

The Legitimacy of Achievement of Political Power in the Iraq After (2005)

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Abstract

After 2005, Iraq experienced significant transformations in its political power structure, raising critical questions regarding the legitimacy of this authority and its capacity to deliver meaningful achievements. This research comprehensively examines the phenomenon of legitimacy in governance, elucidating how government performance and the extent to which citizens' needs are addressed have played a pivotal role in evaluating the authority's legitimacy. Central to this investigation are the political and social challenges faced by the Iraqi government since 2005, including pervasive administrative and political corruption, institutional weaknesses, and escalating sectarian tensions. The findings indicate that despite periodic elections, corruption and a lack of transparency have adversely affected the government's credibility in the eyes of its citizens. Notably, voter turnout decreased from 80 percent in 2005 to approximately 45 percent in the 2018 elections, reflecting a significant decline in public confidence in the political process. The research further explores societal responses, particularly the protests that have erupted in recent years, as manifestations of widespread dissatisfaction with government performance. Economic and social crises have exacerbated this discontent, compelling citizens to advocate for enhanced public services and more robust anti-corruption measures. The research highlights the government's attempts to implement reforms; however, it emphasizes that these initiatives often lack substantial public support due to a prevailing sentiment that traditional political forces undermine the potential for stability. In conclusion, the research asserts that restoring legitimacy necessitates improvements in government performance alongside enhanced transparency and accountability, which are essential for rebuilding trust between the government and the populace. Ultimately, this study aims to offer strategic recommendations that could facilitate positive changes in the Iraqi political landscape and yield tangible outcomes aligned with citizens' aspirations.

Keywords: Legitimacy Of Achievement, Political Power, Administrative Corruption, Popular Protests, Transparency and Accountability.

Introduction

The Iraqi constitution did not make voting a duty, but a right, and if the participation rate in the elections decreased, it did not negatively affect the legitimacy of the authority that emanates from it, even if it is said that it is considered an indicator of its collapse or weakness; It was not so, but to what it presented and accomplished, but perhaps

legitimacy begins or is established through the achievements that the authority has completed for society. Political power within any nation constitutes an integrated framework comprising political institutions and administrative entities that are designed to confront various challenges and to promote the stability and welfare of society. From this perspective, the legitimacy of such authority is contingent upon its capacity to fulfill the intended objectives, necessitating an in-depth examination of the legitimacy surrounding the performance of political authority in post-2005 Iraq. This research addresses a critical issue, which involves analyzing the legitimacy or lack thereof of the political authority established in Iraq following this period, particularly through an evaluation of the accomplishments of successive governments. In this context, achievement transcends the mere realization of specific goals; it embodies the degree to which the authorities can foster public satisfaction, thereby reinforcing their legitimate standing. The research operates under the central thesis that "legitimacy of achievement" represents an objective condition essential for the perpetuation and durability of popular acceptance of legitimacy. Consequently, this discourse extends beyond the conventional definitions of legitimacy, providing insights into the dynamic interplay between political achievement and the efficacy of power in securing community satisfaction. The study employs a descriptive and analytical methodology, encompassing the examination of pertinent literature and integrating rooting, critique, presentation, and comparative analysis, with the objective of developing a holistic understanding of the legitimacy of achievement and its repercussions on the legitimacy of authority. Through this methodological approach, the research aims to illuminate the strengths and weaknesses of the various arguments presented, while offering a critical and objective evaluation of the factors that influence the legitimacy of achievement. Additionally, the research explores the concept of "legitimacy of achievement," which consists of two primary dimensions: first, the multifaceted nature of legitimacy—encompassing legal, religious, and social dimensions—reflects the overall acceptance of the political system by society. It is imperative to note that legitimacy extends beyond mere legal recognition; it signifies the government's commitment to the interests and aspirations of its constituents. Through a comprehensive analysis of these dimensions, the research aspires to derive clear and profound conclusions regarding the role of achievement in shaping the legitimacy of political authority in Iraq. This understanding will contribute to a more nuanced comprehension of the challenges and impediments that the Iraqi government faces in its pursuit of stability and social harmony. The legitimacy of political power in Iraq following 2005 occupies a significant position within political studies, as this topic encapsulates the profound challenges encountered by political institutions and administrative bodies in their efforts to achieve objectives and enhance performance levels. Understanding the nature of political power necessitates a comprehensive analysis of the relationship between job performance and the ability to address the country's overarching issues. The importance of this research lies in its objective to analyze the legitimacy of authority through an examination of the achievements of successive governments post-2005, which facilitates an assessment of the extent to which such accomplishments resonate with the satisfaction of the Iraqi populace. Achievement serves as a critical metric for

evaluating governmental performance, determining the degree to which authority can sustain its legitimacy.

