International Journal of Social Sciences and Conflict Management ISSN: 2536-7234 (Print) : 2536-7242 (Online) Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019

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Migration and Its Inherent Role on Modern Slavery

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ABSTRACT

The paper is on migration and its inherent role on modern slavery. Migration in Nigeria and Africa have taken many forms including movement of, political refugees fleeing from conflict, moving out of Africa into Europe due to environmental and climate reasons, which resulted in forced labour, forced marriages, child labour, bonded labour as new form of slavery. It is against this background that the study examines migration and its implication. The method adopted in the study is based on secondary data were journal, Newspapers, magazines, reports and the internet. One main finding that Africa in enclave slavery such as forced labour, forced marriage, bonded labour and child labour due to immigration. Therefore, governments in Africa must wake up to protect vulnerable people from migration and exploitation by providing safe homes in our countries.

Keywords: Migration, modern slavery, slavery.

INTRODUCTION

Migration is an age long phenomena certainly been associated with the history of man. Migration can be defined as a process of moving, either across an international border, or within a state. It encompasses any kind of movement of people, whatever it length, composition and causes, it include refugees who are displaced persons, uprooted people and economic migration (IOC 2004). Migration for whatever reasons, have become a blessing in some instance and social problem in another, for the migrant country of origin and destination respectively. The development of modern slavery and the associated demeaning of humanity is a course for concern. Humans have becomes chattel in course of migration, like it was before slave trade was abolished by legislation in Europe. Migration have caused the removal of organ of many human, forced labour, forced marriage, sexual slavery etc. The expectation of many people involved in migration in their country of destination has been dashed, which will be revealed latter in the paper. Men and women who migrate face different opportunities, risks and challenges, including vulnerability to human right abuses, exploitation and discrimination. Especially women, are vulnerable to exploitation and human right and sexual abuses, (Global Migration Group, 2008). The number of migrant is expected of rise over the next decade, due to the inevitable effects of climate change, both gradual deterioration of the environment and sudden environmental event such as tsunamis, hurricane Katrina and several other factors trigger migration flow and people are forced to move.. Migration have social cost, children without mothers, husband without spouses, elderly relatives without anyone to care for them. The migration of mothers' result in children dropping out of school or finding themselves in situation of neglect and abuse. The separation of spouses, parents and children have implication for family instability that are felt in country of origin and destination, (United Nations Institute for Training and Research 2008). Why do African decent migrate? What are the causes of migration? Does it have certain implication? These and other questions requires answer. According Castled and Miller (2009), migration movement have certain enormous effect on African continent,



155N: 2536-7234 (Print) : 2536-7242 (Online) Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019

Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019 http://www.casirmediapublishing.com

and it might also as well have a negative impact on the current development process that the region undergoing (Ilo, 2009; Kelvin, 2018; Edward, 2016), figures from the United Nation High Commission for Refugees, proved a record year for persons who crossed an International border seeking humanitarian space. This agency asserts that over 60 million persons are estimated to be displaced. This number constitute the first time in the history of the UNHCR that this sheer across the globe. Africa recent sites of displacement are taken up in this special issue as well as those locations where people originally secondarily fled to as a result of wars waged sometimes ago, such as in Liberia or due to more recent phenomena, such as environmental induced displacement, and in places of on-going political oppression, such as Eritrea.. Internal displacement on the continent remaining a consistent consequence of political violence, natural disasters such as flooding or drought, as well as intersecting factors, such as the grouping famine and drought crisis in Somalia and other parts of Africa (IDMC, 2017).

METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE OF STUDY

This paper the data for the study is basically drawn from secondary materials such as textbooks, internet materials, newspapers and magazines, journal articles etc. The paper is Migration and its inherent role on modern slavery in Africa.

