

## The role of Iraqi electronic journalism in shaping political awareness among the public- Field study

<sup>1</sup>Basim Raad Mahmoud, <sup>2</sup>Prof. Dr. Shukria Kawkaz Al-Sarraj

<sup>1</sup>Email: [basimraad622@gmail.com](mailto:basimraad622@gmail.com)

<sup>2</sup>Email: [drshugriah@comc.uobaghdad.edu.iq](mailto:drshugriah@comc.uobaghdad.edu.iq)

<sup>1,2</sup>University of Baghdad, College of Media, Higher Professional Diploma equivalent to Master

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### Abstract:

The study aimed to identify the role of Iraqi electronic journalism in shaping the political awareness of the public regarding the parliamentary elections by conducting a field study on a sample of the public of the city of Baghdad, through which we sought to reveal the extent of the contribution of electronic journalism in shaping the political awareness of the public and the extent of the contribution of Iraqi electronic journalism in this, through how it addresses issues and topics that help shape the political awareness of the public of the city of Baghdad and their awareness and understanding of the lived political reality.

This study falls within the descriptive studies, in which we relied on the sample survey method as it is the most appropriate for such a study. Our study was conducted on a sample of 400 individuals from the population of the city of Baghdad, where we relied on the multi-stage random sample through the questionnaire form as a tool for collecting data related to the study. The study reached a set of results, the most important of which are: Relying on online newspapers to develop political awareness is a phenomenon that is growing significantly in the digital age. Online newspapers provide immediate and direct information on political issues, helping respondents follow current events and understand different political contexts. The importance of online newspapers in developing political awareness is evident in the ease of access to information, allowing people to access political news from anywhere and at any time.

**Keywords:** electronic newspapers, political awareness.

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### INTRODUCTION

Electronic journalism is one of the new media phenomena that imposed a change in the style of journalistic production in terms of content and its components, and contributed to the formation of a new professional identity due to its connection with technical modernity that produced new formulations of interaction that constitute the relationship between the individual user and the sender through the medium, in addition to what these electronic newspapers are distinguished by in terms of the multiplicity of media and the continuity of their content, which enabled them to attract an audience of users that is not limited to a specific geography nor is it completely confined to a single class formation.

Electronic newspapers have played a role in transmitting political knowledge through presentation, analysis, and criticism of political issues and events, with a kind of open-mindedness that embraces all visions and perspectives through their media content to their user audience. The formation of political awareness is the first stage of political participation, which progresses from political interest to political knowledge, then political voting, and finally political demands.

Accordingly, a high level of public awareness of the dimensions of political, economic, and social conditions is a basic requirement for effective political participation, especially since

political participation is one of the important issues facing societies on their path to development.

In this context, electronic journalism plays an important role in shaping the public's political awareness, in forming, strengthening, or changing their culture by providing them with political information and preparing them for public work.

## **Chapter One / Methodological Framework**

### **First: The research problem.**

Electronic newspapers play a major role in conveying events as they happen, and are a source of information for users, especially after the increase in the number of Iraqi electronic newspapers after 2003 AD, and the public's increased reliance on the Internet to obtain information (Ali and Al-Sarraj, 2021 AD, p. 65).

Therefore, the research problem is embodied in the main question: What is the role of Iraqi electronic journalism in shaping political awareness among the public? A number of sub-questions branch out from the main question:

#### **Questions:**

- 1- To what extent do respondents rely on electronic newspapers to develop their political awareness?
- 2- What is the level of confidence respondents have in the information provided by online newspapers on political issues?
- 3- To what extent has Iraqi electronic journalism contributed to clarifying some political concepts?
- 4- To what extent does the Iraqi public rely on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness?