Moreover, the assertion that "legitimacy of achievement" is a prerequisite for ongoing electoral endorsement is essential for comprehending the nature of the relationship between political power and society. This dynamic elucidates how government achievements influence citizen confidence and the credibility of authority, thereby underscoring the research's significance as a tool for deciphering the dimensions of political legitimacy within any regime. Furthermore, the research adopts a rigorous methodological approach that ensures the analysis of various texts and the extraction of accurate data, contributing to a nuanced analytical framework capable of reflecting the complexities of different political and social contexts. This approach not only facilitates the evaluation of achievements but also reinforces the importance of self-assessment, which is a crucial factor in the evolution of power structures. Ultimately, the study of the concept of "legitimacy of achievement" opens new avenues for exploring the implications of a state's ability to fulfill its objectives, as well as the corresponding responses from citizens. Such an inquiry is vital for both academic discourse and the future strategies of decision-makers, as it highlights the intersecting paths of state performance and public perception.

1.1. Research Objectives

The desired goal is to analyze the legitimacy or illegitimacy of the political authority that was established in the Iraq after 2005 by demonstrating, clarifying and studying the achievement of successive governments during that period.

1.2. Hypothesis

The central premise of this study posits that the "legitimacy of achievement" constitutes an objective condition essential for the sustained and enduring popular legitimacy of political power. The capacity to attain development and accomplishments transcends the conventional analysis of legitimacy, prompting inquiries into whether achievement can serve as a fundamental criterion for determining the legitimacy and continuity of authority. This research aims to analyze the extent to which the accomplishments of successive governments influence political legitimacy and how the outcomes of such achievements may impact public acceptance of and support for the governing power. In this context, achievement is regarded as a crucial mechanism for preserving legitimacy, necessitating an effective response to the aspirations and needs of society. This dynamic underscore the reciprocal relationship between governmental achievements and the level of trust the ruling regime enjoys among its citizens. Furthermore, the policies enacted by the government are deemed acceptable in the eyes of the populace, indicating a deeper dimension of the political legitimacy phenomenon in Iraq post-2005. By engaging with these concepts, the study will contribute to a more nuanced understanding of the dynamics between government performance and public perception within the Iraqi political landscape.

2. Research Methodology

The study is in principle an original research, as it reviewed the written texts and described them, and stood at what must be analyzed or criticized, combining rooting, analysis, presentation, comparison, criticism and description, after extrapolating the information from its contents were indexed, analyzed, presented, compared, criticized and described, in order to reach the desired goal, so it adopted the descriptive analytical approach, by presenting what was put forward by the schools of thought, and highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of their inferences in that, by analyzing their evidence to identify their weaknesses and the lack of sobriety of the evidence that they adhered to out.

2.1. The Concept of Legitimacy of Achievement

The concept consisted of two words, each of which indicates its own meaning when used alone, and at the same time indicates another meaning if it comes within the general concept, which is considered a tool and part of the scientific method, and another that is intended as the meaning that incorporates the meanings underlying the complex concept.

2.1.1. Legitimacy

Language: Industrial Source (Hossam Qandil, 2021, p. 342) Formulas of the simple (Sharia) Terrorism is prescribed by Sharia if it splits between its legs and skins it (Mohamed bin Manzur, 2015, vol. 8, p. 179), and to indicate the characterization of the characteristics found in the name (Thamer Ibrahim Masarweh, p. 89), if it is called the provisions concerned with Sharia or knowledge of it, it is a feminine name attributed to (Sharia) (Aziza Fawal Batti, 2017, vol. 2, p. 1102), and may be followed by the use of the term to denote the order or action if it is in accordance with Sharia and law or recognized by law and law, but the certainty when using the word in political science is that the authority is based on a legitimate basis (Ahmed Mukhtar Omar, 2008, vol. 2, p. 1189) appropriate for a specific system in the country of the source of research, such as pledge of allegiance, caliphate, socio-political contract and the like (Abdul Latif Hamza Al-Qarari, 2016, p. 106).

