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## **ROLE OF GOOD GOVERNANCE IN NATION-BUILDING: A CASE OF IRAQ**

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**ABSTRACT.** In Iraq, the issue of access to good governance is very important for a variety of reasons, perhaps most notably its fall under US occupation for the period 2003-2011 when its political system was changed. Genuine human growth rediscovers the actual worth of human life, which has been distorted by successive wars and international sanctions, not to mention previous policies. Iraq also owns a massive wealth of enormous oil and gas reserves, as well as other resources, which requires a proper system to manage it, which may not be accessible in the first place, and is founded on the principles and practices of good governance. Another factor in this area is the nature of the Iraqi people, which is composed of numerous nationalities, religions, and sects, which may expose the country to a real crisis if a particular sect or nationality becomes dissatisfied with the current regime, as is currently the case in some provinces. This study seeks to re-emphasize what good governance is, the rationale for its emergence, and its various indicators, not to mention its role in nation-building, while also highlighting the most significant barriers to its application in Iraq, and thus pointing to the most critical ways to promote good governance in Iraq. The findings reveal that there are several barriers to obtaining and implementing good governance in Iraq, which are caused by a range of factors and need a very lengthy period of time to overcome.

**JEL Classification:** D02,  
O17, P31

**Keywords:** corporate, corporate governance, government policy, economic development

### **Introduction**

The concept of good or good governance has received widespread attention in recent decades, particularly in the last decade of the previous century, because it plays a critical role in establishing the state on sound foundations by promoting transparency, participation, and action in accordance with the provisions of law, justice, accountability, efficiency, and strategic vision, and is the surest way to eliminate and minimize all forms of corruption. Access to good governance is critical in Iraq for a variety of reasons, probably most notably its occupation by the US from 2003 to 2011, during which its political system was altered. Genuine human growth rediscovers the actual worth of human life, which has been distorted by successive wars

and international sanctions, not to mention previous policies. Iraq also owns a massive wealth of enormous oil and gas reserves, as well as other resources, which requires a proper system to manage it, which may not be accessible in the first place, and is founded on the principles and practices of good governance. Another factor in this area is the nature of the Iraqi people, which is composed of numerous nationalities, religions, and sects, which may expose the country to a real crisis if a particular sect or nationality becomes dissatisfied with the current regime, as is currently the case in some provinces. Thus, this study was a modest attempt to re-emphasize what good governance is, the rationale for its emergence, and its various indicators, not to mention its role in nation-building, while highlighting the most significant barriers to its application in Iraq, and thus pointing to the most critical ways to promote good governance in Iraq. The study began with the concept that there are several barriers to obtaining and implementing good governance in Iraq, which are caused by a range of factors and need a relatively significant amount of time to overcome. The research was separated into a number of fundamental paragraphs based on the relevance of the research, its aims, and hypotheses, including what good governance was and why it was eroding in Iraq, as well as the influence on the construction of a contemporary Iraqi state.

## 1. Literature review

### What is good governance?

The concept of good governance is one of the concepts that has gained a lot of attention in the past few years, being the result of the last decade of the last century despite its roots dating back thousands of years, because governance in general has become a topic of great interest as a result of the role it plays in determining the well-being of<sup>1</sup> society. Initiatives calling for reform and good governance rolled out, and the United States of America launched multiple initiatives in this area to bring about comprehensive political and economic change in the Middle East before what is now the Arab Spring when the Arab peoples in most of their countries took to the streets. And demand political and economic reforms and even change the existing political system and try to achieve social justice as happened in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya and Yemen, not to mention other peoples who are still fighting for the reform of the system of government and change the political, economic and social reality. <sup>0</sup> Fold.

This term has emerged to promote transparency, participation and action under the provisions of law, justice, accountability, efficiency and strategic vision, and is the safest way to eliminate and minimize corruption. <sup>2</sup> In general, the term governing is used to take care of the mechanisms used by the social system that achieve security, order and well-being for the people of society. It also includes the ideology of the system regardless of its being a totalitarian or democratic system, which determines the means of effective respect for the administration and holding accountable those who assume power for any administrative failure through the law. It includes the structure, policies and procedures of the regime<sup>3</sup> government. Therefore, governance means (exercising political, economic and administrative power to conduct the affairs of society at all levels, and governance includes mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens express and seek their interests, exercise their political rights, fulfil

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<sup>1</sup> John Graham, Bruce Amos, Tim Plumptre, Principles for Good Governance in the 21st Century, Policy Brief No.15, 2003, P.1.