Concept Clarification

Migration

Migration is a universal phenomenon. It is a process through which people move from a permanent place of residence to another more or less permanent one for a substantial period of time (Chakravarthi, 2001; Chand, 2002, and Singh, 2001). It facilitates the redistribution of people at the origin and place of destination. Migration could be classified as, urban to urban, urban to rural and rural to rural. Most likely population tend to migrate from low opportunity areas to higher opportunity areas, (Pandey, 1998; Lingam 1998). Migration has been an important economic and social safety valve throughout history, allowing labour to migrate to areas where it was scarcer. The migration of people was a lot difficult, but that is no more the case, with the advancement occasioned by digital technology, migration of people and goods have become hitch free, positive effects in some instance, negative in another instance. Migration is thought to be the consequence of unequal development, wherein people, from backward regions move to developed regions. Migration could also be the concomitant result of industrialization and urbanization and relates to differences in employment opportunities. Scholars differ as to the definition of migration, for some, migration broadly is a permanent or semi-permanent change of residence. No restriction upon distance to move. Migration could mean the changing of the place of abode permanently, or when temporarily, for an appreciable duration e.g., seasonal workers. Migration could also mean the physical transition of an individual or a group from one society to another, the transition involves abandoning ones social setting and entering another and different one. Migration is a significant factor in influencing the size and structure of population of a given region. Migration is inevitable in modern society, because no society is self-sufficient, as a result, people and nations depend on each other. There is interdependence. Migration has account for better opportunity and better jobs (Haider,



2010; Farhana, et al 2012). This account for most reason why people migrate, but the contrary have been the case in most instances.

Modernity

Modernization simply presupposes the process of being modern or evolving from one premodern stages of development through some set patterns or the acquisition of some prescribed values (Ntete-Nna, 2004). In this context, modern is related to, or characteristics of the present or the immediate past. Classical theories of modernization from the 1950s identified the core characteristics of modern society as the decomposition of older closed institutional frameworks and the development of new structural, institutional, and cultural features and formations, and the growing potential for social mobilization, (Deutsch, 1961). In the view of persons, modernization meant the movement from particularism to universalism, from ascription to achievement, from affective to affective neutral roles, from diffuse to functionally specific roles, and from collective orientation to self-orientation (Offiong, 2001). Parsons identified four types of value systems and contended that those most favourable to modernization were the universal-achievement systems and free-market choices, and perhaps by meritocracy. The next most favourable systems were those based on universalism-ascription, in which the central aim is to realize an ideal state of affairs. The third pair of pattern variable is particularism-achievement, with achievement centered on a kinship-dominated occupational system and this was not susceptible to modernization. Modernity is a term used to describe different eras in the development of human societies .Comte, Durkheim, Weber and Marx, shared a common intellectual interest in the social changes associated with industrialization. They all saw these changes as having shaped modernity, Comte and Weber, saw these changes as the triumph of scientific rationality. The influence of religion, superstition and philosophy was replaced by positive science, an age increasingly shaped by rationalization and bureaucracy as effective and traditional action become less important, Weber asserted. Marx and Durkheim put less emphasis on scientific and rational thinking. Modern society is associated with developing progressively, for Marx, towards a communist utopia, for Durkheim towards a complex society based upon organic solidarity, Gidden starts his analysis of modern and traditional societies and conclude by saying, modern societies are characterized by a more rapid pace of change, the rapid change encompasses virtually the whole globe, not confined to geographically limited areas.

Slavery

Slavery and slave is as old as humanity. It has been an age old institution and practice in almost every continent in the world. Slavery is the submission to a dominating influence. That is, the state of a person who is a chattel of another. It implies bondage, servitude and servility. It is a condition of having to work very hard without proper remuneration or appreciation. Slavery is that brutal practice of forcing someone to work hard without paying them a fair wage, sometimes without paying them at all... or to be held captive and unable to pursue your own life is slavery, and it's worth fighting against. A slave is considered as a property of another as the one controlling them purchases them or owns them from their birth (US Legal. Com)



ISSN: 2536-7234 (Print) : 2536-7242 (Online) Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019

Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019 http://www.casirmediapublishing.com