### **Second: The importance of the research:**

Electronic journalism contributes to the transmission of ideas and opinions related to a specific issue to a large number of people in different regions of the world, thus allowing the crystallization of international public opinion in support of certain issues, which results in positive change in some aspects of life. However, it may also fall into the trap of negatively influencing public opinion, when it is used to change the convictions of members of society in a certain direction, especially during elections or voting on fateful issues related to the future of this country. This affects political awareness, which may in turn be influenced by the individual's personal experiences.

### **Third: Study objectives:**

- 1- To reveal the extent to which respondents rely on electronic newspapers to develop their political awareness.
- 2- To identify the level of confidence of respondents in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues.
- 3- To reveal the extent to which Iraqi electronic journalism has contributed to clarifying some political concepts.
- 4- To identify the extent to which the Iraqi public relies on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness.

#### **Fourth: Research areas or limits:**

Defining research areas is one of the methodological steps of any research or study, which involves three areas:

1. Spatial scope: This means determining the geographical area in which the research or study is located. The city of Baghdad was chosen as the spatial scope of the research, after the research sample was chosen from the population of the city of Baghdad based on a multi-stage random sample.
2. Human field: We mean the research sample, which is the population of the city of Baghdad.
3. Time frame: This refers to the period of time the researcher spent collecting data from the research sample after completing the process of constructing the research tool, distributing the questionnaires, filling them out, and analyzing them, which can be determined from 2/1/2025 until 3/31/2025.

#### **Fifth: Methodology and type of study:**

This study is based on the descriptive approach, which is defined as “an attempt to reach precise and detailed knowledge of the elements of an existing problem or phenomenon, to reach a better and more accurate understanding and to develop future policies and procedures related to it. This approach aims to provide data and facts about the problem under study in order to interpret it and determine its implications. Within the framework of this approach, the sample survey method was used to measure the role of Iraqi electronic journalism in shaping the political awareness of the public, with application to a sample of the public of the city of Baghdad.” The survey is an analytical process for various types of issues and problems, and is carried out by collecting information in a scientific and organized manner, and by direct contact with the research community or the sample drawn from it (Al-Rahbani, 2009, p. 71).

#### **Sixth: The research community and its sample:**

Study community It is the units or components of the phenomenon that is the subject of the study, as a whole or in cases to which certain characteristics apply, whether it is an individual, goods, or weights in a specific area. (Salem and Shabib, 2018, p. 156).

In this study, the research community represents the public of the central city of Baghdad. Which included (Al-Karkh District, Al-Rusafa District, Al-Sadr District I and II, Al-Kadhimiya District, Al-A'dhamiya District) of those who follow electronic journalism.

(400) questionnaires were distributed among the shops included in the sample, among members of the public who follow electronic press. After collecting the questionnaires, it was found that they were all suitable for statistical analysis.

#### **Seventh: Study tool:**

The tool used in this study is the questionnaire, as the questionnaire is considered one of the most widely used primary data collection tools in survey studies, due to its ability to collect data and information that could not have been obtained without polling opinions and identifying attitudes and trends (Al-Rahbani, 2009, p. 71).

A questionnaire is a data collection survey tool that includes a set of questions. The ranking on a specific topic is placed on a form that is mailed to the concerned persons or delivered by hand in preparation for obtaining answers to the questions contained therein (Ibrash, 2009, p. 296). The questionnaire form was constructed and designed according to indicators within the framework of the role of Iraqi electronic journalism in shaping political awareness among the public.

### **Eighth: Defining terms:**

**Electronic newspapers:** These are newspapers that are issued and published on the Internet, and are in the form of newspapers printed on electronic computer screens, covering the pages of the newspaper, including the text, pictures, drawings, sound, and animated images (Obeidat, 2016, p. 370).

**Political awareness:** It is the general understanding of the political climate among individuals, and the tensions and plans of political actors and all political activities that drive it. It is a result of the political culture that individuals acquire from within society, which is an indicator of political progress and backwardness in terms of their awareness of the extent of their influence in political decision-making (Alwan, 2022 AD, p. 76).