<sup>2</sup> Katarina Staronova, Katarina Mathernova, Recommendations for the improvements of the legislative drafting process in Slovakia, 2002 OSI IPF Fellowship, Budapest, Hungary, 2003. p.3.

<sup>3</sup> Alexander King and Bertrand Schneider, World Revolution I: For a New World Society (Rome Club Report), Translated by Wafa Abdellah, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, 1992, p. 177.

their obligations and address their differences).<sup>4</sup> Good governance is also defined as transparent and accountable management of human and financial resources for the purpose of equitable and sustainable development, within the scope of a political and institutional environment that respects human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law. The 1998 REPORT OF THE CANADIAN AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IDEA DEFINED GOOD GOVERNANCE AS A PROVISION CAPABLE OF BUILDING DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS CAPABLE OF FINDING SOLUTIONS TO POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND EXPANDING POLITICAL<sup>5</sup>PARTICIPATION. The IMF has defined good governance through the technical dimension, i.e. the economic aspect of governance, determining the transparency of government accounts and controlling its financial spending through the effectiveness of managing public resources. For the good. It also works to achieve participatory development and respect for human rights and democracy in addition to applying laws, fighting bribery and reducing excess expenditures in the administrative and military field.<sup>6</sup>

Those who follow the subject of governance or the ability to govern believe that there are multiple theories. However, two concepts can be distinguished: governance in a narrow concept that is limited to national or international systems, and governing in a broad sense that is not limited to regional or local regimes and governments. But also affects regimes Other social systems, from the educational and military system to private enterprises, even at the level of the same family, in an attempt to give rationality and rationality to the behavior of other human beings, especially politicians and economists.<sup>7</sup>

Increasing the financial imports of the state does not take its way to achieve comprehensive economic development without moving towards good governance and good governance of these imports and reforming the system of government in a way that controls government spending and redirects the development of the individual and the general community and thus the achievement of social justice, as it creates an environment that promotes economic growth and significantly reduces poverty.<sup>8</sup> It also expands human mental and muscular abilities, choices, opportunities and economic and social freedoms. It is participatory, transparent and accountable, effective and equitable and promotes the rule of law, and ensures that political, social and economic priorities are established on the basis of a broad consensus in society, in which the voices of the most vulnerable and poorest are heard in decision-making on the distribution of development resources. This has prompted widespread attention to this subject in the way we see it today.

### **The obligations of good governance and the reasons for its emergence:**

Many intellectuals believe that the reasons for the emergence of good governance are the failure of the state, which adopts central planning as an essential and key tool in the administration of the state, citing the collapse of the former Soviet Union and the eastern European countries that relied on the central and planned method of administration. Civil society institutions have

<sup>4</sup> program Nations United Development Department of Development and Governance Division, A new vision of the state and community management system, 'New York' 1997, p. 1.

<sup>5</sup> Left, Good Governance and The Investigation of Poverty and Civil Society in Economic and Social Governance and Anti-Poverty States, ESCWA, First Edition, New York, 2002, p. 42.

<sup>6</sup> Green Azzi, others, Good Governance and Corporate Privatization, Journal of Human Sciences, Issue 27, 2006, p. 5.

<sup>7</sup> Dr. Hassan Latif Al-Zubaidi, Good Governance in Iraq: Towards a Reform Framework, Unpublished Study submitted to the Iraqi Center for Economic Reform, Baghdad, 2007, p. 2.