The origin of the article is the same, indicating something that opens in an extension, including the source of the drinker (Ahmad bin Faris bin Zakaria, 1984, p. 262), and the places from which people descend to the water, such as the sail and the legislator (Mohamed bin Manzur, 2015, c: 8, p: 175), and derived from it the law and the law in religion (Hassan Al-Mustafawi, 2013, vol. 6, p. 48), and Allah (Almighty) said: For each of you we have made a law (Surat Al-Ma'ida, verse: 48), and he said: "Then we made you a law of command, so follow it" (Surat Al-Jathiya, verse: 18), because there is an occasion between the signifier and the signifier or between the meaning and the article (Mustafa Sadiq Al-Rafi'i, 2013, p. 156), so it is (legitimacy) in the sense of handling, entry, age, equality and curriculum (Louis Maarouf, 1956, p. 362), and it seems that the term is common verbally, in terms of use without status (Mohamed Nur al-Din al-Munajjid, 1999, p. 59), although using it without presumption violates understanding (Mohamed Amin Amir Badshah, 2017, vol. 1, p. 238). It is used by the people of religion for the provisions related to permissible acts at all, the most general

of permissible, desirable and hated acts in exchange for the forbidden, and the people of law use it for positive and negative actions in the sense of leaving in terms of their approval or disagreement with the texts, and it is used by social and political scholars for the mechanism that leads an individual or sect to political power in the country, and it may be called the system of government, because the meaning is the same in all these connotations (Majid Khair Allah Al-Zamili, 2013, p. 193).

2.1.2. Achievement

Language: A source from (accomplished) more with the beginner hamza from (Najiz) necessary, for the purpose of transgressing himself (Al-Muallem Boutros Al-Bustani, 2009), vol. 9, p. 61), meaning: (He did, executed, completed the thing and judged it) (Arabic Language Academy, Al-Mu'jam Al-Waseet, 2011, p. 940). As for the terminology whose meaning does not stray far from in political thought, the legitimacy added to it comes from the fact that the election process (Faris Mohamed Al-Amalat, 2020, p. 22) is in essence nothing but a contract between two parties, whether the second is president or deputy, under which the elected person undertakes to accomplish what he promised in his electoral definition according to which the voter gave him his vote (Mahmoud Ali Al-Khatib, 2006, p. 21); Therefore, the concept can express the extent to which social, economic and political achievements have been achieved in a positive sense, which requires the survival of legitimacy of the ruling authority in any country, under any system of government (Stephen M. Dilou and Timothy M. Dale, 2007, p. 27), if that (contract) is disrupted by the winner, by reversion from it or by dropping it for personal, partisan or factional interest or external bargaining or by failure to complete its terms or failure in good faith, or the like. This hole creeps towards constitutional legitimacy and overthrows it (John F. Kennedy, 2022, p. 12), albeit briefly.

2.1.3. The General Concept of The Legitimacy of Achievement

The relationship between the political system and the development of society is that each seeks to prove its existence and sustainability by reflecting its goals, symbols and principles on the other side, so the mechanisms of legitimacy used by political systems, such as regional and international recognition of power, interact with the ability of symbols, institutions and representatives of the political system to represent society and maintain its national cohesion, and work for it, especially if it is pluralistic in terms of race or beliefs. The legitimacy of elections, as a mechanism for expressing the political will of the people, based on the unconditional freedom to adopt any political opinion, and a practical means for the people to exercise their right to govern and manage their societies, as they are the source of power, by delegating them to people and giving them authority to formulate the country's public policies and make decisions that they deem correct and appropriate (Hala Mahmoud Abdel Aal, 2017, p. 19), hence the issue of the perpetuation of the permanent constitution of the country and the monitoring of the constitutionality of the elections, as it relates to the correct exercise of the right (Alaa Kamel). Al-Khorifawi, 2018, p. 15), paving the way for the political actor who wants to come to power, and giving him legitimacy in making decisions (David van Riebroek,

2019, p. 97), and that its orientations be appreciated and supported by those it addresses (Fadel Jawad Al-Hilali, 2023), through the achievements it presents, because it ensures its continuity, and constitutes one of the ways to convince public opinion of the possibility of granting the individual political confidence again (Mohamed Abdul Qader Rababa'a, 2023, p. 251). This legitimacy confronts the legitimacy of access and tries to downplay its importance, so individuals are not seen at that time from the angle of their access to power, but as much as they are asked about the achievements he has achieved while exercising power, so the legitimacy of this stage within the framework of commitment to true democracy is the guarantee for this (Jamal Sanad Al-Suwaidi and Ahmed Rashad Al-Safti, 2014, p. 193).