### **Ninth: Honesty and steadfastness:**

#### **1. Apparent honesty: Face Validity:**

The questionnaire form on the role of Iraqi electronic journalism in shaping political awareness among the public was presented to (5) judges.<sup>(\*)</sup> In the field of media and political science, to express their opinions on the suitability of the questionnaire form for the research objectives, where modifications, deletions and additions were made according to their opinions until the questionnaire form reached its final form, and the form received the approval of the experts at a rate of (80%) or more, so this rate was adopted as a criterion for the validity of the questionnaire form questions.

#### **2- Stability: Reliability:-**

To find the stability, the researcher used the Kuder-Ricardson equation. This equation is used when the answer to the scale is graded. To extract the stability in this way, the Kuder-Ricardson equation was applied. The stability coefficient was (0.96), which is an indication that the stability coefficient is good, according to the following equation (Al-Kubaisi, 2010 AD, p. 95):

$$b \times (a)^2 - (b-m)$$

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Where it represents:

$$(a)^2 \times (b-1)$$

B = number of scale items.

A = variance of the scale degrees.

C = variance of scale degrees.

## **Chapter Two: Electronic Journalism and the Formation of Political Awareness**

### **The concept of electronic journalism:**

There are many concepts and definitions of electronic journalism due to its modernity linked to the emergence of the digital network. A group of them can be mentioned in order to get to know them, including:

Online journalism refers to the practice of producing and disseminating news content via digital platforms, including websites, social media, and mobile applications. It incorporates

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\*Prof. Dr. Saad Salman 2. Prof. Dr. Hussein Ali Nour  
3. Laith Badr Youssef 4. A.M., Dr. Sabah Awad Muhammad  
5. Asst. Prof. Dr. Abdul Aziz Aliwi

multimedia elements such as videos, interactive graphics, and live updates, making news more immediate, interactive, and widely accessible than traditional formats. Online journalism refers to the practice of producing and disseminating news content via digital platforms, including websites, social media, and mobile applications. It incorporates multimedia elements such as videos, interactive graphics, and live updates, making news more immediate, interactive, and widely accessible than traditional formats. This modern form of journalism emphasizes real-time updates, audience interaction, and leveraging digital tools for storytelling and engagement. (Smith, 2023 ce, p. 123)

Dr. Abdul Razzaq Al-Dulaimi defines electronic journalism as the collection, preparation and editing of news according to a script designed for the Internet and broadcasting it via satellites and communication cables. It is journalism practiced on the Internet, as it broadcasts electronic messages to an audience that is not geographically specified, to provide them with news, reports, analyses, facts and current events instantly, with speed of transmission, interactivity, speed of retrieval and an electronic archive that enables the reader to search in hundreds of previously published pages. It has crossed borders to have a universal character and unlimited page spaces, not to mention that it is a multi-media means that has been able to provide radio and television services, reaching live satellite broadcasting. (Al-Dulaimi, 2011, p. 11)

Dr. Ahmed Basyouni explained the concept of electronic journalism as a new type of journalism that differs greatly from traditional journalism represented by newspapers and magazines, as well as radio and television, and its publication is limited to the Internet without the existence of a readable copy of the printed paper. (Basyouni, 2018 AD, p. 75)

From the above important definitions, the researcher believes that electronic journalism represents a modern type of media that relies on the Internet as a primary platform for publishing and distributing news and information. This journalism is distinguished by its ability to instantly reach the public and present content in interactive ways. It combines traditional journalism techniques, such as writing and reporting, with modern tools such as videos, live broadcasts, and animation. This allows for continuous content updating and ensures that news and information reach the public in real time, thanks to its interactive nature. This enhances freedom of expression and media democracy and ensures a diversity of opinions and ideas.

