

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR- 59205

Title: The Kokorowé© Pact as a Successful Case of an Endogenous Mechanism for Conflict Management in Burkina Faso

Recommendation:

Accept after minor revision

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality		✓		
Techn. Quality			✓	
Clarity			✓	
Significance	✓			

Reviewer's ID: Abdul Haseeb Mir

Detailed Reviewer's Repot

The paper, titled "*The Kokorowé Pact as a Successful Case of an Endogenous Mechanism for Conflict Management in Burkina Faso*", uses a qualitative case study of Kokorowé to investigate how endogenous mechanisms—specifically traditional chieftaincy and joking kinship—facilitate conflict resolution and restore social cohesion between Bobo farmers and Fulani herders within a context of institutional pluralism. Drawing on 18 semi-structured interviews (conducted in 2025 and 2026), the paper demonstrates how conflicts shift from violent outbreaks to judicial intervention, before ultimately resolving through public acknowledgement of wrongdoing and tangible, community-level reparations.

Key Strengths

- Rich Empirical Grounding:** The paper provides vivid verbatim quotes and life narratives that trace a real-world conflict—from the violation of customary initiation rituals to formal arrest, subsequent withdrawal of charges, public apologies, and structural development gifts (such as grain mills and sewing machines).
- Solid Conceptual Framework:** The paper successfully integrates Max Weber's concept of traditional legitimacy, Serge Paugam's framework on social bonds ("ordeal of the bond"), and theories of legal pluralism and pragmatic hybridization to explain the interplay between state justice and local customary mediation.
- Relevance to Current Legislative Trends:** The discussion connects empirical findings in Kokorowé to recent national legislative developments in Burkina Faso, such as the establishment of the *Faso Bū-Kaoore* under Law No. 003-2026/ALT.

International Journal of Advanced Research

Publisher's Name: Jana Publication and Research LLP

www.journalijar.com

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Critical Weaknesses & Areas for Improvement

1. Incomplete Table Metadata:

- Table 1 (Profile of respondents) contains incomplete cells under the "Status" column. The paper explicitly includes a placeholder note: Profile of respondents (to be completed).

2. Bibliographic and Citation Discrepancies:

- **Missing In-Text Citations:** Works listed in the references—such as Coser (1982), Jacob (2002), Karpe et al. (2007), N'Guessan (2018), Polanyi (1975), and Sissao (2004)—are not cited anywhere in the main text body.
- **Citation Mismatches:**
 - Max Weber is cited as Weber, 1922 in text but listed as Weber, 1995 in the bibliography.
 - Serge Paugam is cited as Paugam, 2008 in text but listed as Paugam, 2018 in references.
 - Richard Crook is cited as Cook, 2005 and Crook (2005) in text, but listed in references as CROOK Richard, 2014.

3. Minor Typographical / Language Errors:

- The abstract contains missing spaces between words (e.g., jokingkinship, judicialdecisionsissociallycostly, materiallydifficult).
- Section headers also show run-together words (e.g., JokingKinship).

Suggested Improvements

- **Complete Table 1:** Fill in the missing "Status" entries for all 18 respondents and remove the temporary "(to be completed)" tag from the table title.
- **Reconcile Citations and Bibliography:**
 - Ensure that all listed references (e.g., Coser, Jacob, Polanyi, Sissao) are either cited in text where appropriate or removed from the reference list.
 - Standardize publication dates between the text and reference list for Weber, Paugam, and Crook.

Recommendation & Decision

Decision: Accept Pending Minor Revisions