2.2. Aspects of the Legitimacy of Achievement of Political Power

2.2.1. The Economic Aspect

The Iraqi economy remained practically a rentier monolithic and completely dependent on the oil sector, at a rate of more than (90%) (Kadhim A. Al-Eyd, 1979, p: 65) with the absence of other productive activities that would contribute to public revenues, as a result of the weakness of successive political authorities in this field (Falah Khalaf Al-Rubaie: The Identity of the Economic System in Iraq, (Arab Future Magazine, 2019, p. 15), so the economic policy remained based on the rise in crude oil sales (Feryal Musharraf Eidan, Israa Alaa Al-Din Nouri and Khader Abbas Atwan, 2011, pp. 471-504), to the extent that it leads to the embodiment of administrative corruption and the occurrence of a crisis with ominous consequences that represents a real danger to the Iraqi people now and in the future, if there is a shortage of production in the long term, due to unjustified disbursements of oil resources, or a major setback in oil prices at the level The experts' report confirmed that the prospects for the overall Iraqi economy are still fraught with great risks, represented in: the decline in crude oil prices globally, which exceeded the expectations of experts in prices, the delay in the development of oil fields and oil export capacities in Iraq, the deterioration of the security and political situation, and the inaccurate implementation of oil policies in particular and the economy in general. These risks can translate into: lower oil revenues, deterioration in the public financial position, popular pressure to take advantage of the reserves of the Central Bank of Iraq and use them for public financial purposes, leading to a decrease in the exchange rate and an increase in inflation in the Iraqi state (IMF, 2013, p. 12), and increased confidence in the Iraqi dinar, because "the strength of any operation stems from the strength of its economy. This is why the dollar, the euro, the yen and the yuan derive their global position from the strength of the economy of the country in question" (Othman Salman Al-Aboudi, 2019, p. 277). The economic deterioration affected the social fabric in Iraq; the manifestations of poverty emerged, the unemployment rate increased to four million unemployed, wages and salaries fell, and factories and industrial facilities were disrupted about (80%) (Anthony H. Cordesman and Ahmed S. Hashim: 2018), P: 131); and Al-Fardi (Abdulhadi Al-Gohari, 2002, p. 97). Trade has become from the import side only until the case reached Iraq to be an importer of oil derivatives from neighboring countries (Ahmed Fahmy, 2008, p. 202), while not benefiting from the gas that is burned (Jassim Al-Falahi, 2024, p. 60), and

the industry has been destroyed factories that produce agricultural fertilizers, petrochemicals, plastics, polymers, manufacturing, mining, heavy and light industries, oil refineries and others (Hani Ahmed Al-Abadi, 2018, p. 166). Therefore, many political scholars believe that the occupation countries have produced the (federal republican) system with its Iraqi character (Shoresh Hassan Omar, 2018, p. 38), in order to destroy the Iraq economically and then socially and politically, until some described it as the following system on the US military mechanism (Ahmed Saleh Al-Yamani, 2017, p. 142), so they classified it - in the light of the conspiracy theory - among the intentional actions and hostile methods that the West sees as appropriate to remove the Iraq from the axis of the powerful Arabic states hostile to the Israel statelet (Abed Rahman Jadua Al-Tamimi, 2017, p. 479), by fragmenting and dividing it sectarianly and ethnically and weakening its economic and military institutions (Haitham Ghaleb Al-Nahi, 2013, p. 23). However, this theory may be due to religious visions that predict the future (Mohamed Issa Dawood, 2006, p. 166), and the nationalist ideology that is still influenced by the dream of establishing a great Arabic state (Sabah Mohamed Saleh, 2017, p. 23), which believes that colonialism is what divided the Arab world into large and small states according to its interests, and granted Zionism the land of Palestine, to ensure this (Saleh Al-Shadi, 2011, p. 97). If we search because hindered the development of the agricultural sector in its sections and stood in front of it in the Iraqi state, we will find them (political) in the first place, and they are of two types: The Ministry of Interior is related to negligence, unsuccessful development plans and economic policy, so the country has become a large market for imported products, which led to the control of foreign markets over Iraq markets and the leakage of foreign exchange (Abdul Ghafoor Ibrahim Ahmed, 2008, p. 120). The mayor of foreign policy is represented by the policy of countries that are considered a major source of water that have rationed the quantities entering the Iraq and their low levels in winter and summer, namely Iran (Mohamed Hussein Al-Wahili, 2016, p. 133) and Turkey (Shaker Abdul Aziz Al-Makhzoumi, 2011, p. 45). There are reasons related to the changing nature of the climate, which caused the lack of rainfall, the increase in desertification, the high salinity rate (Saad Allah Najm Al-Nuaimi, 2021, p. 263), and the pollution caused by weapons and missiles (Sayed Ashour Ahmed, 2010, p. 252). As a result of the apparent negligence by the (authority) towards providing support to farmers, Iraqi agriculture is still traditional and depends mainly on human labor, with no real policy on the protection of local agricultural products (Saad Abdul Qadir Al-Kanaani, 2023, p. 115).

