
Exploitation of Bonded Child Labor by Brick Kilns Industrialist in Peshawar, Pakistan

Hina Gul

PhD University of Peshawar

Shaista Ali

Lecturer, Human Development & family Studies, CHE, University of Peshawar

Zahin

Lecturer, College of Home Economics, University of Peshawar

Faryal Yousaf

Lecturer, College of Home Economics, University of Peshawar

Beenish Shuja

Lecturer, Iqra National University

*Email of the corresponding author: hinaupes@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This quantitative study aimed at investigating the exploitation of bonded child labor by the brick kiln industrialist in Peshawar, Pakistan. From a total of 380 brick kilns, 60 brick furnaces were taken as a sample of ventures. Further, from these 60 brick furnaces, 2 children, 2 parents and 1 proprietor from each kiln were chosen randomly through simple random sampling; hence, making a total sample size of 300 i.e. 120 kids, 120 parents and 60 proprietors through Sekaran (2010) table of sample size. Essential information was investigated through SPSS where Chi-square test statistics was used to ascertain the association between dependent and independent variable. A significant ($p=0.001$) association was found between financial issues and bonded kids work while a highly significant ($p=0.000$) association was revealed between propel cash and bonded kids work. Moreover, a significant ($p=0.008$) association was found between advance money and bonded child labor. The study suggested free and necessary essential training; pay age plans, execution of bonded labor cancelation Act 1992 including other work laws and Conventions on the Rights of Children (CRC) Ratifications. Moreover, the government has to take strict action against those industries' owners who financially exploit the children in workplace.

Key words: Bonded Child Labor, Advance Money, Brick furnaces, Credit Weight and Child Labors

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INTRODUCTION

Children are planned resources for every country; they bloom with each new day and rise as a result of the countless impacts they learn. Almost all of us are restless for the primary expression they express; they require opportunities and pleasantries in order to develop as

a decent citizen (Shah et al., 2020). Children, the majority of whom come from impoverished and deprived class backgrounds; work in unsuitable jobs in developing nations, including Pakistan. In today's world, child labor is a pernicious and fundamental issue (Srivastava, 2019). Child labor is at its most heinous and manipulative in all immature and less innovative creating nations, including Pakistan. Children are not only socially persecuted in Pakistan; they are also ethically tormented, and their identities are bred ineffectively (Shrestha & Thygerson, 2019). According to a World Bank analysis, Pakistan is the world's sixth most populous country, with 173.8 million people; the literacy rate maintained at 53% in 2008, while the rate of infant mortality was observed to be the highest among South Asian nations. The privilege of training, the odds of playing, and open doors for standard physical progress are critical human benefits that millions of children in Pakistan are denied. Regrettably, this state persists into the twenty-first century (Larmar et al., 2017).

According to Chaudhry and Garner (2007), "Exploitative child labor is one of Pakistan's most pervasive and fundamental challenges today. Khyber Pakhtunkhwa is known for its brick kilns, which employ a large number of child laborers alongside their parents. In Pakistan, winning one individual is spent on supporting around eight people in a typical household; and with the rapid speed of expansion, it becomes difficult for low-wage families to exist. While child labor is spreading throughout Pakistan, it is accelerating in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and its FATA (Federally Administered Tribal Areas) and PATA (Provincially Administered Tribal Areas) due to specific societal determinants".

Among the early initiatives, "the United States of America (USA) has enacted and passed legislation relating to the abolition of child labor." The primary one in this association is "The Child Labor Deterrent Act of 1992." This measure is commonly referred to as the Harkin Bill (ILO, 2004). The ILO (2004) defines child labor as work that deprives offspring of tutoring, stimulation, adolescence, potential, and respect, and is hazardous to their psychological and physical development.

According to the National Coalition Against Bonded Labor's report, "The State of Bonded Labor in Pakistan," "reinforced work" refers to work performed by any individual from the obligation subjugation family for their Master/Owner on ostensible wages on week after week installment; until the credit is reimbursed; during the agreement time of "Peshgi" (propel installment), the obligation subjugation family's obligation subjugation family is reimbursed (Rogaly, 2008).

