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| Book Name: | **"RURAL JUSTICE IN AFRICA: RETHINKING CRIME, POLICING, AND COMMUNITY SECURITY IN MARGINALISED SPACES"** |
| Manuscript Number: | **Ms\_BPR\_5912.4** |
| Title of the Manuscript: | **THE HISTORY OF RURAL CRIMINOLOGY IN AFRICA AND THE EVOLVING NATURE OF RURAL CRIME OVER TIME** |
| Type of the Article | **Book Chapter** |

**Special note:**

**A research paper already published in a journal can be published as a Book Chapter in an expanded form with proper copyright approval.**

**Source Article:**

**This chapter is an extended version of the article published by the same author(s) in the following journal.**

**IRASS Journal of Multidisciplinary Studies, 2(6): 18-37., 2025.**

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| PART 1: Comments | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment **Artificial Intelligence (AI) generated or assisted review comments are strictly prohibited during peer review.** | Author’s Feedback *(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.** | **This manuscript significantly contributes to the scientific community by offering a thorough historical and contemporary overview of rural criminology in Africa. It delineates the progression of rural crime from conventional offenses such as livestock theft and land disputes to intricate contemporary issues including organized crime, political violence, and cybercrime, emphasizing how these changes mirror wider socio-economic and political transitions. It also addresses a significant gap in comprehending the distinctive elements influencing rural crime in the continent by detailing the interaction between colonial legacies, post-independence dynamics, and contemporary global trends. The analysis of novel approaches, including community policing and technological interventions, provides essential insights for policymakers, researchers, and practitioners aiming to improve rural security and justice.** |  |
| **Is the title of the article suitable?**  **(If not please suggest an alternative title)** | **Yes** |  |
| Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here. | **The abstract of the article is comprehensive, but overly dense and repetitive in its current form. It successfully outlines the article’s scope, themes, methodology, and significance. However, the following suggestions are recommended for improvement and clarity:** **Trim the repetitions; Structure it more clearly, please consider following a more standard structure: Background → Objectives → Methods → Key Findings → Implications. It can be shortened more precisely.** |  |
| **Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.** | **Yes, the manuscript is scientifically correct and demonstrates academic rigor across several dimensions.** |  |
| **Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.**  **-** | **Yes, the references are quite sufficient and recent.** |  |
| Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications? | **The manuscript is written in mostly appropriate academic English, but it requires moderate language editing to improve fluency, sentence structure, and conciseness for publication.** **Many sentences are too long, making them hard to follow. It will be good to break it down.**  **There is repetitive phrasing, key points (like poverty, land disputes, community policing, gender impacts) are restated across multiple sections using similar language.** |  |
| Optional/General comments | **The inclusion of 1–2 short case studies (e.g., a specific community affected by livestock theft or a grassroots policing initiative) could strengthen the qualitative narrative.** **You mention areas for further research, which is excellent. You might consider adding a paragraph suggesting collaborative research agendas or data-sharing platforms for rural crime in Africa.** |  |

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| **PART 2:** | | |
|  | Reviewer’s comment | Author’s comment *(if agreed with the reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)* |
| **Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?** |  |  |

**Reviewer details:**

**Khwairakpam Goutam Singh, India**