

## Early Marriage Paragraph for HSC

Early marriage or child marriage is when a girl or boy under 18 gets married. This happens to many young girls in poorer parts of the world even though most countries set 18 as the minimum legal age.

About 650 million women today were married before turning 18, especially in southern Asia and Africa. For example, in places like Niger, Chad and Bangladesh, over 60 out of 100 girls are married before becoming adults. Early marriage happens more often in poor, rural villages where there is less education.

There are some common reasons for early marriage. Traditional beliefs make girls seem like family burdens and early marriage protects their "purity". Getting daughters married young brings dowry money to struggling parents. Some religious rules allow it too. Also, when families are very poor, they marry daughters early instead of paying for more school.

Getting married so early is very hard on young girls. It stops their education instantly and they have to start running households before their minds and bodies are ready. This leads to health issues and robs skills and chances to succeed.

To stop this practice, people need to understand why it is harmful. Families need other options to feel secure about their daughters' futures. Leaders must enforce laws against early marriage and punish those who arrange illegal unions. More opportunities like school, jobs, and healthcare for girls and women can slowly change attitudes and desperation over time. Through many efforts, young daughters can avoid early marriage and have better lives.