

# Review of: "Wasta: The Culture of Nepotism on the Arabian Peninsula"

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The article is relevant and timely, arguing that Wasta is a multi-faceted phenomenon that operates both as a kind of socio-cultural capital and as a source of injustice. Scrutinizing the spread of the phenomenon and potential implications for the legal and politico-administrative systems in the Middle East and North Africa, the article helps to close an existing gap in the literature. Nonetheless, some points could be addressed in revised versions. The empirical evidence is somewhat restricted and could be enhanced; also, the methodology could be discussed more nuancely (e.g., the selection of the sample). To improve the overall empirics, the authors should consider adding some interviews to substantiate the “bimodal” findings and discuss policy implications more in-depth. The findings are well-grounded and sound, but the potential policy implications deserve more attention.