All works or administrations taken from any individual subject to the prospect of penalty and for which said individual has not voluntarily offered himself (ILO, 2006). In an official statement on June 25, 2012, the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) Lahore. Even 20 years after the announcement of a law to repeal it, protected work remains a standout among the most deplorable and pervasive forms of abuse in Pakistan, and in light of this, the state and general society must strive even harder to eradicate cleverness. This announcement was made following the meeting of the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan's partner's workshop (Nandwani, 2020; Premchander et al., 2019; HRCP, 2012; Roy, 2012). According to Iqbal (2006), bricks have a long history in the subcontinent and throughout the world. Due to the Indus valley development (2500-1500 BC), individuals of this era developed a culture of brick production and utilized bricks in their building development, for example, the ancient Egyptians and

Mesopotamians utilized bricks in the development of extensive landmarks and even in their private structures (Khan and Shezadi, 2021; Latif et al., 2020). In the bricks furnaces company, the "peshgi" (Peshgi is a progression acquired by employees prior to taking up bricks process exercises for their Master/Owner) instrument is widely used, and both employees and owners of brick kilns have adopted it as a habit (Siddiqui, 2010). Subjugation of obligations is referred to as "peshgi" and is an extremely ancient tradition in Pakistan; it referred to a verbal contract that is typically recorded in the regular logbook of brick kilns.

Workers obtained "peshgi" through "Jamadar" (Jamadar is a crucial center employee (compelling individual) who is responsible for organizing the proprietor's working force. In KPK, it is referred to as "Jamadar," but in Punjab, it is referred to as "Work Mate"). In Punjab, he is also referred to as a work Mate. He is responsible for establishing an understanding (verbal) of "peshgi" between the owner and employees. This approach imposes a few obligations on both common laborers and proprietors. Regardless of the way that the specialists' class is the most burdened and helpless, and the proprietors exploit the energy of their employees. Every member of the subjugated family makes an attempt to lighten the burden of obligation, but unfortunately, due to specific social and societal situations, the employees are extremely enduring. The burden of obligation is so pervasive that individuals cannot escape it for an age, even by connecting with their female and little children (Afzal, 2006).

According to a survey by the Pakistan Institute of Labor Education and Research (PILER), around 90% of brick furnaces operate in rural areas of Pakistan, where proprietors of brick kilns employ various families to produce bricks. Furnace proprietors benefit well from the shabby work limitation. The PILER noted that up to 5000 brick furnaces are located in Punjab Province and more than 6000 in other provinces throughout the country (Ali and Hamid, 1999). Bonded child labor has only recently been curtailed and forbidden in Pakistan, following a UN human rights convention; nonetheless, it continues to exist practically in various areas of Pakistan at the moment. According to the 2014 Worldwide Slavery Index, about 2,058,200 people in Pakistan are employed in forced child labor or are otherwise enslaved. Pakistan is ranked third among 167 nations in terms of the prevalence of bondage or reinforced employment. After China and India, the world's two most populous countries, Pakistan is ranked third in terms of the number of people living under the most abhorrent forms of compulsory enslavement, which can be described as modern-day slavery. Additionally, it is observed that the combined reinforced worker population in Thailand, Pakistan, and India is almost similar to half of the estimated 36 million persons trapped in fortified work or subjection worldwide (Ali, 1999).

An individual advances toward being a reinforced worker when he or she is deceived or compelled to do so. After a while, the individual is approached to repay the obligation and is driven to labor for lengthy periods of time, even seven days seven days, and therefore stalls out in the web and never receives anything in return. This responsibility is never paid and continues from one generation to the next. Individuals are prevented from fleeing their slavers using pressurization and harsh behavior (Iqbal, 2006).

Pakistan, like other South Asian nations, is also marked for debt subjugation, which has harmed the cover weaving sector, farming, brick furnaces, fisheries, shoemaking,

workshops, stone squashing, searching, and inability to sort. Insights demonstrate that eight million child laborers work in various divisions of Pakistan, however, the given figure is extremely dated and obsolete, and the new figure is almost certain to be higher than this one, as no significant advancement has been made toward the abolition of child labor or obligation servitude. The event of fortified labor or obligation servitude in brick kilns is thus fundamental in each of Pakistan's four provinces. The majority of which is found in brick furnaces in the Punjab region (Ercelawn and Karamat, 2002).

Pakistan was been named on the "Subjugation's List of Shame" in a study published in 2013. Additionally, the Global Slavery Index reported that more than one percent of Pakistan's population (185.13 million people) is enslaved. Recently, a battle was waged to improve the situation by enrolling children who work in brick kilns in nearby schools. Launched by the Punjab government on August 26, 2015, the crusade's fundamental objective was to enroll all children aged up to 14 years in schools near brick kilns until the end of October 2015 (Ercelawn and Karamat, 2002).

METHODOLOGY

This investigation is identified with the issues of bonded child labor in brick kilns/industry at Peshawar. The examination ponder was directed under the quantitative strategy and simple random sampling was used as a Sample procedure. As indicated by an ILO report (2012), there were 500 hundred brick kilns enterprises, among them just 380 were utilitarian and 60 brick kilns were chosen as a sample estimate from adding up to 380 brick industries. From 60 brick furnaces 2 children, 2 parents and 1 proprietor from every kiln were chosen randomly through simple random sampling; hence, making a total sample size of 300 i.e. 120 kids, 120 parents and 60 proprietors through Sekaran (2010) table of sample size.

The interview schedule was utilized as a tool for information gathering from various respondents. After the accumulation, the information at that point examined through Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) and a measurable Chi-square test was utilized to test the hypothesis i.e. Greater the influence of socio-economic problems, higher would be the chances of bonded child labor.

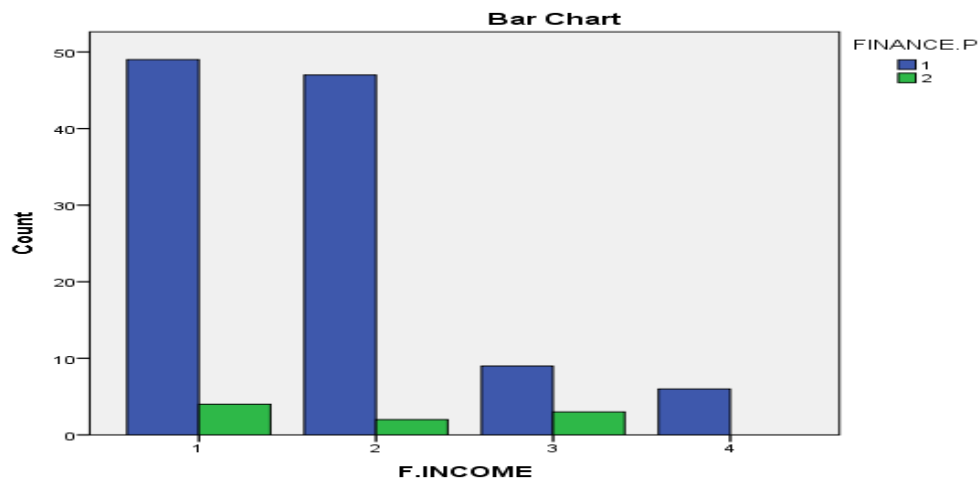
Results and Discussions

Greater the influence of socio-economic problems, higher would be the chances of Bonded child labor.

