

Unfair Labour Practices: The Issue of Bonded Labour in Brick
kilns of Rawalpindi Region



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ABSTRACT

This thesis explored unfair labour practices in respect of bonded labour in the brick kiln industry of Pakistan. It intended to investigate the nature and extent of bonded labour with respect to various stakeholders. The literature reviewed consisted of existing research conducted on the use of bonded labour in the brick kiln industry, compensation methods used to remunerate this labour and the effect of government organizations in this regard. Using the data collected from secondary resources, interviews were designed and conducted with brick kiln owners, labourers and a government representative. Most of the findings were in harmony with existing research however certain reservations were noted. The results showed that although bonded labour has been explicitly declared illegal by various laws, it is widely practiced throughout Pakistan. Although brick kiln owners may exploit labour, there is an aura of unwillingness on behalf of the labourers to settle their dues and work as free employees.

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