### Types of electronic journalism

Electronic newspapers are classified into several types and levels, namely (Al-Aqabawi, 2010, pp. 87-88):

**First classification:** Electronic newspapers, based on the presence or absence of a printed original, are divided into:

**1- Complete electronic newspapers:** They are independent newspapers, even if they bear the name of the paper newspaper (the parent newspaper). This type of electronic newspaper is characterised by the following:

- Providing the same media services provided by the paper newspaper, including news, reports, interviews, photos, etc.

Providing additional journalistic and media services that a paper newspaper cannot provide, and that are made possible by the special nature of the Internet and hypertext technology. Hypertext, such as search services within the newspaper or on the entire Internet, linking services to other sites, instant response services, access to archives, etc.

- Providing multimedia services Text, audio and video multimedia.

## 2 - Electronic copies of paper newspapers:

It refers to the websites of print newspapers on the Internet whose services are limited to providing all or some of the content of the print newspaper, along with some services related to the print newspaper, such as the subscription service for the print newspaper, the service of providing advertisements for it, and linking to other websites.

### Characteristics of electronic journalism:

1. **Speed and immediacy:** Electronic journalism is characterised by the speed of news transmission and immediate updating, allowing the public to view events in real time. (Amin, 2015, p. 91)
2. **Interaction and communication:** Online journalism allows audiences to interact with content through comments and sharing on social media, which enhances reader engagement with events and articles. (Foust, 2005, p. 60)
3. **Availability and Access:** Electronic press content can be accessed anytime and anywhere via the Internet, making it easier for the public to follow the news without time or geographical restrictions. (Bakhit, 2011, p. 41)
4. **Multimedia integration:** Electronic journalism relies on integrating text with images, videos, and graphics, making the content more attractive and interactive. (Shabib, 2008, p. 45)
5. **Preserving the archive:** Electronic journalism allows the public to access archives and search old articles easily, providing a rich database of historical information. (Mukhalaf, 2016, p. 736)
6. **Diversity and Inclusion:** Electronic journalism offers a wide range of topics and reports covering various aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural life. (Ramzi, 2012, p. 16)
7. **Personalization and customization:** Electronic journalism can provide customized content based on the reader's interests, increasing the likelihood of reading and interacting with articles. (Al-Faisal, 2006, p. 116)

### The concept of political awareness

The concept of political awareness is broad and has no specific boundaries, as it represents a general and comprehensive vision of all political events that a society may witness. Accordingly, many researchers have defined it according to their own vision...

In his book "Islamic Orbits," Muhammad Abed al-Jabri defines political awareness as requiring rationality based on critical thinking and in-depth analysis of political philosophy. This awareness can contribute to promoting democratic development and effective participation in political life. He also points to the necessity of a political sphere that allows for the exchange of ideas and public debate as a prerequisite for acquiring this awareness among all (al-Jabri, 2011, p. 102).

Fouad Zakaria asserts that political awareness encompasses a set of ideas and concepts that help individuals understand their place and interactions within the overall political system. He points to the importance of interaction between individuals and the authorities and how this interaction can lead to radical changes in the political and social context when there is a collective awareness of civil and political rights and duties (Zakaria, 2008, p. 56).

Samir Amin points out that political awareness is formed as a result of the interaction between the economic, social, and political conditions facing individuals and societies. Amin considers this type of awareness essential for understanding international conflicts and major organizations and for working effectively locally and globally. He also highlights the role of social trends in enhancing the level of political awareness and popular advocacy in shaping the populist trend (Amin, 2012, p. 34).

While Laila Abu Zaid stated that political awareness reflects the ability of individuals, especially women, to understand and analyze political and social situations directly or indirectly, stressing the importance of strengthening the role of women in this field, which enables them to strengthen their political awareness and contribute effectively to public life and the creation of social and political pluralism (Abu Zaid, 2015, p. 90).

In light of the above data, the researcher believes that political awareness can be defined as the sum of ideas and information possessed by an individual, which relate to his society or the external society, and revolve around various political topics. This information and knowledge are acquired through political culture, which is transmitted to the individual through the process of political upbringing by various social institutions as well as through family upbringing.