Table-1: Family Income and Financial Problem

Family Income	Financial Problem		Total
	Yes	No	
Rs.3000-5000	49 44.1%	4 44.4%	53 44.2%
Rs. 5000-8000	47 42.3%	2 22.2%	49 40.8%
Rs. 8000-11000	9 8.1%	3 33.3%	12 10.0%
Above Rs.11000	6 5.4%	0 0.0%	6 5.0%
Total	111 100.0%	9 100.0%	120 100.0%

Source: Field data, 2014



Explanation

The above table and diagram illustrate the status of family income and financial problems. In this regard, out of total 120 respondents, 53 (44.2%) divulge that their family income is Rs. 3000-5000 while 49 (40.8%) responds that their family income is between Rs. 5000 to 8000. Similarly, 12 (10.0%) reveal that their family income is between Rs. 8000 to 11000 while 6 (5.0%) indicated that their family income is above Rs. 11000. In 53 (100%) respondents, 49 (92.45%) explicated that they have financial problems while 4 (7.55%) stated that there is no financial problem to them. In 49 (100%)

respondents, 47 (95.91%) have a financial problem while 2 (4.19%) respondents have no financial problems. Similarly, in 12 (100%), 9 (75%) respondents were facing financial problems while 3 (25%) respondents were not facing financial problems. In 6 (100%) all the 6 were facing financial problems.

FINDINGS

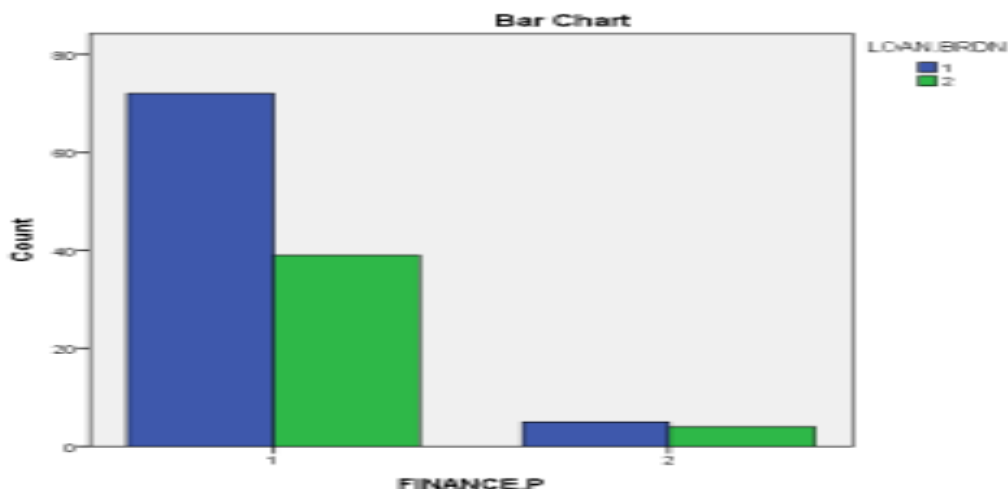
Majority of the respondents i.e. 53 (44.2%) had a family income of Rs. 3000 to 5000

Majority of the respondents i.e. 111 (92.5%) were facing financial problems.

Table-2: Financial Problems and Loan Burden

Financial Problem	Loan Burdon		Total
	Yes	No	
Yes	72 93.5%	39 90.7%	111 92.5%
No	5 6.5%	4 9.3%	9 7.5%
Total	77 100.0%	43 100.0%	120 100.0%

Source: Field data, 2014



Explanation

The above table and diagram explain the status of financial problems and loan burden of the respondents. In this regard, out of total 120 respondents, 111 (92.5%) divulge that they have financial problems while 9 (7.5%) indicated that they have no financial problems. In 111 (100%), 72 (64.86%) respondents have loan burden while 39 (35.13%) respondents were not facing loan burden. Similarly, in 09 (100%) respondents, 5 (55.55%) respondents were facing loan burden while 04 (44.44%) were not facing loan burden.