<sup>8</sup> United Nations, Anti-Corruption to Improve Governance, Office of Development Policy, New York, November, 1998, p. 10.

also emerged and grown rapidly, forming a situation whose role cannot be ignored or reduced in influencing the authority of the State in any case. The succession of crises and varying times have also misled them in the style of government policy management of the State. The emergence of good governance is therefore a reflection of the changing nature of the government's work and its public institutions and the pattern of its administration of a state.<sup>9</sup>

Here it can be said that there are other reasons that have changed the role of the government and its public institutions in managing things, perhaps the most prominent of which are: the growing role of large global (sexually abusive) companies and local companies in influencing different policy-making, and therefore the continuing need to reconsider the type of relationship between them and the Government and work on their development in a way that promotes growth and achieves sustainable development. It also changes the prevailing training standards from seniority to skill, knowledge and the ability to develop and keep pace with rapid technological developments. In addition, the information and communication revolution is growing simultaneously with the emergence of globalization in the last decade of the last century in an easy way to exchange information and knowledge and to take advantage of the latest technical developments in various branches of knowledge. In this area, we also do not forget bilateral and multilateral international conventions and their role in monitoring states in a way that limits their freedom and ability to make different decisions. International aid, assistance and concessional loans have not played their role in achieving their goal of eradicating poverty, improving living, health, education and others because of unseasable governance. Access to good governance has become an indispensable goal in any case if we are to build a state that can achieve sustainable development and improve living standards fairly among the people of society and law enforcement.

### **Elements and indicators of good governance**

Despite the multiplicity of opinions governing the elements of good or good governance, in fact the following elements are not exceeded: transparency, continuity or permanence, legalization, i.e. acceptance by society, justice and equality, the ability to preserve and develop resources, work on the balance between the races and races that make up society, tolerance and acceptance of other opinions, rational and effective use of resources, working within the framework of the law, strengthening the bonds of love and authentic customs of society, responsibility, stimulating respect and mutual trust, control over control, encouraging the response and tolerance of responsibility, guidance towards the service of the individual and society, the ability to know and adopt peaceful solutions. As well as dialogue through institutional channels and platforms, one must express his or her opinion in the public interest. And instill trust among the members of the community.<sup>10</sup>

According to the 2002 Arab Human Development Report, there are six general references that measure different aspects of good governance: representation and accountability, political stability, government effectiveness, the burden of control, the rule of law, and the spread of corruption.

It remains to be noted in this area that there are a number of conditions that are the basis for good governance, the most important of which is the separation of the three authorities and the independence of each other, particularly the independence of the judiciary and the non-interference of the legislative and executive branches in a way that ensures the proper functioning of each authority and does not interfere with the work of the other authority. The

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<sup>9</sup> John Sullivan, Good Democratic Governance, Main Component of Political and Social Reform, Center for Private International Projects, Egypt, 2004.

<sup>10</sup> John Sullivan, source mentioned above, p. 26.

other condition is the periodic elections of the legislative and executive authority, with fair and transparent elections, with the testimony of international organizations, ensuring that justice is done for all, while ensuring accountability of different government agencies.

The most important obstacles to good governance are the process of distributing resources, the process of developing and formulating the state's policies, the process of implementing programmes, and the process of distributing income among members of society. Corruption of all kinds is one of the most important obstacles to good governance because of its misleading effects on various political, economic and social aspects.

### **Obstacles to good governance in Iraq**

Iraq preceded the Arab countries that witnessed the labor of changing their political systems through what is known as the Arab Spring that took place in Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Yemen, not to mention the countries that live in tension and attraction such as Syria and Bahrain, and therefore according to political and economic literature, most countries that are witnessing the change of their political system are going through a transition in which the state becomes clearly fragile as many government institutions collapse or at least become largely ineffective. Security, political and social problems are visible and mislead the state in general, leading to the need for external assistance through international institutions and conferences of donor countries, which often achieve their objectives, as international experience in this area has shown as a result of bureaucracy, the emergence of problems of administrative and financial corruption, ethnic and social tensions and economic stagnation, as well as security challenges.<sup>11</sup>

In general, there are many obstacles and factors that limit the application of the concept of good governance and undermine it, including: poor political coordination between the ruling parties, as well as coordination between different state institutions through overlapping powers and responsibilities, as well as the absence of true democracy, the absence of a political climate and an appropriate intellectual environment, lack of respect for individual and collective freedoms, and the lack of empowerment of women and taking their role in society. As a result of the customs and traditions of society, and the poor acquisition and employment of knowledge in the service of society in a way that develops human capacities, the security situation deteriorates. Some factors stand against the application of the concept of good governance, such as administrative and financial corruption.

