

Review of: "GERD: A Catalyst for the Nation-Building Process in Ethiopia"

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The article lacks a section that engages with the eventual environmental and social problems caused by GERD in Ethiopia. There are not enough studies on these potential problems, as they were hindered by the political ruling class strongly oriented towards building the dam to the extent of persecuting those that attempted to cast a shadow on this project. There are a number of articles on this issue. I suggest the author considers them. This would benefit the study and show that GERD is a project that is not only producing "national wealth and cohesion" but also "social and political turmoils". Besides the problematic consequences on Ethiopia, an article on GERD that doesn't assess the eventual problems that the dam could (and will) cause to the neighbouring countries of Sudan and Egypt is unthinkable. Finally, GERD is the example of what scholars epitomize "Resource Nationalism", a national project that sees the environment uniquely as a resource to exploit. Such a view is anachronistic in the present, when Bruno Latour and other eminent scholars propose to extend rights to rivers, land, and oceans. My suggestion is that the author(s) reviews more recent literature on the subject of environmentalism and environmental justice before preparing a new and thoroughly revisited version of this article.