

In 1898 the late J. Theodore Bent wrote respecting the slave-trade in the Red Sea: "The west coast of the Red Sea is in portions still much given to slave-trading. From Suez down to Ras Benas the coast is pretty well protected by government boats, which cruise about and seize dhows suspected of traffic in human flesh, but south of this, until the area of Suakim is reached, slave-trading is still actively carried on. The transport is done in dhows from the Arabian coast, which come over to the coral reefs of the western side ostensibly for pearl fishing. At certain seasons of the year slave-traders in caravans come down from the dervish territory in the Nile valley, and the petty Bedouin sheiks on the Red Sea littoral connive at and assist them in the work."

Slave-trade
in the
Red Sea

Dr. Hurgronje, the Dutch traveler, describes the public slave market at Mecca in full swing every day during his visit. It is located near the holy mosque, and open to everybody. Although he himself apologizes for the traffic, and calls the antislavery crusade a swindle, he yet confesses to all the horrible details.

Slave-market
in Mecca

The explorer, Charles M. Doughty, who spent years in the interior of Arabia, wrote: "Jiddah is the staple town of African slavery for the Turkish empire; Jiddah, where are Frankish consuls. But you shall find these worthies,

Thousands of
Slaves in
Jiddah