2.2.2. The Social Aspect

The social aspect usually deals with: "symbolic and acquired aspects of human society" (Ahmed Mohi Khalaf, 2019, p. 52), which highlight the material elements between people, and the moral or immaterial elements of the life of individuals in a group, such as morals, customs, legislation, behaviors, inherited good relations, laws and values,

arising through interaction among them, and sharing them, and taking a direction or a mandatory nature (Alaa Abbas, 2010, p. 106), according to Edward Taylor's definition of culture (1832-1917) in his classic *Primitive Culture*, as he considered it "that complex dynamic whole that includes: knowledge, arts, beliefs, laws, morals, traditions, philosophy, religions, and customs acquired by man from his society as a member of it" (Edward Burnett Taylor, 1871, 1, p: 1). Some believe that the first goal of the invaders of the occupation of Iraq is to target and penetrate the moral, traditional and value system in it, and to adopt a certain successful mechanism to destroy the Iraqi individual himself. Iraq is important in his religious life, and the dismantling of the people on religious, sectarian and ethnic national bases (Mohamed Talib Hamid, 2016, p. 128), while another section believes that Iraqi society, although distinguished by ethnic, religious, sectarian, tribal and linguistic diversity, remained one piece coherent colors and cultures branches prevail in the state of harmony, tolerance, coexistence and social integration, but the space for tolerance expands once and narrows another, and the matter did not reach a fundamental social dispute that leads to the cancellation or exile of the other, and if there are discrepancies In the general culture between religions and nationalities, most of them are relative and not absolute, their change is related to time and place, but the problem of the (identity crisis) that occurred in Iraq in the period (2003-2005) is originally due to external factors that are not from within them, expressing the challenges they face, making the group attract feelings of loyalty to its identity branch without heading to national identity, which leads to a state of rupture and tension that feeds concentration and pushes individuals to religious or ethnic intolerance, and reduces opportunities for dialogue and understanding Tolerance becomes a crisis of freedom and awareness, or what is expressed as a crisis of a state that has not been completed and has not matured, or a crisis of citizenship that has not crystallized, or the crisis of a political system that does not care about the rights of citizens (Jamal Ibrahim Al-Haidari, 2009), resulting from neglecting "supporting the relationship between social policy and strategy as a basic guide for the strategy and determining the relationship between the plan and the strategy, so that its objectives can be achieved" (Talaat Mustafa Al-Srouji, 2010, p. 94). In this area, reference can be made to a group of negative phenomena that have emerged as follows:

Firstly, The Emergence of the Phenomenon of Corruption: Corruption is a behavioral phenomenon (Mohamed Sadiq Ismail, 2014, p. 25), that is social (Mohamed Abdel Moneim Shuaib, 2014, p. 187), detrimental (Hassan Ramadan Fahala, 1992, p. 88), and ancient, having accompanied political systems and human societies throughout history (Mohamed Ibrahim Al-Zubaidi, 2017, p. 21). Rooted in the human environment (Mohamed Ali Swailem, 2018, p. 125), corruption thrives on everything that sustains its existence, deriving support from a fertile ground that encourages it, as well as conditions that create an appropriate atmosphere for its growth and elements that facilitate its spread (Hashem Marzouk Al-Shammari & A. Ithar Abboud Al-Fatli, 2011, p. 108). This phenomenon casts a shadow over social, economic, and political aspects (Salah al-Din Fahmi Mahmoud, 2006, p. 9). Consequently, the Holy Qur'an explicitly condemns corruption, stating: "And Allah does not like corruption." The Holy Qur'an: Surah Al-Baqarah, Verse: 205.

