

Book Review

Globalisation and Higher Education in the Arab Gulf States

Gari Donn and Yahya Al Manthri

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This book offers one of the first attempts to provide comparative and conceptual analyses of the higher education sector in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries (Oman, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain and Kuwait). The book addresses the impact of globalisation on higher education in GCC countries and contains a lot of information on the comparisons of education sector development in each of the GCC countries.

This book is particularly interesting as the writers provide statistical information about the march of higher education in the Gulf. This is valuable since researchers interested in this area often find it difficult to get access to accurate information about the higher education sector in the region. The book consists of six chapters:

- Chapter One: Globalisation And Its Influence Upon Higher Education In The Arab Gulf States.
- Chapter Two: The Arab Gulf States: An Outline Portrait Of Six Countries
- Chapter Three: Labour Markets In The Arab Gulf States
- Chapter Four: Higher Education and Curriculum Reform in the Arab Gulf States.
- Chapter Five: The 'Magistracy' At Work: The G8 and the Broader Middles East and North Africa.
- Chapter Six: Globalisation and Magistracy in the Arab Gulf States.

It is noticed that the Omani higher education sector is given more focus in this book. This is very understandable as one of the core authors Mr Al Manthri used to be the Minister of Higher education in Oman and this had ensured easy access to the required data and provided authenticity.

The book provides superior introductory information about the higher education sector in the region, about key issues and how the sector is changing to cope with what is going around the world. The book is worth a read because it insights onto the complexities faced by the higher education sector globally and the impact on the Arab Gulf States, especially on its magistracy.