ABSTRACT

Since 1970 Dhofar has experienced rapid social, political and economic change as part of the process of incorporation into the developing Omani rentier state. One important aspect of this is gender relations. Existing literature has primarily focused on political and economic development but relatively little attention has been paid to gender relations particularly with regards to Dhofar. This paper attempts to examine gender equality and civic rights over a period in which the Dhofar region of Oman went through the experience of the Dhofar war and subsequent integration into the contemporary Omani state. It therefore provides intriguing insights into processes of gender relations on the Arabian peninsula under conditions of insurgency and rentier state development. The key question it seeks to address is to what extent change in gender relations can be explained in relation to processes of social change occasioned by conflict and rentier state development. It also seeks to examine the ways in which systems of patriarchy interact with other social, economic and political processes. The paper focuses on key aspects of gender equality and civic rights as experienced by women in Dhofar. In addition to secondary literature a number of sources are used including archive material and photos, internet sources and original interviews.

Indicative literature:


