

# CONSTITUTIONAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN MALAYSIA

Selected Issues



KHAIRIL AZMIN MOKHTAR

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**EDITOR  
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## CHAPTER TWENTY ONE

### **Eliminating Slavery and Combating Human Trafficking in Malaysia: The Relevant Constitutional Provisions and Domestic and International Laws**

*Khairil Azmin Mokhtar*

Slavery and forced labor have been accepted to be against humanity globally. These practices are expressly prohibited by the Federal Constitution in Malaysia. Although, the prohibition of human trafficking is not expressly mentioned in the Constitution, it could be regarded as one of the most heinous crime according to the letter, intent and spirit of the constitution. This is related to the fact that human trafficking is much associated with modern day slavery and therefore is against the ideology of the Malaysian nation and acceptable norms of international community.

Trafficking in persons is a multi-faceted crime which is much associated with exploitation especially but not exclusively of vulnerable people namely women and children. These are the two categories of people that must be protected at all times including war. However human trafficker and organized criminal syndicate targeted them due to their vulnerability. Exploitations of the victims include sexual exploitation in the sex tourism industry; labor exploitation in the domestic service and the agricultural industry and in construction. Children may be exploited as beggars in the street, or recruited to sift through garbage or to smuggle drugs. Women and young girls may be exploited through fraudulent marriages, and children may be bought and sold for adoption. Human organs of the most vulnerable are also trafficked.