

263-2911

Port Harcourt Journal
of
History & Diplomatic Studies
(PJHDS)

Volume 9 Number 3
September, 2022

*A Multi-Disciplinary Journal of the Department
of History and Diplomatic Studies*

Ignatius Ajuru University of Education
Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt
Rivers State, Nigeria.

It has been estimated that global slavery index in July 2018 stated that 40.3 million victims were involved worldwide, the highest number is from girls and women. This trade is mostly prevalent in Niger Delta Area because those involved are diverse, those (lacks of vocational skills, unemployed, school dropout and those who are forced to the business). This trade has high profit, high risk and most times associated with diseases. In the Eastern Niger Delta, another increasing form of human trafficking is baby making factory in Calabar. This problem is confronting both states and has become a common phenomenon in the Eastern part of Nigeria. Baby factory are new terminology which involves breeding and trafficking them to other destinations. This is a system whereby illegal clinics are used in housing pregnant women and girls to give their children for sale. Some of the women are held captive with pregnancies and their babies are sold to unknown buyers, some of these babies are used trafficking to other countries. Some of the girls are rescued by the Nigerian authority (Oral interview). Another form of human trafficking is baby making factory; anti-human trafficking task force called operation Akpakpa has rescued 24 pregnant young girls in Calabar.

The influence of globalisation on Human Commodity Trade

The influence of globalisation over Human Commodity Trade cannot be over emphasised, because it has witness a surge in interest by traffickers. Globalisation has united traffickers for easy connectivity and integration on a global level and that is why traffickers are able to transport the victims easily to different countries. The influence of Human Commodity Trade has generated lot of arguments on the relationship between globalisation and Human Commodity Trade. Some scholars have argued that, there is no relationship between globalisation and human commodity trade. Other Scholars such as Kwame has emphasised there is a definite relationship between human trafficking and globalisation, and globalisation is the catalyst for lots of increase in human commodity trade. The relationship is based on the siding of fast growing of human criminality (Odeigah, 2015: 79-91).

Another factor is the integration of international market and the rapid expansion of global inflow of services and goods. Inflow of information technology has also helped in information dissemination among the traffickers and the various countries (www.undp.org/undp.org). The internet facilities such as GSM have helped to link together important businesses and this has facilitated interconnectivity. The information revolution has over the year had remarkable achievements by making the trafficker easy access to other countries such as Mali, Niger, Cameroon and Gabon among others. Some of these traffickers travelled as far as Italy, Belgium, Germany and Spain among others. This phenomenon of time-space convergence for traffickers has been achieved by

globalisation. Transportation is another major factor that has also facilitated the business of human commodity trade. The modern day, transportation is really essential in globalisation which is really boosts the trade and contributed to global trade by carrying the victims by road, sea, railway and air among others. Globalisation has accelerated volume and sustainability for quality growth of human commodity trade as a cluster of sector development (Zhuo: 2017).

Transportation immensely contributed to human commodity trade by increasing inflow of victims faster than before, because people travel quickly with victims to different countries and globalisation has helped in overcoming the hurdles of human commodity trade. There has been no comprehensive and accurate data on the number of smuggled migrants from the Eastern Niger Delta. In 2003 in Africa from about 132 victims were rescued with the effort of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons. It was reported by the Director General of the agency Dame Julie Okah-Doell reported that 40 of the victims were rescued from sexual exploitation, 28 victims from baby sellers, 23 were from victims were rescued while others were for other exploitation. This was achieved as a result of the formation of State Task Forces on Human Trafficking in conjunction with NAFTP (non-organisations). Human trafficking lacks empirical data, because of the nature of the trade it is difficult for accurate data to be kept. Globalisation made human commodity trade lucrative and fast growing, Calabar in Nigeria is one of the primary suppliers of the commodity. The commodities are being smuggled from Calabar to Togo and other part of the world.

Challenges encountered by victims

Human Commodity trade is an illegal trade which most time violates all standard of human right and protocol. There are numerous challenges faced by victims of human commodity trade. Some of these challenges come with devastating, moral set, psychological trauma and death among other challenges. Death of victims on the high seas has made it impossible for countries to give accurate statistic on the number of victims, because most of them go through traumatic and unimaginable stress and difficulties that led to death. Libya is one of the countries known for the business of Human Commodity Trade (Gillian Pyle & Penny Morand-Barstad, 2016). Most of the victims are kept in ECPs-Camps in Libya which eventually moved to Europe. Victims from the Eastern Niger Delta are found in Italy.

There are other challenges associated with Human Commodity Trade, the victims suffered from gang rape, racism, prostitution, detention, physical assault, and what is recently going on in xenophobia in Libya. Victims are exposed to hard labour and domestic labour.