Modern Slavery

Industrial society is a society driven by the use of technology to enable mass production, supporting a large population with a high capacity for division of labour. Modern slavery, it includes debt bondage, where a person is forced to work for free to pay off a debt, child slavery, forced marriage, domestic servitude and forced labour, where victims are made to work through violence and intimidation (BBC, May, 31, 2016; http://www.bbc.com>news). According to the modern slavery Act, 2015, a person commits an offence or compulsory if, the person holds another person in slavery or servitude and the circumstance such that the person know or ought to know that the other person is held in slavery or servitude or requires person to perform forced or compulsory labour and the circumstances are such that person knows or ought to know that the person is being required to perform forced or compulsory labour. Therefore, Modern day slavery in Africa according to the Anti-Slavery Society include exploitation of subjugate population, even when their condition is not technically called "slavery". Although this exploitation is often not called slavery, the conditions are the same. Africa recorded the highest rate of modern day enslavement in the world (Abdi, 2018). Forced labour and forced marriage were the main effect of the estimated 9.2 million African who live in servitude without the choice to do so [Global Slavery Index, 2018]. Modern slavery is trapped in forced labour and debt bondage, in domestic servitude and forced marriages, or exploited by human traffickers. Slavery though outlawed in modern society, majority of those who suffer or victims of modern slavery are poor, and socially excluded groups, often living in the margin of our society. Contemporary manifestation of slavery the world over includes among others: traditional slavery, debt bondage, serfdom, and forced labour, sale of children and worst form of child labour, sexual slavery, commercial sexual exploitation of children, trafficking in person for sexual exploitation among others. The concept of modern slavery is used to capture a variety of exploitative practices including forced and bonded labour, human trafficking, forced and servile marriage and servitude (IASC 2017).

It refers to situation of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception, and or abuse of power, (GEMS 2017). Modern slavery affects over 29 million people around the world (Walk Free Global Slavery Index, 2013). The term "modern slavery" describe exploitation so severe that people are not able to leave their place of work, (CIPS 2013). People in modern slavery are essentially "owned" by their employers, and are controlled through a variety of means including massive recruitment debt that they are unable to pay off, and threat of harm if they do try to leave. In 2003, modern slavery takes many forms, and is known by many names. Whatever term is used the significant characteristics of all forms of modern slavery is that it involves one person depriving another of their freedom; their freedom to leave one job for another, their freedom to leave one workplace for another, their freedom to control their own body. It is a dangerous development in the world, industries and humanity. While modern slavery is illegal in every country in the world, it still exist in every country in the world. Even in highly developed economies. Every country still has sectors of the economy that operate outside the reach of government regulation. The informal (or black) economy for example, labour may be sourced from irregular migrant, with workers being paid in cash or kind. According to modern



Slavery Bill (2013), modern encompasses human trafficking, slavery, forced labour and domestic servitude, it is a global crime. In 2012 the International Labour Organization, estimates that there were 21 million victims of forced labour across the world. Victims trapped in servitude, including sexual exploitation, into which they were deceived or coerced and which they cannot leave. Modern slavery is complex and varied, slave masters and trafficker use any means at their disposal to deceive and force individual into a life of abuse, servitude and inhuman treatment. Deception, coercing, forcing are key factors employed by the perpetrators of the act, to lead the individual into a life of abuse and degradation. Not all victims are forced, some were deceived for an apparently legitimate job, at their country of destination, without any knowledge of the intent of the trafficker. Individuals can also be brought to the UK and other countries by their families or family connections often for domestic servitude. In UK, individuals from over 95 countries have been referred to the National Referral Mechanism (NRM), Nigeria was the single largest source with 205 referrals, followed by Vietnam (135), Albania (128), Romania (74), and China (55). Modern Slavery Strategy (2014), states that modern slavery is believed to be one of the World's largest International crime industries, the International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that the total illegal profit obtained from the use of forced labour worldwide amount to over US \$150 billion per year.

Trafficking

The council of the European convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (the convention) defined trafficking as: "The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practice similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs. What is key in the definition is that the consent of the victim is never sort."

Amnesty International (N.D) identified the Following Types of Modern Slavery Forced Labour

GEMS (2007) citing ILO (2012) defined forced labour as "all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntary. Forced labour is a global problem affecting every region and all countries in the world whether industrialize or developing, rich or poor, labour intensive and unregulated industries are affected the most. Forced labour constitute the antithesis to decent work and violates all core labour standard. Forced labourers are victims of discrimination based on ethnicity, sex and cultural preconceptions about inferiority of certain groups of people, together with economic hardship50 percent of all forced labour victims are children in forced child labour, "a worst forms of child labour". These workers are often isolated from their peers, freedom of association, a distance impossibility no right to collective bargaining. The UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of slavery,



ISSN: 2536-7234 (Print) : 2536-7242 (Online) Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019

Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019 http://www.casirmediapublishing.com

the Slave Trade and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1996) defined debt bondage as "the status or condition arising from a pledge by a debtor of his personal services or those of a person under his control as security for a debt or the length and nature of those services are not respectively limited or defined".