#### **The importance of political awareness.**

The value and importance of political awareness lies in its goals and objectives. It can either be positive, working to elevate and advance the nation by developing citizens' awareness and moving toward future horizons without fear. Alternatively, it can be negative, diminishing the nation's stature and standing by distorting citizens' awareness. Without such awareness, the values of loyalty and belonging are affected. (Al-Dajdaj, 2015, p. 323)

In contrast, Imam Al-Qattan pointed out that the importance of political awareness lies in its being the primary gateway to dealing with the times, relying on a solid foundation for moving toward the future without fear. The importance of political awareness is evident in the following points (Al-Qattan, 2009, p. 152):

1. Political awareness leads to following current political events with correct understanding and perception through local and foreign newspapers and radio stations.
2. Political awareness protects citizens from partisanship and sectarian and denominational blocs.
3. Political awareness protects workers' rights from exploitation by employers.
4. Political awareness enables us to identify the roots of the Palestinian issue since the issuance of the Balfour Declaration in 1917.
5. Political awareness reveals to us the enemies of the West and some Arab agents and reactionaries who implement the policies of the Zionists and colonialists.
6. Political awareness is necessary to create an educated generation capable of serving its society and playing its role in construction and progress.
7. Political awareness enables us to provide our country's needs for expertise in the sectors of agriculture, industry, education, health, and others.

### **Section Three: Results of the Field Study:**

#### **Demographic variables of the respondents:**

**1- Gender:**

Table (1) shows the distribution of respondents according to gender.

Rank	percentage	Repetitions	Sex
First	56.5%	226	Males
Second	43.5%	174	females
-	100%	400	the total

The data in the table above revealed that the (male) category had a higher percentage than the (female) category participating in this questionnaire from the research sample, with a relative difference between the two categories of 13%, as the male category came in first place with (226) repetitions and a percentage of (56.5%), followed in second place by the female category with (174) repetitions and a percentage of (43.5%). The reason for this relative difference between the two categories is that the researcher relied on the random distribution of the questionnaire forms without his intervention to achieve objective results free from bias.

**2- Age:**

Table (2) shows the distribution of sample items according to the age of the respondents.

Rank	percentage	repetition	the age	T
First	31.25%	125	From 29-39 years old	1
Second	25.5%	102	40-50 years old	2
Third	22%	88	From 18 to 28 years old	3
Fourth	13.75%	55	50-60 years old	4
Fifth	7.5%	30	61 years and older	4
-	100%	400	the total	

The results of Table (2) showed that the age group of (29-39 years) came in first place after recording (125) repetitions and a percentage of (31.25%), while a category of (40-50 years) came in second place with (102) repetitions and a percentage of (25.5%), while the category from (18-28 years) came in third place after recording (88) repetitions and a percentage of (22%), while the category of (50-60 years) ranked fourth and recorded (55) repetitions and a percentage of (13.75%), so that the category of (61 years and older) came in last place after recording (30) repetitions and a percentage of (7.5%).

**3- Academic achievement:**

Table (3) shows the distribution of sample items according to academic achievement.

Rank	percentage	repetition	Academic achievement	T
First	33.5%	134	Bachelor's	1
Second	18%	72	Preparatory school	2
Third	16%	64	diploma	3
Fourth	14.5%	58	Medium	4
Fifth	8%	32	Master's	5
Sixth	5.5%	22	Elementary	6
Seventh	4.5%	18	PhD	7
-	100%	400	the total	

The results of Table (3) showed us that the sample members who have the achievement (Bachelor's) They ranked first with (134) repetitions and a percentage of (33.5%), followed by the achievement of (Preparatory) ranked second with (72) and a percentage of (18%), while the



achievement of (diploma) in third place after recording (64) repetitions and a percentage of (16%), while the achievement of (average) came in fourth place after recording (58) repetitions and a percentage of (14.5%).), while the attainment of (Master's) came in fifth place, recording (32) repetitions and a percentage of (8%), followed by the attainment of (Elementary) in sixth place, after recording (22) repetitions and a percentage of (5.5%), so that the attainment of (Doctorate) came in last place with (18) repetitions and a percentage of (4.5%).

