

Review of: "Project Mausam: India's Cultural Strategy for the Indian Ocean"

Abdolvahab Maghsoudlou¹

¹ Iranian National Institute for Oceanography

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

As a marine biologist with many years of experience in this field, I found this article both intriguing and engaging, particularly because my knowledge of China's Marine Silk Road project has primarily come from news and media reports. While reading the article, I was hoping to see an analysis comparing the strengths and weaknesses of the Mausam project with those of the Silk Road project. However, I did not find such an assessment.

The authors do highlight the cultural and historical significance of the countries surrounding the Indian Ocean, presenting it as a strength for the Mausam project. However, it's important to remember that the economic and commercial improvements resulting from the Silk Road project could be highly attractive to neighboring countries. As I mentioned earlier, I am a marine biologist and do not possess the expertise of someone who specializes in maritime law or international relations.

Perhaps this article is more persuasive for readers who are well-versed in maritime law, but it didn't fully resonate with me as a more general reader. I strongly believe that projects like these, which require international collaboration, must first capture public interest and attention in order to influence policymakers through public demand. Highlighting the strengths, weaknesses, advantages, and disadvantages of both projects would allow for a more comprehensive evaluation.

In conclusion, I found the article informative and would like to thank the authors for their efforts. I hope my feedback is helpful.

Sincerely yours,

Abdolvahab Maghsoudlou

Associate Professor, Iran Oceanography