It is a language: the source of (Saeed Al-Khoury Al-Shartouni, 1992, vol. 2, p. 924) of the simple triple verb (corrupt) against the meaning of (reconciliation) (Saleh Abd al-Allah and Abd al-Rahman Mallouh, 1998, c: 11, p: 5236), and indicates in general disorder, decay, damage, invalidity, damage, attraction, defect and damage in land and drought, in contrast to righteousness (Mohamed Ibn Manzur, c: 3, p. 335. (Al-Hussein bin Mohamed Al-Ragheb Al-Isfahani, 1961, p. 379), or "Reversing righteousness to the opposite of it" (Ali bin Mohamed Al-Mawardi, 2012, vol. 1, p. 74), and defined by the draft United Nations Convention against Corruption as: "Performing acts that constitute improper performance of duty or abuse of a position or authority, including acts of omission; Mubasher ...» (Salama Al-Rifai, 2015, p. 29.).

There was no unified or steady definition that reflected politically and legally, due to the complexity of the phenomenon, the complexity of its causes, features, and its development from one society to another, with different methods of study and the multiplicity of opinions of participants in its research and discussion and the diversity of forms of expression, so its manifestations were expressed in administrative, organizational and functional deviations, and violations issued by official institutions during the performance of the system of duties entrusted to them, harming the regularity of work, laxity or laziness about its performance, disclosure of job secrets, lack of responsibility, and others, but the most important thing that is raised In the political field, it is the exploitation of the position for enrichment for no reason at the expense of the public interest (Ghani Raysan Al-Saadi, 2020, p. 170), or benefiting from social nepotism by choosing friends, friends and relatives, or the political one that usually appears in choosing loyalists and fighting political opponents without regard to management and efficiency (Khaled Abdel Azim Abu Ghaba, 2021, p. 34).

It is one of the phenomena that indicate the weakness of the regulatory bodies in the state, so members of society should be directed towards following a set of mechanisms to confront the matters that help the spread of the phenomenon, represented by combating its images with unique penal methods, in order to plan to find appropriate solutions to the problems resulting from it (Alan Jamal Mohamed and Ahmed Mazen Ibrahim, 2021, p. 2567). It is difficult to draw precise or clear boundaries for corruption, because of the overlap, entanglement, complexity and multiplicity of its types according to the criteria taken by the team dealing with it, so the researchers mentioned types according to the areas in which it is spread (Salar Naji Ismail, 2018, p. 124):

- 1) social corruption, which appears on the individual in the lack of respect for work secrets, sincerity, job ethics, dedication to performing his work, love of work, and the meanings of patriotism and loyalty (Khaled Eyada Alemat, 2020, p. 86).
- 2) Moral corruption, which appears in a set of behavioral deviations of the employee and personal actions contrary to the law, such as committing indecent acts in the workplace, or combining his job work with other work outside his scope without the permission of his administration, or reflecting social favoritism in the work of state institutions, such as putting personal (favoritism) over considerations of merit and competence (Yasser Mohamed Saeed Qaddo, 2018, p. 90).