## Axis II: Questionnaire questions:

### 4-Are you a follower?Iraqi electronic press?

Table (4) shows the extent to which the respondents follow the Iraqi electronic press..

percentage	repetition	Are you a follower of Iraqi electronic press?
100%	400	Yes
-	-	no
100%	400	the total

It is clear from Table (4) that all respondents follow electronic journalism at a rate of (100%). This result indicates Many individuals turn to online journalism as their primary source of political information. This is due to several factors, including the speed of information access, the diversity of sources, and the ability to follow news from anywhere and at any time. Online journalism also contributes to shaping respondents' political awareness by providing in-depth analyses, diverse opinions, and comprehensive coverage of events. Furthermore, it allows them to interact with content through comments and sharing, which enhances their understanding of the issues at hand and increases their awareness of the options available to them in the elections.

### 5- How much do you rely on electronic newspapers to develop your political awareness?

Table (5) shows the extent to which the respondents depend on electronic newspapers to develop their political awareness..

Significance level	value of K2		degree of freedom	Rank	percentage	repetition	Responses	T
	Tabular	The calculated						
0.05	5.99	67.58	2	1	52%	208	I depend heavily on	1
				2	28.5%	114	I am moderately dependent	2
				3	19.5%	78	I depend somewhat	3
				-	100%	400	the total	

Data from Table (5) revealed that (52%) of the study sample members depend to a large extent on electronic newspapers to develop their political awareness, while (28.5%) of the study sample members indicated that they depend to a medium degree on electronic newspapers to develop their political awareness. In contrast, (19.5%) of the study sample members indicated that they depend to some extent on electronic newspapers to develop their political awareness. By conducting a test Chi-Square Tests show that there are statistically significant differences. To what extent do respondents rely on electronic newspapers to develop their political knowledge? The calculated value of Chi-square reached (67.58), which is greater than the tabular value (5.99), and it is statistically significant at a significance level of (0.05) and a degree of freedom of (2) in favor of the response. I am moderately dependent. That is, there are clear

differences between the respondents in The extent to which they rely on electronic newspapers to develop their political knowledge This result indicates to us that Relying on online newspapers to develop political awareness is a phenomenon that is growing significantly in the digital age. Online newspapers provide immediate and direct information on political issues, which helps respondents follow current events and understand different political contexts. The importance of online newspapers in developing political awareness is evident in the ease of access to information, as people can access political news from anywhere and at any time, making it easier for them to stay informed. Online newspapers also provide a wide range of opinions and analyses, which helps readers form a comprehensive viewpoint on political issues.

#### 6- What is your level of confidence in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues?

Table (6) shows The level of confidence of respondents in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues

Significance level	value of K2		degree of freedom	Rank	percentage	repetition	Responses	T
	Tabular	The calculated						
0.05	5.99	200.06	2	1	64.5%	258	I trust highly	1
				2	28%	112	I am moderately confident	2
				3	7.5%	30	I trust a little	3
				-	100%	400	the total	

Data from Table (6) revealed that (64.5%) of the study sample members have a high degree of trust in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues, while (28%) of the study sample members indicated that they have a moderate degree of trust in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues. In contrast, (7.5%) of the study sample members indicated that they have a low degree of trust in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues.

