.808
There are effective laws and check posts in the CPEC route to stop human trafficking.	100	2.76	.754
There is separate security for the CPEC in Pakistan.	100	2.70	.785
The effectiveness of law enforcement agencies in combating human trafficking in the CPEC routes.	100	2.66	.639
Protection	100	2.72	.644

Analysis: The table above shows the mean and standard deviation of the protection. The mean score of 2.72 indicates that respondents agree that substantial laws and regulations exist against human trafficking in Pakistan. Respondents agreed that supporting services exist for human trafficking victims in our nation. Respondents agreed that there is distinct security for the CPEC in Pakistan.

Table No: 5 Consequences

Consequences	N	Mean	Std. Deviation
Victims of human trafficking experience several long-term psychological health issues.	100	2.53	.797
Society gives different labels and isolates the victims of human trafficking.	100	2.79	.957

There are many legal impacts for human trafficking offenders.	100	2.50	.959
There are several physical health issues to be reported for the victims of human trafficking.	100	3.10	1.000
Consequences	100	2.73	.525

Analysis: The aforementioned mean table demonstrates that human trafficking has several implications, with a mean score of 2.73 and a standard deviation of 0.525. The majority of respondents agreed that society assigns various labels and isolates the victims of human trafficking. The majority of respondents agreed that several physical health concerns should be disclosed to victims of human trafficking.

Discussion and Findings

This research investigates human trafficking, focusing on the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), using quantitative survey data and qualitative interview methods. In this final segment, we combine key findings from both datasets and highlight the gravity of the issue, its implications for various stakeholders, and the actions needed to address it. Synthesizing the results of both qualitative and quantitative data, it is established that human trafficking is a serious problem in Pakistan as well as all over the world. Human trafficking is a global problem, and interview-based qualitative workers as well as survey respondents both agree that it happens relatively frequently with widespread impacts on individuals and communities alike. Universal recognition of the seriousness of human trafficking additionally requires that ongoing education and public awareness measures are maintained and expanded.

Human trafficking is a huge money loss for the private and public sectors as it bears down on healthcare systems, social services, and law enforcement. This is further emphasized by the qualitative results regarding the necessity of strong economic efforts to ameliorate these impacts. The results of the quantitative survey support this position, as they indicate that people believe that trafficking has negative financial consequences.

However, along with economic benefits, CPEC projects offer opportunities for traffickers through increased mobility and transport infrastructure. Qualitative results underscore these risks and suggest specific areas in which CPEC projects could be adversely affected—a conjecture that the quantitative data help confirm. Anti-trafficking measures must be incorporated into the project design and planning of CPEC to tackle this issue.

The inquiry points towards several key factors that make some individuals more vulnerable to human trafficking, such as their socioeconomic status, educational gaps, and social instability. Qualitative and quantitative evidence show that people from marginalized communities living in poverty are more likely to fall victim to human traffickers. The response must target social policies and support networks to attack the susceptibility traits that lead some into harm's way where they are trafficked.

Societal problems further exacerbate such extreme vulnerability, including poverty, gender inequality, or social instability. These fundamental problems require large-scale social interventions and the agreement between qualitative themes and quantitative survey data. There has been an increase in anti-human trafficking initiatives, but there is still not enough sufficient funding and services, especially when it comes to the participation of CPEC projects.

This study demonstrates that existing strategies are insufficient, and there is still a great need to improve support services for victims. The quantitative survey findings show a near consensus that better safety precautions and support services are needed—comprehensive Human Trafficking Prevention and Protection Measures. To improve assistance to victims of trafficking, it is essential to build support systems, expand resources, and incorporate anti-trafficking strategies into other CPEC projects to lessen the threat of this crime.

As all this paper recognizes and other studies indicate, human trafficking has far-reaching impacts, most of which are physical and psychological, interpersonal relationship disruption, relocation followed by social support network interference, and so on. Indeed, qualitative and quantitative evidence advances the seriousness of these very real concerns. To ameliorate these concerns and facilitate the reintegration of victims into society requires specific interventions and long-term management.