- 3) Administrative corruption, represented by the manifestations of employee deviation during the performance of his duties administratively, organizationally or functionally, such as extortion of citizens, failure to respect working hours in attendance and departure, non-performance of work, laxity or laziness about it, disclosure of job secrets, falsification of official documents, spending time in what is not useful at the expense of the interest of citizens, bribery, lack of responsibility, favoritism and favoritism (Munqith Mohamed Dagher, 2001, p. 9), so moral corruption overlaps with administrative corruption (Raslan Aladdin, 2013, p. 72) and financial corruption and the like (Mohamed Sadiq Ismail, 2014, p. 25).
- 4) Political corruption, represented by the abuse of political power by politicians to achieve financial profit or increase their power and influence, so they take the exploitation of high office to achieve personal benefits at the expense of the interest of the country and society (Saddam Hussein Al-Obaidi, 2019, p. 224) expressed as (trading influence) (Mohsen Al-Khudairi, 2003, p. 34) or paying money directly or illegal ways to reach illegal goals (Samir Al-Tanir, 2009, p. 14), and the most common types: violation of citizens' freedom and rights, adaptation of the constitution according to the ambitions of politicians, their control over wealth and all authorities, non-separation between them, the weakness of the accountability system, the absence of transparency and the dominance of the executive authority over other authorities (Ayman Ahmed Mohamed: Corruption and Accountability in Iraq, 2013, p. 4), and political corruption is one of the most important symptoms facing state institutions, as it leads to the deterioration of the social, economic and political stability of the country, loss of trust between the government and the citizen, injustice, poverty, unemployment and other phenomena (Falah Mubarak Bardan and Dr. Ali Mohamed Hardan, 2017, pp. 81-108).
- 5) Financial corruption (Awatef Ali Khuraisan, 2023, p. 528), which is: "a departure from the laws and interests of the state and non-compliance with it in order to achieve political and social gains for a specific person or group" (Sayed Taha Badawi and Mr. Karim Sayed Taha, 2023, p. 44). Or: «abnormal and dishonest behavior that works to collect all financial deviations of legislation and laws to work for his personal interest at the expense of the public interest, and runs for private persons or institutions, and includes bribes to the beneficiary and includes gifts, bribes and laundering money and fraud on investors" (Esraa Abdel Allah Taleb 2024).

Some believe that (Paul Bremer) is the one who spread the culture of corruption in its general concept in Iraq (Jabbar Al-Mashhadani, 2024), and that the transitional period (2003-2005) witnessed social, moral, administrative, political and financial corruption, by the Iraqi political authorities, which clearly affected the Iraqi system at all levels, as the transitional governments (the first and second) were completely subject to the occupier, and weakened before him in this field (Abdul Hussein Shaaban: The Identity Controversy in Iraq, 2010, p. 44).

Iraqi governmental and semi-governmental administrations and institutions suffered from the spread of corruption since (2003) until Transparency International classified

the country among the most corrupt countries (Ali Mohamed Jar Allah, 2019, p. 246), followed by the spread of crime in society, acts of sabotage in the state apparatus, the disintegration of the family, and the flight of national competencies outside the country, corruption in developing countries is one of the most important reasons for the flight of competencies from them to developed countries (Abdul Wahid Karam, 2015 Therefore, researchers (Mohamed Ghali Al-Husseini, 2009, pp. 196-221, Taghreed Dawood Salman, 2015, pp. 95-112, Mohamed Salman Mahmoud and Haifa Mezher Al-Saadi 2017) were interested in studying this phenomenon, and agreed on the need to build an institutional framework to stand in front of it and combat it with serious steps, accelerate the process of economic development and obliterate its effects leading to the weakness of the state, and prevent it from becoming a general social phenomenon that affects society and power together (Hussein Jaber Al-Khaqani, 2008, p. 22).

Secondly; Destruction of moral infrastructure: Iraq has only witnessed the destruction of its moral infrastructure (Mohamed Ahmed Al-Rashed, 2011, p. 16), as it targeted killing, kidnapping or displacement in that period most university professors, doctors, scientists, judges, intellectuals, lawyers and engineers (Hamid Farhan Al-Rawi, 2019, p. 188), and material as well, as institutions - without the Ministry of Oil - were destroyed and all looted, since the invading forces entered Baghdad (Imad Hadi Al-Rubaie, 2013, p. 88), and the Iraqi Museum, which contains one hundred and fifty thousand pieces, lost some of its oldest antiquities in the world (Faraj Allah Ahmed Yusuf, 2004, p. 46), and burned the National Archives in Baghdad completely (Saadoun Al-Mashhadani, 2009, p. 493), while politicians turned towards how to obtain their shares from the state, based on what was planned by the occupation governments, by producing regional governments whose loyalty was only to their identity branch without the motherland, so they ignored social moral development, and offered to reform the structure Physical Substratum (Omar Al-Hassan, 2015, p: 68).