By conducting a test Chi-Square Tests show that there are statistically significant differences. The level of confidence of the respondents in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues, as the calculated Chi-square value reached (200.06), which is greater than the tabular value (5.99), and it is statistically significant at a significance level of (0.05) and a degree of freedom of (2), in favor of a highly confident response. That is, there are clear differences between the respondents in their level of confidence in the information provided by electronic newspapers on political issues. This result indicates to us that Respondents tend to view online newspapers as a reliable source of political information. This can be attributed to several factors, including the speed with which news is updated, the ease of access to information, and the diversity of opinions and viewpoints these platforms offer.

#### 7- Has Iraqi electronic journalism contributed to removing the ambiguity surrounding some political concepts?

Table (7) shows the respondents' view of: The contribution of Iraqi electronic journalism in removing the ambiguity of some political concepts.

Significance level	value of K2		degree of freedom	Rank	percentage	repetition	Responses	T
	Tabular	The calculated						
0.05	5.99	175.28	2	1	75%	300	Yes	1

				2	18%	72	sometimes	2
				3	7%	28	no	3
				-	100%	400	the total	

Data from Table (7) revealed that (75%) of the study sample members believe that the Iraqi electronic press contributed to removing ambiguity from some political concepts, while (18%) of the study sample members indicated that they believe that the Iraqi electronic press sometimes contributes to removing ambiguity from some political concepts. In contrast, (7%) of the study sample members indicated that the Iraqi electronic press did not contribute to removing ambiguity from some political concepts.

By conducting a test Chi-Square Tests show that there are statistically significant differences. In the view of the researchers about The contribution of the Iraqi electronic press in removing the ambiguity of some political concepts, as the calculated Chi-square value reached (175.28), which is greater than the tabular value (5.99), and it is statistically significant at a significance level of (0.05) and a degree of freedom of (2) and in favor of a yes response. That is, there are clear differences between the respondents in Their vision of the extent The contribution of Iraqi electronic journalism in removing the ambiguity of some political concepts, and this result indicates to us Many in Baghdad believe that online journalism plays an important role in clarifying and explaining many political concepts. This journalism gives citizens access to diverse information and platforms for discussing important issues, which increases their awareness and knowledge of current politics and events. In addition, online journalism provides a greater space for expressing opinions and asking questions, which facilitates understanding complex political issues and helps remove the ambiguity that may surround some concepts. With the advent of social media, this journalism has become more capable of reaching broader segments of the public, which enhances public debate and increases political participation.

#### 8- Do you think that your reliance on Iraqi electronic journalism has affected your political views and orientations in any way?

Table (8) shows the respondents' view of: Their reliance on Iraqi electronic journalism has somewhat influenced their political views and orientations.

Significance level	value of K2		degree of freedom	Rank	percentage	repetition	Responses	T
	Tabular	The calculated						
0.05	5.99	6.003	2	1	58.5%	234	Yes	1
				2	28.25%	113	sometimes	2
				3	13.25%	53	no	3
				-	100%	400	the total	

Data from Table (8) revealed that (58.5%) of the study sample members believe that their reliance on the Iraqi electronic press has affected their opinions and political orientations in some way, while (28.25%) of the study sample members indicated that their reliance on the Iraqi electronic press has sometimes affected their opinions and political orientations. In contrast, (13.25%) of the study sample members indicated that their reliance on the Iraqi electronic press has not affected their opinions and political orientations in some way.

By conducting a test Chi-Square Tests show that there are statistically significant differences. In the view of the researchers about Their reliance on the Iraqi electronic press had some impact on their opinions and political orientations, as the calculated Chi-square value reached (6.003),

which is greater than the tabular value (5.99), and it is statistically significant at a significance level of (0.05) and a degree of freedom of (2), in favor of a response of “no.” That is, there are simple relative differences between the respondents in Their vision of Their reliance on Iraqi electronic journalism has had a significant impact on their political views and orientations. This finding indicates that There are subtle differences that may appear in respondents' responses about the impact of online media on their political opinions and orientations. These differences may be related to several factors, including: age. Young people may have a different opinion than older people about their reliance on online media as a source of political information. People with higher levels of education may have a greater ability to analyze information and distinguish between real and fake news. Furthermore, the location where respondents live may affect the availability and diversity of online news. In addition, people with certain political leanings may tend to consume media content that aligns with their opinions, which influences their opinions and orientations.