Bonded Labour

(Ravi, 2005) Bonded labour is characterized by a creditor-debtor relationship between the employer and the employee, which can spill over to other members of the family, of an indefinite period/duration with adverse contractual stipulation not justified by law or the prevailing state of the market. The employee enters into the relationship because of economic necessities voluntarily. But are characterized asymmetries and high exit cost, which is not understood by the employee at the outset. Bounded labour refers to a long-term relationship between employer and employee which is cemented through a loan, by custom or by force, which denies the employee, the freedom to choose his or her employer, to enter into a fresh contract with the same employer or to negotiate the terms and condition of his/her contract.

Child Labour

Child labour is a much narrower concept and refers to children working in contravention of ILO standards contained in convention 138 and 182. This means all children below 12 years of age working in any economic activities, those aged between 12 and 14 engaged in more than light work, and children engaged in the worst forms of child labour, they include children being enslaved, forcibly recruited, prostituted, trafficked, forced into illegal activities or exposed to hazards, (ITUC 2008).

Forced Marriage

(UN 2014) A forced marriage is a marriage, which takes place against your will; or a marriage that you agreed to, but you did not really have a choice. The definition of force includes physical, psychological, sexual, financial and emotional pressure as well as emotional and psychological abuse or harassment. Forced marriage, involves situations you feel pressured to the point where you agree, only because you have no choice to say no, otherwise you would not have consented had the pressure not been placed on you. The pressure put on you to marry against your will can take various forms. Threat of violence; actual physical violence and sexual violence. It can be emotional and psychological, for example, been made to feel you are letting the family down, been told you are a bad daughter, been told you have gone against your cultural or religious expectations, been made to feel you are bringing down the family. Threat by family member that they have become ill because of your refusal to marry according to their wish. It could involve, your family not giving you enough money and many more strategies.

Descent Based Slavery

Descent based slavery, describe a situation where people are born into "slave class", caste or a group viewed as being in slavery by other members of their society. If one mother is in



slavery, one is born into slavery. Where people are born into slavery because their family belong to as class "slaves" within a society. The status of "slave" pass from mother to child. The most notorious industry that benefits from human trafficking is the child sexual slavery industry. Roughly eighty-percent of transaction in human trafficking are woman. This percent makes sexual slavery's position, as the most prominent form of slavery in the world. Sexual slavery-trafficking by means of violence, by fraud, or of coercion, causes women to provide commercial sex services or entices children younger than 18 years to provide commercial sex services. The victims of sex slavery enjoyed no freedom and are forced into any number of commercial sex industries. The women or girls involved are strictly restricted and controlled by a number of mechanisms. The victims are regarded as slaves, living in constant fear of threat, providing endless sexual services, which results heavily in their physical injuries and mental illness, Pinghua and Yan (2014).

Migration and the relationship with modern slavery Migration impact the welfare of household, home community, and end the whole economy in various ways (Azam&Gubert 2006). Yet not all impact are positive: exploitation of migrants by unscrupulous recruiters or employers is reportedly widespread. Migration can be in the interest of household welfare, but in most cases being separated from one's immediate family takes place at considerable emotional cost, (D' Emilia et al 2007). Kahn et al (2003) migration increases the risk for family breakdown, fragmentation of social networks and psychological stress. The loss of children left behind cannot be compensated by material gift and remittances sent from abroad, long separation of children from parents have long-term consequences on the children lives. Most boys of migrant also opt to migrate, thereby increasing the domestic workload of the daughters (Mckenzie & Rapoport 2006). The increase in alcohol and drug abuse is found to be high among children left behind by migrant. Young women are exploited as sex workers abroad, they were promised legitimate work at their destination, but then forced into prostitution upon arrival (Kobede 2001). Most people left their country of origin to country of destination, with the hope of better life, on the contrary, most have found themselves in slave-like condition. The abuse of migrant workers had led to calls for further regulation of the recruitment agencies across migration corridors, (Agunias 2010). Migration of people no doubt, benefits both the sending country and the receiving country, (Van der Mensbrugghe & Roland-Holst 2004), despite the benefits of immigration, destination countries usually believe that immigration can become an economic burden as immigration is feared to lead to loss of jobs, heavy burden on public services, social tension and increased criminality (UNDP 2009, p. 70), this fact is confirmed by the number of deported Nigerian of late. The influx of migrant allegedly brings down wages of the locals. In times of economic downturn, the general public and policy makers blame immigrants and see them as scapegoats for rising unemployment even though no strong evidence exist to show that immigrants takes native jobs (Papademetriou et al 2009). Forced repatriation have been slammed on immigrant by the destination country, any fragile economic instability is blamed on foreigners, (UNDP 2009, p. 99; Adepaju, 2003). West African migrant are been bought and sold openly in modern-day slave market in Libya, survivors have told UN agency helping them return home. Trafficked people passing through Libya have previously reported violence, extortion and slave labour, Dawit (n d).