Findings

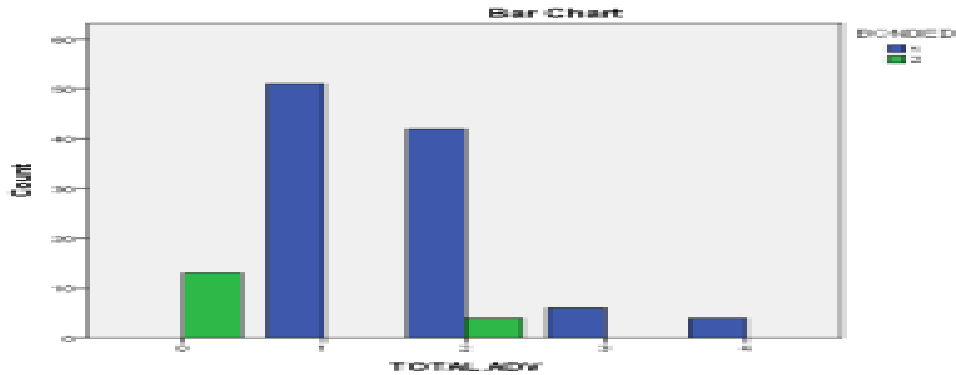
Majority of the respondents i.e. 111 (92.5%) were facing the financial problem.

Majority of the respondents i.e. 77 (64.16%) have loan burden.

Table-3: Advance Money and Bonded Labor

Total Advance Money	Bonded		Total
	Yes	No	
No Advance	0 0.0%	13 76.5%	13 10.8%
Rs.50000- 1Lac	51 49.5%	0 0.0%	51 42.5%
Rs.1 Lac-1.5 lacs	42 40.8%	4 23.5%	46 38.3%
Rs.1.5- 2 Lacs	6 5.8%	0 0.0%	6 5.0%
Rs. Above 2 lacs	4 3.9%	0 0.0%	4 3.3%
Total	103 100.0%	17 100.0%	120 100.0%

Source: Field data, 2014



Explanation

The above table and diagram explain the status of total advance money and bonded labor. In this regard, out of total 120 respondents, 13 (10.8%) explicated that they have taken no advance money while 51 taken an advance of Rs. 01-1.5 lacs. 6 (5%) respondents have taken an advance of Rs 1.5-2 lacs and 4 (3.3%) have taken an advance of more than Rs. 2 Lacs. In 51 respondents all the 51 were bonded. Similarly, in 46 (100%), 42 were bonded while 4 were not bonded. In 6 (100%) respondents all the 6 were bonded. In 4 (100%) all the 4 were bonded.

Findings

Majority of the respondents i.e. 51 (42.5%) respondents have taken an advance of Rs. 50000 to 1 lac.

Majority of the respondents i.e. 103 (85.83%) respondents were bonded.

Table 4: chi-Square Tests showing association between Financial problem and Bonded Child Labor

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	.075 ^a	1	.785		
Continuity Correction	.000	1	1.000		
Likelihood Ratio	.079	1	.778		
Fisher's Exact Test				1.000	0.001
Linear-by-Linear Association	.074	1	.785		
N of Valid Cases	120				

a. 1 cells (25.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected (p) value shows 0.001.

b. Computed only for a 2x2 table

In the table demonstrates that there was a significant ($p=0.001$) relationship between the bonded child labor and the children facing financial problems in the workplace. In this factor, the greater part of the respondents was of the view that reinforced youngster work did not confront any sort of budgetary issues, the proprietor of the brick furnaces enterprises gave enough cash to these kids. The findings of Daly et al. (2020) and Kundi and Shah (2006) did not bolster the aftereffect of the table as indicated by her the issue of bonded child labor with destitution, business, and monetary issues. She contended that bonded labor is the profoundly perceptible issue in the 21st Century in South Asia. A considerable lot of the youngsters are working in different fields and pooling their families' economy. They are working in high hopeless conditions and misused by their work proprietor. She likewise brought up that kid work is both the reason and result of neediness. In any case, she recognizes the part of society and social talk in the expansion of kid work and it is in the state of customary practices and sexual orientation difference.

