

REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: **IJAR-54056**

Title: Traditional Marriages among the Luo in Kisumu County-Kenya from the Islamic Perspective

Recommendation:

Accept after major revision

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

Reviewer Name: **Dr. Zainuddin, M.Pd.I**

Date: **26/09/2025**

Reviewer's Comment for Publication.

This paper discusses traditional marriage practices among the Luo tribe in Kisumu County (Kenya) and compares them with Islamic principles (Sharia). The author states that he has conducted qualitative studies (interviews) and documentary reviews, examining elements such as dowry/bride price, polygamy, the role of the extended family, and customary practices such as widow inheritance, and concludes that some practices are in accordance with Sharia while others are contrary to it.

Detailed Reviewer's Report

1. Research aims and questions are not explicit

The paper outlines general objectives but does not clearly articulate research questions (e.g., exploration of what? evaluation of compatibility? policy implications?). At the end of the Introduction, explicitly state the research problem, objectives (e.g., RQ1, RQ2, RQ3), and intended scholarly contribution

2. Methodology is overly brief and non-replicable

The Methodology section vaguely mentions “qualitative” and “quantitative” approaches and interviews/documentary review but lacks essential details: sample frame (who was interviewed, how many), sampling strategy (purposive/snowball/random), timeframe of data collection, instruments (interview guide), recording procedures, and analytic techniques (e.g., thematic coding). Without this, the findings are weak.

Mandatory revisions:

- Provide the number of respondents, inclusion/exclusion criteria, and demographic background (age, gender, marital status, education) in a table.

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- Justify the sampling strategy.
- Include the interview guide/questionnaire as an appendix.
- Explain the analytic process (e.g., thematic analysis: open coding → axial coding → theme development). If quantitative data are included, report sample size, instruments, and statistics.

3. No separate Results section

Currently, the Discussion blends descriptive accounts of customs, literature, and some narrative quotes without presenting clear empirical findings

4. Comparative analysis with Islam is normative and one-sided

The discussion often cites Qur'anic verses/hadith to judge Luo customs, which is legitimate, but the analysis should be more empirical and balanced, reflecting field data (e.g., responses from Luo Muslims). Avoid overly prescriptive tone.

5. Ethics not addressed

There is no mention of informed consent, ethical clearance, anonymization, or data recording. This is mandatory for publication.

6. Weak theoretical and literature framework

While some classic references are cited (e.g., Ogot, Ayot), the review relies heavily on non-peer-reviewed sources and lacks synthesis. To meet Scopus standards, include recent peer-reviewed studies (last 5–10 years) on marriage, polygamy, and religion–culture interactions in East Africa.

7. Conclusion is generic and not tied to findings

The conclusion repeats general statements rather than drawing on concrete results. A Scopus-level conclusion must summarize key findings, contributions, limitations, and recommendations.

8. References, citations, and language issues

- Reference list contains duplicate DOIs and inconsistent formatting; some entries are incomplete.
- Numerous language errors, typos, and inconsistent capitalization (e.g., “luo” vs. “Luo”).