ISSN: 2536-7234 (Print) : 2536-7242 (Online) Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019 http://www.casirmediapublishing.com

Brutalization of African migrants in Egypt, Libya and the coast of Europe is no more new occurrence. In 2014-2016, an estimated 3,800 migrant died travelling in Africa and data from the first of 2017 shows that Northern Africa had 225 recorded death (10M, 2007b). Most incident occurred along routes from Western Africa and the Horn of Africa towards Egypt and Libya, (10M 2018). Migration, Debt, Trafficking/Smuggling and Modern Slavery In furtherance of the literature on migration, though the factors that underpin migration in the contemporary world are many and varied, international debt and the neoliberal policy measures with which it is associated forms part of the background context against which many people make the decision to migrate (Quintana, 2004). Debtor governments also often have a strong economic interest in immigration, not least because remittances alone received by developing countries in 2000 far exceeded the volume of official aid flows and constituted more than 10 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in many developing countries (World Bank, 2011).

Opportunities for legally authorized migration are limited, however, and in the context of ever more restrictive immigration policies and tighter border controls by migrant-receiving countries, the market for clandestine migration services has expanded and diversified [Kempadoo et al, 2005; Alpes, 2011]. Fees for such services are often very high and as a result, resort to clandestine migration services can lead a number of different forms debt to a variety of different third parties (Kagan, 2011; Traindafy Ilidou and Maroukis, 2012). Such debts may be, but are not necessarily, owed to the individual(s) who provided the migration services. As Chin's (1999) study of Chinese migration to the USA shows, those who facilitate migration sometimes insist upon being paid immediately after journey has been successfully accomplished. Yet those who pay off such fees on arrival are not necessarily free of debt. Chy (2010) describes the patchwork of loans from friends, relatives, and others at home and already abroad that Fuzhounese migrants to the USA often have to put together in order to access the huge lump necessary to finance their journeys. While Chin's study shows that extremely violent means are sometimes employed to press migrants' families back home into paying off the fees, leaving migrants under an intense moral pressure to repay them by any means possible. Other research with Chinese migrant workers also confirms that large debts to family back home into paying off the fees, leaving migrants under an intense moral pressure to repay them by any means possible. Other research with Chinese migrant works also confirms that large debts to family and friends who have paid travel facilities in China can leave migrants vulnerable to forced labour in destination countries (Kegan, 2011). In most cases, migrants remain indebted to those who arranged their movement and/or enter into debt based relations of indenture. This does not automatically imply they will be harmed or cheated in anyway, for some of those who provide clandestine migration services are honest, decent, and fair in their dealings with the migrants they assist, and some employers honour the terms of contracts of indenture (Sobieszczyk, 2002). However, it can lead to highly coercive forms of exploitation. Thus, no matter who they owe money to, it can take months, or even years, for irregular migrants to repay debts incurred in order to migrate, during which time they may experience violence and physical confinement, as well as intense labour, exploitation, as a consequence of their indebtedness. Yet debtor-migrants who experience abuse and exploitation during the