Table 5: Chi-Square Tests showing Association between Loan Burdon and Bonded Child Labor

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (2-sided)	Exact Sig. (1-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	1.085 ^a	1	.297		
Continuity Correction ^b	.591	1	.442		
Likelihood Ratio	1.054	1	.305		
Fisher's Exact Test				.413	0.008
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.076	1	.300		
N of Valid Cases	120				

a. 0 cells (0.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected (p) value shows 0.008.

b. Computed only for a 2x2 table

The second table of the hypothesis demonstrates a significant ($p=0.008$) relationship between loan burden of children and bonded child labor. In this table, a large portion of the respondents said that proprietor of the enterprises did not give enough cash on legitimate time to bonded child labor. Because of this, the vast majority of the youngsters acquired cash from other individuals to satisfy the fundamental needs of their family. At the point when the proprietor gives them their compensation then they restore the credit cash and through this obtained cycle they end up poorer step by step. The examination bolstered by the discoveries of Afzal (2006). As per Rubab and Parveen (2020), in the bricks kilns business, "peshgi" instrument is of continuous utilize and the workers and proprietors of brick furnaces have embraced it as a convention. Obligation subjugation is as "peshgi" and it is exceptionally old practice in Pakistan; it characterized a verbal

contract which is regular on the occasional date-book of brick furnaces. Workers got "peshgi" through "Jamadar" in Punjab that individual likewise called work Mate, who is in charge of going into an understanding (verbal) of "peshgi" amongst proprietor and workers. Such practice has a few commitments on the average workers and on the proprietors also. Despite the fact that the more distraught and powerless status is of the specialists class and the proprietors are misusing the energies of their workers. Each individual from the servitude family is attempting to lessen the weight of obligation yet sadly because of certain social and social conditions the workers are exceptionally enduring. The weight of obligation is chronic to the point that individuals couldn't dispose of from the obligation for an age even by connecting with their female and youngsters also.

Table 6: Chi-Square Tests showing Association between total Advance and Bonded Child

Labor

	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	89.965 ^a	4	0.000
Likelihood Ratio	70.734	4	0.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	25.866	1	0.000
N of Valid Cases	120		

a. 4 cells (40.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected (p) value shows 0.000.

In the last statement, a highly significant ($p=0.000$) affiliation was found between the bonded child labor and the children take advance money from the owner of the industry. The greater part of the respondents answered that fortified youngster work takes propel cash from the proprietor of the ventures. In the wake of giving the propel cash by the proprietors to the bonded kid work then the proprietors abused the youngsters in working hours, they took work of more hours from the kids and gave less cash. On the off chance that any of the reinforced youngsters requested their rights, at that point, the proprietors said that from tomorrow you not come to industry and not gave the rest of the cash of the kids. As per Rogaly (2008) and Qamar and Shoaib (2017), this examination was upheld by the Report of National Coalition Against Bonded Labor, "The State of Bonded Labor in Pakistan, "Fortified work alludes to the work, which is performed by any individual from the obligation subjugation family for their Master/Owner on ostensible wages on week by week installment; until the point that the credit is reimbursed; In the agreement time of "Peshgi" (propel installment) the obligation reinforced family can't look for business or any pay age source and move openly outside". In the wake of investigating the entire essential information, the outcomes demonstrate that the theory demonstrated legitimate.

Since the association between independent and dependent variables has been tested through chi-square, where p values are 0.001, 0.008 and 0.000, thus there is a strong association between the variables. Hence, the Hypothesis is proved valid.

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The research concluded that bonded laborers have several difficulties since they are unable to meet their family's basic demands properly. They worked as bonded labor to meet their needs, and the vast majority of them are children. Neediness and unemployment are the primary causes of subsidized child labor, as these children and their families experience financial difficulties, which they overcome by extorting money from their proprietors. When proprietors offer them propel cash/peshgi, they abuse them by taking on additional work from these bonded/fortified children and paying them little. These reinforced works reinstated the peshgi, creating a cycle of giving and getting payment in advance from proprietors. This type of credit cash becomes a burden on these fortified works; gradually they end up poorer step by step. The study suggested that children are the general public's fate and that policymakers must make some positive efforts for their rights. Political pioneers must focus on the infringement of these children's rights by brick kiln owners. To provide free and necessary essential instruction, pay age plans, and the use of bonded labor annulment Act 1992, as well as other applicable work laws and ratifications of the Convention on the Rights of Children (CRC). The government must take strict action against those who profit from the financial exploitation of children at work.

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