CPEC projects are constantly endangered by the threats of human trafficking that tarnish their image, waste resources, and encourage abuse of infrastructures. Such concerns are proven by qualitative and quantitative studies that research CPEC's planning and its underlying anti-human trafficking systems. By incorporating both types of data, the scourge of human trafficking can be viewed better in terms of its dimensions and its impacts. Results obtained from the two data sets support each other, emphasizing the gravity of the problem and the need for well-thought-out integrated strategies to address it. The impact of human trafficking on stakeholders may be grievous. Still, such impacts can be moderated through public education and empowerment or enhanced protection for vulnerable populations and incorporating anti-trafficking measures within the CPEC development program. All relevant actors must ensure that several techniques and measures are taken so that the safety and health of communities and individuals affected by trafficking are achievable.

To implement these plans, government agencies, NGOs, community groups, and international partners must join forces. Suppose stakeholders tackle the underlying reasons for vulnerability, boost protective and supporting services, and weave anti-trafficking measures into development projects like CPEC. In that case, they might create a more substantial and more thorough approach to combat human trafficking. These actions will lead to a safer and fairer world, cutting down on the dangers and impacts of trafficking. Based on a score of

5.0, with 5.0 being the highest score, shows that most respondents concur that human trafficking is an important issue. The sociological framework for this study keeps in mind the quantitative aspect that has been presented in the previous chapters, which elaborately explains the severity and prevalence of human trafficking in Pakistan. Strong consensus on the unresolved issue of human trafficking concluded that such problems require people's awareness and education. Poll results confirm these anecdotes, as most respondents believe that trafficking has an economic impact and that the infrastructure of CPEC is at risk. Based on the qualitative concerns, the quantitative data indicates the need for effective anti-trafficking interventions during the CPEC initiative. Participants argued that poverty, gender violence, and social disorder are some of the major socio-economic factors that contribute to trafficking.

These factors increase vulnerability and require significant societal changes to lessen their effect. The survey results show agreement on the need to tackle vulnerability factors, which

supports these findings. We need good social programs and support systems to cut down on vulnerability, as the numbers line up with known risk factors and societal impacts. People who took part say we should make support services for victims better and more manageable. The responses make it clear that ongoing support is crucial to help recovery and stop people from becoming victims again. The results reveal that everyone agrees on the need for stronger safety nets and help programs.

This conclusion confirms the findings and stresses the importance of adding anti-trafficking efforts to CPEC projects and beefing up protection measures. The data shows that victims of human trafficking deal with short and long-term effects like physical and mental strain, damaged relationships, and problems getting help services. The results indicate the necessity of directed therapy and ongoing support. The study looks at the data and examines the adverse effects of human trafficking on CPEC projects, such as reputational risk, consumption of resources, and the risk of abuse of infrastructure. The survey's results support the gravity of these consequences as there is consensus on the significant impact human trafficking has on the victims and the CPEC projects as a whole. The quantitative research supports the qualitative findings and patterns and emphasizes the importance of using integrated methods to address these issues.

Recommendations

- Launch wide-reaching campaigns to inform people about the dangers of human trafficking, ways to spot signs, and steps to report suspicious activities. Use various media platforms and community programs to get the word out. Formulate and incorporate educational programs into school curricula and community workshops to enhance knowledge and comprehension of human trafficking from an early age.
- Creating job opportunities and eradicating poverty can stop human trafficking in Pakistan.
- Enhance access to excellent education and skill development initiatives for marginalized and economically disadvantaged populations to mitigate educational disparities exacerbating vulnerability.
- Social security for the people and gender equality can stop human trafficking in Pakistan, so giving social safety and creating gender equality can create a peaceful

environment in Pakistan, resulting in a reduction in human trafficking cases.

- Develop targeted initiatives inside CPEC projects to assess and mitigate trafficking risks. This entails integrating anti-trafficking measures into project design, construction, and operating stages.
- Promote cooperation among governmental entities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and international organizations to synchronize initiatives to offer assistance and safeguard trafficking victims.
- Consistently do risk evaluations for CPEC projects to detect and alleviate any weaknesses that traffickers may exploit. Enact preventative strategies informed by these evaluations.
- Enhance security and monitoring of CPEC infrastructure to discourage trafficking operations and enable prompt reaction to possible occurrences.
- Revise and amend national laws on human trafficking to achieve conformity with international norms and to effectively tackle trafficking concerns.
- Giving training to law enforcement agencies on the contemporary methods of human trafficking and making those aware and trained can bring significant changes in this sense.
- Formulate and execute policies that prioritize the needs and rights of trafficking victims, including measures for their protection, rehabilitation, and societal reintegration.
- Implement feedback systems for stakeholders and victims to assess the efficacy of anti-trafficking initiatives and support services.

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