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beings against their will the act of coercion. Human trafficking is a haramoun industry just like those behind arms trafficking and drugs deals. It has been noticed that human trafficking is one of the worst crime in the world. It is a trade that can be described as it occurs both at the local and international levels (Eba, 2022). Human community trade could be trans-national or within a country. This trade mostly occurs within the women and girls, it is a crime against humanity, because it is against the wish of the victim's right. It is very important to note that human community trade is the third largest and fastest criminal activities in the world and international conventions has condemned Human trafficking because it is a violation of human right (Louise, 2010: 2). Most time the trade occurs domestically or locally in any occurrence, it also has international implications the United Nations convention. This trade most time is against the will of the individuals. Globalisation has aided the human community trade over the years. This illicit activities has encouraged prostitution and globalisation became an easy source in facilitating human community trade. According to Fayal, globalisation is the speedup of movement and exchanges of human beings, goods, services, capital, technologies or cultural practices all over the planet (Fayal, 2022).

Globalisation and Human Commodity Trade

Human Commodity Trade has existed right from the pre-colonial, colonial and post-colonial periods. It has become a global issue and it is endemic in the Eastern Niger Delta area. It is a new form of slavery in a modified way compared to slave trade in the pre-colonial era. According to National Agencies for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons had reported that human trafficking in Nigeria is dated back to the 15th century when the colonialist began the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade. That has resulted to the modern form of slavery. Human commodity trade means trade of human being for profit making and for the purpose of forced and hard labour. The United Nations office on Drugs and Crime defined trafficking in persons as "the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or other form of coercion of abduction of land of abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of giving or receiving of payment or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation" (United Nations, 2006). With the above definition it clearly shows that Human Trafficking is gross violation of human right. Forced labour is a situation whereby individuals are forced to work and labour against their will. Some of these labour could be inform of food scales, domestic servant, plantations, logging and sawmills. Globalisation according to Kwame is the growing liberalisation of national economies (Gibsoned, 2000). Martin & Miller 2000 viewed globalisation as the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of persons either by use of abduction, force, fraud, deception or

ment, violent activities, imprisonment and illegal immigration. Victims are also faced with victimisation or ostracism. Victims experienced loss of unknown and lack self-esteem to achieve their dreams (Loring Jones, David W. Engstros, Trina Hilliard, Marie (Dec. 2021: 177). Human-commodity trade is the killer of every economy, because the money produced from the business goes untaxed to the government. Globalisation has increased the commodification of women and girls in different parts of the Eastern Niger Delta states to different countries of the world. Traffickers have explored avenues of globalisation using structures such as transportation, communication and trade to facilitate its trade to their own advantage.

Recommendations

Nigeria government has made effort and positive steps to address this dilemma and has played a major role both in the African continent and internationally. The Economic Community of West African States anti-human trafficking initiative have also entered into regulation and bilateral agreement, reached on issues of migration, but not much has been shared. The National Agency for the Prohibition of trafficking in persons (NAPTIP), all efforts by this agency has also not yielded fruit, in spite of the support gotten occasionally. With the help of other countries there has been Trafficking, Trust Fund which provides financial, shelter and humanitarian aid for the victims. Certain measures should be taken to combat the menace.

There have been other implementing programmes to assist the victims such as victims living access to health-care services, counselling skill acquisition and financial assistance. Most of the above are coordinated by non-governmental organisation, International donors and NAPTIP. In Nigeria at the state level Akwa-Ibom and Cross River states are working with NAPTIP and other implementing agencies to curtail the menace. It is important to note that some of the agencies are not properly funded by the government.

Several poverty alleviation programmes should be packaged for the citizens of the Eastern Niger Delta, free education should be introduced in the various communities for both formal and informal education, enlightenment programmes against trafficking should be initiated, traditional rulers of different communities should be accounted for their roles and government should make effective policies. There is need for more educational networks, seminars as well as community outreach.

Conclusion

Human commodity trade which is a trade of abuse, deception, fraud, vulnerability for the need prostitution and forced labour has been achieved with the inter-connectivity across

the borders. Globalisation as a facilitator has rapidly ushered an increased in Human Commodity Trade in the Eastern Niger Delta causing the trade to thrive. The increasing integration to the global trade assists the flow of victims across countries from the Eastern Niger Delta area. The lucrative trade is more rewarding to the traffickers than the victims. Human commodity trade as abhorrent as it is, globalisation has aided traffickers with easy transportation, communication and the use of internet, traffickers in their comfort zone make contact across the borders. Numerous factors have also assisted the growing trade as poverty, unemployment, lack of basic amenities, illiteracy and lack of human training. Despite the measures put in place by the state government, federal government, NGOs and international collaborations, human commodity trade has remain a global phenomenon.

