



# SOUTH & SOUTHEAST ASIA RESEARCH GUIDE

## Terms

**Rohingya Muslim<sup>1</sup>:** An ethnic Muslim group in the majority Buddhist country, Myanmar. They speak a Bengali dialect and almost all live in the State of Rakhine in Myanmar. They are denied citizenship under Myanmar's 1982 Citizenship Law, are viewed as illegal Bangladeshi immigrants, live in poor conditions, and experience human rights violations throughout Southeast Asia.<sup>2</sup>

**Missing Children<sup>3</sup>:** A common social problem in India where children go missing every year. They are subjected to trafficking, exploitation, and various abuses. units in the country to one child each. The policy wrecked China's demographics and created an imbalance in the male to female ratio and contributed to the rate of sex trafficking within China and across its borders.

**Sex Tourism<sup>4</sup>:** Travel to engage in sexual activity, particularly with prostitutes.

**Forced Child Marriage<sup>5</sup>:** The institution or practice where individuals under the age of 18 don't have to option to refuse or are promised and married to another by their parents, guardians, relatives or other people. Slave brides in India, particularly Haryana, are sold into marriage and often face a lifetime of abuse and hardship.

**Phnom Penh<sup>6</sup>:** The capital and most populous city in Cambodia. It attracts significant tourists but it is also an epicenter for Cambodia's child sex trade and transit point for sex trafficking victims from Vietnam.

**Sexual Slavery<sup>7</sup>:** Slavery for the purpose of sexual exploitation; may involve single-owner sexual slavery or forced prostitution.

**Thai Fishing and Seafood Industry<sup>8</sup>:** World's fourth largest seafood exporter but fails short international labor and fishing regulations, resulting in exploitation of trafficked labors.

## TIP Tiers<sup>9</sup>

### Tier 1

Philippines

### Tier 2

Afghanistan, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, India, Malaysia, Maldives, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Timor-Leste, Vietnam

### Tier 2 Watch List

Bangladesh, Laos, Indonesia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand

# Anti-Trafficking Legislation by Country

- **Brunei<sup>10</sup>**
  - 2004 Trafficking and Smuggling of Persons Order
- **Cambodia<sup>11</sup>**
  - 2008 Law on the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation
- **Indonesia<sup>12</sup>**
  - 2007 Law on the Eradication of the Criminal Act of Human Trafficking
- **Malaysia<sup>13</sup>**
  - 2007 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act
- **Myanmar<sup>14</sup>**
  - 2005 Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law
- **Philippines<sup>15</sup>**
  - 2013 Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act
- **Thailand<sup>16</sup>**
  - 2008 Trafficking in Persons Act
- **Afghanistan<sup>17</sup>**
  - 2008 Law Countering Abduction and Human Trafficking/Smuggling
  - Penal Code
  - 2009 Elimination of Violence Against Women Law
- **Maldives<sup>18</sup>**
  - Employment Act
- **Bhutan**
  - Penal Code (Article 154)<sup>19</sup>
  - 2011 Child Care and Protection Act<sup>20</sup>
  - 2007 Labor and Employment Act<sup>21</sup>
- **Pakistan<sup>22</sup>**
  - Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance, 2002
  - Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Rules, 2004
- **Sri Lanka<sup>23</sup>**
  - Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution Act, 2005
- **Bangladesh<sup>24</sup>**
  - 2012 Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act
- **India<sup>25</sup>**
  - Indian Penal Code
  - Immortal Trafficking Prevention Act (ITPA)
  - Bonded Labour Abolition Act
  - Child Labour Act
- **Vietnam<sup>26</sup>**
  - 2012 Law on Human Trafficking Prevention and Combat
- **Singapore<sup>27</sup>**
  - 2015 Prevention of Human Trafficking Act
- **Laos**
  - Penal Code<sup>28</sup>
- **Nepal<sup>29</sup>**
  - Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, No. 2064

## Trafficking Origins/Destinations<sup>30</sup>

Southeast Asia is a crucial point of trafficking both in and out of the region. The Mekong region is a high origin, transit, and destination region.<sup>31</sup> Most of the trafficked victims identified in Thailand are from neighboring countries like Myanmar, Cambodia, and Laos, and have been forced, coerced or defrauded into labor or commercial sexual exploitation.<sup>32</sup> Within South Asia, India is a main destination for victims from Nepal, and Bangladesh.<sup>33</sup>

## Local Organizations

- **ECPAT:** International NGO, headquartered in Thailand, designed to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children<sup>34</sup>
- **International Justice Mission:** International NGO with field offices throughout Southeast Asia (India, Cambodia, Thailand, Philippines) that aims to eradicate modern slavery<sup>35</sup>
- **Freeseet:** Social entrepreneurial that creates employment opportunities for women affected by sex trafficking in West Bengal, India<sup>36</sup>
- **Chab Dai:** Founded in Cambodia, coalition of diverse stakeholders committed to working together to abolish all forms of sexual abuse, human trafficking and exploitation<sup>37</sup>
- **Prajwala:** A pioneering anti-trafficking organization based in Hyderabad, India, working on the issues of sex trafficking and sex crimes in India<sup>38</sup>
- **Prerana:** NGO that works in the red-light districts of Mumbai, India to protect children vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking<sup>39</sup>
- **Rahab Ministries Thailand:** A Christian NGO that offers outreach for sexually trafficked women and children in Thailand<sup>40</sup>
- **Renew Foundation:** Christian NGO dedicated to empowering female survivors of human trafficking and prostitution in the Philippines<sup>41</sup>
- **Urban Light:** An organization that works to help young men break free from child prostitution and sexual exploitation in Thailand<sup>42</sup>
- **ZOE International:** The Children's Homes in Thailand provides rescue and aftercare services for children who were at risk or who were already sold into trafficking<sup>43</sup>

## Major Forms of Trafficking

- Sex Trafficking
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children<sup>44</sup>
- Cybersex Trafficking<sup>45</sup>
- Labor Trafficking
- Labor Exploitation
- Forced Labor
- Bonded Labor
- Domestic Servitude
- Child Begging<sup>46</sup>
- Child Soldier<sup>47</sup>
- Child Bride<sup>48</sup>
- Bride Trafficking<sup>49</sup>
- Organ Trafficking<sup>50</sup>

# Endnotes

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