Thirdly; Dismantling society religiously and ethnically: The public goals of the active politicians in the Iraqi scene focused on dividing institutions sectarianly and ethnically until it became a political phenomenon that gained an official dimension (Taleb Aziz, 2020, p. 47), imposing divergent wills on the country, and rebuilding the nation according to intellectual visions contrary to the previous individual system, with the US administration's control over political decisions internally and externally, which greatly affected the lack of emergence of the comprehensive national identity, and the lack of crystallization of the effective management of the country's leadership, on all Political levels and finding parallel balanced political alternatives (Ahmed Saeed Nofal et al., 2017, p. 66).

3. Result

In conclusion, the study titled "The Legitimacy of Achievement of Political Power in Iraq After 2005" reveals that the economic landscape in Iraq is beset by a myriad of complex challenges that significantly influence the trajectory of development and

reform processes. The Iraqi economy finds itself in a state of stagnation, caught between the remnants of a former socialist regime and the imperatives of a modern capitalist system, leading to an ambiguous economic identity. The primary obstacles hindering Iraq's economic advancement are multifaceted, encompassing administrative, security, and political dimensions, which result in a persistent deterioration of the economic environment, particularly in the context of insufficient effective government initiatives. The financial inflows generated by oil revenues are intricately linked to issues of economic sovereignty and the political framework established through agreements post-2003, presenting an additional layer of complexity. This scenario is further compounded by challenges such as high unemployment rates, inadequacies within the banking sector, pervasive corruption, and systemic mismanagement. Moreover, government projects associated with the national development strategy have largely seen minimal progress, exacerbating economic instability and undermining Iraq's capacity to achieve sustainable and effective development. This analysis underscores the urgent need for a comprehensive reassessment of economic policies and governmental strategies to ensure the realization of intended development objectives. It advocates for the management of the economy in a manner conducive to stability and growth, while effectively mitigating the adverse impacts of monopolistic practices, corruption, and inefficient governance.

4. Conclusion

The Iraqi economy remains characterized by a hybrid model that oscillates between the socialist system that predominated prior to 2003 and the capitalist framework that has been gradually adopted since then. This duality has prevented the establishment of a clear and coherent economic identity for the nation, complicating efforts to implement effective economic policies. Significantly, the deterioration of the Iraqi economy can be attributed to a range of interrelated administrative, security, legislative, constitutional, political, and financial challenges. These obstacles have collectively undermined the process of reforming the national economy, hindering progress and destabilizing economic conditions. A critical factor affecting the Iraqi economy is the operation of the petrodollar system, where economic sovereignty is closely linked to the political structure as defined by agreements established after 2003. This situation is further exacerbated by systemic issues such as high unemployment rates, imbalances within the banking sector, reliance on rentier income, widespread mismanagement, corruption, and pervasive poverty. Moreover, government initiatives aimed at advancing what has been labeled a "development strategy" have failed to yield the anticipated outcomes, particularly in the industrial and transportation sectors. The lack of visible progress in these areas has raised concerns about the government's ability to effectuate meaningful economic development.

To improve the economic situation in Iraq and enhance the legitimacy of political power, the following recommendations are proposed:

- 1) **Restructuring Economic Policies:** The government should undertake a comprehensive review of its existing economic policies and adopt a mixed

economic model that balances distributive fairness with efficient performance. This approach should emphasize the strengthening of the private sector while simultaneously reducing overreliance on oil revenues.

- 2) Development of Institutional Infrastructure: Strengthening government institutions is essential for effective resource management and transparency. This necessitates substantial investments in capacity building and the establishment of accurate databases concerning resource allocation and expenditure.
- 3) Promoting Good Governance and Combating Corruption: The implementation of robust anti-corruption strategies is crucial. This includes the enhancement of legal frameworks and practices that support good governance, alongside increased transparency in government contracts and tendering processes.
- 4) Development of Non-Oil Sectors: The government should initiate programs aimed at bolstering the development of other economic sectors, such as agriculture, industry, and services. This diversification will promote economic resilience and reduce the nation's dependence on oil revenues.
- 5) Reform of the Banking System: The banking system requires reform to improve its operational efficiency and to bolster public confidence. Such reforms should aim to facilitate access to financing for commercial projects and encourage savings and local investment.

By implementing these recommendations, Iraq can address its current economic challenges and pave the way for sustainable development, which will, in turn, contribute to enhancing both political and social stability.

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