process of movement and the point of destinations and not automatically considered to be "trafficked persons" by state actors. So, for example, explaining the difference between trafficking and smuggling, a US State Department Fact Sheet states that:Humor smuggling is generally with the consent of the person(s) being smuggled, who often pay large sum of money.... Smuggled persons may become victims of other crimes (modern slavery). In addition to being subjected to unsafe conditions on the smuggling journeys, smuggled aliens may be subjected to physical and sexual violence. Frequently, at the end of the journey, smuggled aliens are held hostage until their debt is paid off by family members or others.... Persons being smuggled may sometimes willingly enter into "contracts" with the smugglers to work off a smuggling debt (US State Department, 2006). From the viewpoint of the migrant concerned, it does not sound as though there is much to choose between being "smuggled" and being "trafficked". Indeed, this fact sheet suggest that for the US State Department, the trafficking/smuggling distinction hinges more on questions about the intentions and modus operandi of the individuals who exploit and abuse migrant that on questions about migrants actual experience at the point of destination. And yet even when concern is funneled down merely to the "criminals" involved, the smuggling/trafficking distinction remain elusive. We are told that smugglers seek to profit from organizing movement whereas in trafficking, the purpose from the beginning was to profit from the exploitation of the victim (US State Department, 2006). But in cases where the profit from arraigned movement can only be secured when arranging movement can only be secured when arranging movement can only be secured when the migrant is subject to month or years of labour exploitation (Modern Slavery).

Implications of Migration, Modern Slavery in Africa

Consequently, irregular migrants who often live in northern countries without requisite residency permits, are among the most marginalized and vulnerable groups in those societies. They often face all kinds of human rights violations, discriminations and exploitation in the work place as well as incarceration and forceful repatriation back to the very danger they escaped in the first place, sometimes without regard to them refugee status (UN-DESA, 2016; Rivamatwara, 2015). Simon (2017) sees the voluntary migration as mainly due to some economic consideration like high wages, better employment, business opportunities, good standard of education, urban style of living and modernization in skill and is intended internationally for the welfare and development consideration. But forced migration and displaced occurred due to some social, political crisis, armed conflict, human rights violation, natural disasters, construction of some projects like dams, power projects and displacement again can be looked in several ways one is due to natural causes which cannot be stopped, other is due to some political unrest i.e. wars, human rights violations, conflicts the solution lies in well-designed political and social policies and regimes (Rivamatwara, 2005). The third type of forced migration takes in course due to the construction of some developmental projects which are intended into construction only for welfare and development of masses and overall economy but there is lot of crises and sufferings to the people who are displaced due to the construction of such projects. This is a paradoxical situation. On the while forced migration, as well as voluntary migration, is challenge to development in Africa. Firstly, forced displacement in Africa differently



ISSN: 2536-7234 (Print): 2536-7242 (Online)

Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019 http://www.casirmediapublishing.com

experienced in space and tune across the continent. The forced movements of populations have been accompanied by untold sufferings and violations of human rights. Moreover, forced displacement in Africa has a direct negative impact on the development of the content. Infact, people's flight has negatively affected the socio-cultural cohesion as well as economic and political systems of a large numbers of African societies (Franzisca, 2017).

CONCLUSION/RECOMMENDATIONS

Africans drift in the manner of migration is no longer a solution; it's a deficit. People are risking death, drowning every day, but they are knocking on doors that are, not open. People from industrially backward regions do not value their current lifestyle and conditions, and they cannot resist the line of a wonderful life in economically advanced countries. Without thinking about the consequences that will follow their decision, people decide migrate from own motherland. Migration, a contribution to economic growth in the host country and the flow of remittances, money the migrants earn working abroad and then sending the earnings back to the family, to the home country. Yet, migration brings negative effects. Although for some people immigration is helpful to solve their own personal problems, it is obvious that it leads to several effects like social devastation, brain drain and increasing the level of economy. States must reinforce access to justice and provide adequate protection mechanisms for the victims of modern slavery. All government must sincerely protect vulnerable people from exploitation and provide enhance support to victims. Modern slavery, is an international crime and requires a strong international collaboration. Poverty and the hope of a better life, account for why people migrate from their country. Poverty alleviation programme is recommended, so that the need to migrate, will be minimized. School curriculum should be introduced that will reveal the negativities associated with migration, from nursery to secondary. This will capture the mind of young people early in life. Modernized agriculture should be pursued, its one sector that can absorb the youths and the need to migrate will not arise - because this age bracket migrate the most.

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155N: 2536-7234 (Print) : 2536-7242 (Online)

Volume 4, Number 2, June, 2019 http://www.casirmediapublishing.com

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