

Review of: "Wasta Unveiled: Navigating Nepotism in the Arabian Peninsula"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is an interesting paper on an important topic. I have some minor feedback below to help strengthen the paper.

In the methods section, to help readers, it might be helpful to specify which specific countries are covered within the Persian Gulf.

It might be more engaging for readers if some quotes are included from the posts that are referenced. Can direct quotes be included as examples?

In the findings section, it feels like there could be greater reflection on how women or minoritised groups' perspectives differed, especially because this came out so strongly in the literature review. Did you notice if gender was a factor in the feedback on the role of wasta? Were men more likely to see it as positive compared to women? What about other groups who might be more on the margins? Does age factor into perceptions of wasta? Were there differences between countries? More reflection on how specific groups perceived wasta might help deepen the level of analysis in the paper.