

We Were Slaves to Pharaoh in *Mitzrayim*

Slavery... Today

***A Look at the International
Slave Market Today***

Three millennia have passed since the Jewish nation was wondrously liberated from its centuries of enslavement in Egypt. Slavery, as a globally accepted institution, persisted only until recent times, when it has been strongly denounced and much effort has been made to uproot it. Despite those efforts, however, there are—shockingly—more slaves today than perhaps at any previous time in the history of the world... as many as 27 million!

When we sit down to our *Seder* and recite “And if *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* had not taken our fathers out of *Mitzrayim*, we and our children and grandchildren would still be enslaved,” most of us don’t realize how literally true that is.

Let’s take a closer look at modern slavery and how it continues to flourish around the world, and use it as an opportunity to reflect on how fortunate we are, even in the modern era, not to be enslaved.

bondage is just as real. They are forced into slave labor, or face being subject to acts of violence against themselves or close family members. Their owners

 | ZMAN • April 2014