# Review of: "Customary Land Tenure, Mining, and the Development Question: Insights From a Transitional State"

Yamini Gupt

**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

The paper entitled "Customary Land Tenure, Mining, and Development Question: Insights from a Transitional State," provides the background for an urgent call to action to the state to make the colonial inherited mining and land policies and laws inclusive and progressive in order to make the countryside and the land question central points in the development agenda.  The study explores the interplay between mining activities, communal land tenure, and their joint impact on development in the Uzumba Maramba Pfunge (UMP) district in Zimbabwe.

The authors have used the duree perspective, which extends the analysis further into the past than both memory and the archaeological record.  The methodology consists of an extensive review of literature, including academic and non-academic documents, and in-depth interviews with 88 households and key informants from the government, and mining company representatives.

The paper provides a very interesting narrative focusing on the history of land tenure and mining in UMP, the associated problems like social impact (displacement, struggles, poverty, cultural), environmental issues, and development issues.

It does, however, require more attention to the style of writing and organization of the paper. Some suggestions:

1.  More than 35 in-text citations are included in the introduction, and then many more in the section on the literature review.  As a result, it becomes difficult to read the paper and discern the author(s)' views and observations from existing studies.
2. There are instances of incomplete sentences like …. page 6, para. 2, third last line.
3. In the methodology section, the data collection period is mentioned as "2018 to March 2022."  The month in 2018 should also be mentioned.
4. The paper will benefit from the addition of more subsections in all the sections.