#### 9- To what extent does the Iraqi public rely on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness?

Table (9) shows The extent to which the Iraqi public relies on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness.

Significance level	value of K2		degree of freedom	Rank	percentage	repetition	Responses	T
	Tabular	The calculated						
0.05	5.99	71.76	2	1	45.25%	181	Highly dependable	1
				2	41.25%	165	Moderately approved	2
				3	13.5%	54	Weakly dependent	3
				-	100%	400	the total	

Data from Table (9) revealed that (45.25%) of the study sample members depend to a large extent on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness, while (41.25%) of the study sample members indicated that they depend to a medium degree on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness. In contrast, (13.5%) of the study sample members indicated that they depend to a weak degree on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness. By conducting a test Chi-Square Tests show that there are statistically significant differences. In The extent to which the Iraqi public relies on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness, as the calculated Chi-square value reached (71.76), which is greater than the tabular value (5.99), and is statistically significant at a significance level of (0.05) and a degree of freedom of (2), and in favor of a response that was largely relied upon. That is, there are clear differences between the respondents in the extent to which they rely on electronic journalism to develop their political awareness. This result indicates to us Online journalism is one of the most important sources of information in the modern era, especially when it comes to developing political awareness. This is due to its easy accessibility, as people can quickly and easily access news and information online from anywhere in the world. Online journalism also provides a wide range of viewpoints and coverage from multiple sources, helping individuals form informed opinions. In addition, social media and online platforms allow for immediate interaction with content, allowing people to express their opinions and participate in political discussions.

## CONCLUSIONS:

- 1- The study results showed that relying on online newspapers to develop political awareness is a phenomenon that is growing significantly in the digital age. Online newspapers provide immediate and direct information on political issues, helping respondents follow current events and understand different political contexts. The importance of online newspapers in developing political awareness is evident through the ease of access to information, allowing people to access political news from anywhere, at any time.
- 2- The results of the study revealed that Respondents tend to view online newspapers as a reliable source of political information. This can be attributed to several factors, including the speed with which news is updated, the ease of access to information, and the diversity of opinions and viewpoints these platforms offer.
- 3- The study results showed that Many in Baghdad believe that online journalism plays an important role in clarifying and explaining many political concepts. This journalism provides citizens with access to diverse information and platforms for discussing important issues, increasing their awareness and knowledge of current politics and events.
- 4- The study results revealed that there are subtle differences that can appear in the respondents' responses regarding the impact of online media on their political opinions and orientations. These differences could be related to several factors, including: age. Young people may have a different opinion than older people regarding their reliance on online media as a source of political information. Furthermore, people with higher levels of education may have a greater ability to analyze information and distinguish between real and fake news.
- 5- The study results revealed that online journalism is one of the most important sources of information in the modern era, especially when it comes to developing political awareness. This is due to its easy accessibility, as people can quickly and easily access news and information online from anywhere in the world. Online journalism also provides a wide range of viewpoints and coverage from multiple sources, helping individuals form informed opinions.

## SUGGESTIONS:

- 1- The researcher sees the need for online newspapers to promote media education and teach the public how to critically analyze news, with an emphasis on verifying information and distinguishing between real news and rumors.
- 2- The need for online journalism to provide an opportunity for different segments of the public to share their opinions through surveys, live discussions, and forums, thus increasing their engagement with political issues.
- 3- It is necessary for electronic media outlets to adopt strict policies for verifying news, to ensure the provision of accurate and reliable information to the public.
- 4- Leverage multimedia such as videos, articles supported by graphics, and infographics to engage a larger audience and enhance understanding of complex political topics.

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