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Globalisation and Human Commodity Trade in The Eastern Niger Delta Area of Nigeria in The 19th Century

By

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Abstract

Human beings are now being sold for profit making. Globalisation has generally facilitated the commoditisation of human beings. Women and girls are married, deceived, lured, trapped and at times forcefully exploited in what is regarded as modern day slavery or human trafficking or human-commodity trade. The victims are recruited through highly respected persons such as village heads, chiefs, priests, uncles, aunties, close relatives or close family friends with the promise of better pastures and various other forms of persuasion, deceit or outright abductions in an originating country often characterised by poverty, massive corruption, inadequate quest for wealth, high unemployment rate, political instability, violence and conflicts. The victims are transferred through transit countries often characterized by lax institutions such as Customs and Immigration, weak legislatures, corruption and porous borders and finally into destination countries with booming sex industry and high demand for cheap labour. This study examined Human commodity trade and commoditisation of women and girls in the Eastern Niger Delta area of Nigeria, using a historic and multi-disciplinary approaches. The study concludes that Human Commodity trade in a harsh reality plaguing the Eastern Niger Delta area mainly due to the ill-effects that life is always bristled outside our shores, cultural factors, illiteracy, poor parenting and upbringing, bungled, faulty educational system and poverty. There are many others are some of the factors fueling this clandestine contemptible trade in the Eastern Niger Delta area of Nigeria.

Keywords: Globalisation, Human, Commodity, Delta, Trade.

Introduction

During the slave trade era, it was not unusual to see humans as commodities of trade. More this was the capturing of people against their will, selling of human beings and enslaving them. Human commodity trade means trade in humans for the purpose of sexual slavery, commercial sexual exploitation and forced labour. In contemporary times it will not be off target to denote the human being as a commodity, unfortunately the demand and the supply for humans abound, albeit in a globalised form. The traffickers struggle human

The National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons rescued 132 victims in Akwa Ibom State in 2020 (<https://naptadlan.org/news/>).

Human Trafficking is a social problem plaguing the corporate peace of the states. It affects most families that their children are involved, because most of the family lose their children as a result of Trafficking (Opeyemi Duro, 2011). Places like Calabar, victims are taken through the port of Libya in the neighbouring Cameroon to Gabon and ended up in Libya. It is important to note that migrants from Nigeria that end up in Libya are extremely vulnerable to sex and eventually hard labour. Libya as a transit point and destination country for migrants to Europe, most of the migrants are kept in refugee camps for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. Hundreds of migrants have over the years crossed the Calabar and Akwa Ibom to Mediterranean in search for greener pastures, to reach Europe many die on their way, most times even those who successfully cross eventually become *koko-line* making them vulnerable (Thindere Sola, Idemudia Patience, Nwagwu Victor, Mkolokwu Esheka, 2008: 7-9).

The International Organisation for Migration global organisation that provide services to victims have also complained of an increase of victims being subjected to hard labour. The organisation which is to provide reliable, secure and flexible with low cost services for persons who need international migration and to help in the management of migration and also to respect human right accordance with international law. The organisation has helped in non-governmental organisations, stakeholders and states to facilitate regional cooperation on issues of migrate (https://en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/Human_trafficking). The dilemma of victims is very grievous as earlier as mentioned; most realisation have killed the dreams of most of their victims.

There are many consequences associated with Human Commodity Trade. This business is a violation of human right. The 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Right stipulated that every person has inherent dignity and freedom, more importantly, Article 4 stated that "no one shall be held in slavery or servitude". Furthermore, Article 23 says that every individual has the right to work, to free choice of employment to just and favourable conditions of work" (United Nations 1948). Even though the declaration of 1948 was not legally binding document, but this declaration was a stepping stone to other human rights conventions that are helping today.

Another consequences of trafficking for victims is that it relocate victims to unknown environment whereby the victims are subjected to bondage of unsuitable conditions, most time they work with low income without a choice. Most victims are faced with human

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Port Harcourt Journal of History & Diplomatic Studies (PHJDS) is a multi-disciplinary quarterly academic publication of the Department of History & Diplomatic Studies, Ignatius Ajuru University of Education, Rumuokwensi, Port Harcourt, Rivers State, Nigeria. It is published quarterly.

The journal affords scholars an avenue for the cross fertilization of ideas and a vent to publish well researched intellectual discourses. The scope encompasses Historical methodology, Philosophy of History, Historiography, Contemporary World History, Diplomatic Studies, the Social Sciences and allied disciplines.

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Port Harcourt Journal Of History & Diplomatic Studies (PJHDS)

**Volume 9 Number 3
September, 2022**

*A Multi-Disciplinary Journal of the Department
of History and Diplomatic Studies*

**Ignatius Ajuru University of Education
Rumuolumeni, Port Harcourt
Rivers State, Nigeria.**

www.pjhds.com

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Volume 1, Number 1 ISSN 1736-0660
September, 2012