In Iraq, there are a number of factors that have clearly reduced the application of the concept of good governance, some of which are no different from any factors that hinder this provision in other countries, while some factors have a certain specificity resulting from the social composition of Iraq and the different influences of the countries in its vicinity. In general, the most prominent can be explained by the following points:

#### **First: Security situation:**

Security is to stay and defend against various threats and dangers, whether military, economic, environmental or otherwise. Security is usually defined as all measures taken by the state through its various institutions and with the limits of its energy in order to secure its entity and the safety of its population by ensuring them from danger locally and externally and creating all the appropriate conditions economically and socially to achieve the different goals and objectives and thus obtain the satisfaction of the community.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>11</sup> Seiki Tanaka, Establishing Good Governance in fragile States through Reconstruction projects lessons from Iraq, Global Economy and Development, working paper 56, January 2013, P.1.

<sup>12</sup> Dr. Saleh Yasser Hassan, International Economic Relations, Thriving Pioneer House, Baghdad, 2006, p. 611.

UNDP divides security into seven types: economic security, environmental security, food security, political security, health security, personal security and collective security.<sup>13</sup> Another division of security is the rough security that faces all armed military threats, and the soft security that faces all non-military threats, i.e. those in which weapons are not a tool of threat, such as a criminal threat to which a certain number of individuals may be exposed, a threat to a particular disease or disaster.<sup>14</sup> Or, according to the geographical factor, security may be divided into two types: internal security, which faces all threats within the geographical boundaries of the state.

With regard to Iraq, the deterioration in Iraqi human security can in no way be considered due to the legacy of the occupation alone after 2003, as the current situation has resulted from decades of continued deterioration in security and instability. Since the founding of the Iraqi State in 1921, stability has been known only in short moments. Anti. Even when there is no coup, the existing authority fabricates a fictitious coup or a certain conspiracy supported by external parties to overthrow its existing and potential enemies by imprisoning them or imprisoning them or even physically liquidating them, thereby redrawing the map of their alliances in a way that increases their chances of taking control and remaining in power for as long as possible. . During the eight-decade-old Iraqi state, the ruling elites adopted the idea of national security on the grounds that it was the security of the elite itself, without contributing to the security of the Iraqi citizen, and devoted the efforts of the state and society to maintaining its position at the top of the pyramid of power after differing methods of access to it.

In the light of the occupation, the security of the citizen deteriorated dramatically, and the current occupation and its consequences changed the priorities of the problems suffered by the Iraqi people. Security threats became the most pressing problem, and even became the focus of other problems at a time when the Iraqi state was trying to discover its capabilities to discover its capabilities. Working in a very dangerous environment, creating a political system that can meet the demands of people at the national level.

The refore, the greatest challenge to humanitarian security is to combat its containment, particularly in areas of tension, and to ensure that the population receives an acceptable limit on the required services. There is no doubt that it will not be possible to ensure humanitarian security at a time of increasing instability that produces inadequate economic and political conditions.

The total number of terrorist operations witnessed by the world during the period 1980-2003 was only 315, including 76 carried out by the Movement (Liberation of the Tigers of Tamil Elam) in Sri Lanka, a secular separatist movement that has nothing to do with sectarian and ethnic differences. It is rare for a day to pass without a terrorist operation.

These terrorist operations cost Iraq a lot, in addition to the material losses estimated at hundreds of billions of dollars, the human losses were very large estimated by some studies to be in the range of one million people, or about 3% of the total population, and this study belongs to the orb polling center where the error rate in the results of the study and according to the center is only 1.7% and for reasons described as wishless did not include the provinces of Ramadi and Karbala, while the authorities prevented in . The study showed that 40 percent of the victims were shot by U.S. forces patrolling an estimated 5,000 patrols a day across Iraq, while the daily death rate was 300 people, or 10,000 people per month. In contrast, the Iraqi Ministry of Health announced figures well below the previous figure, estimating the human losses as of June 2006 at 151,000 people based on the daily figures it issues from all provinces of the country. While the previous two figures are estimated to be 601,000 by the British

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13 United Nations Development Program, Human Development Report 1994, New York, 1994, p. 25.

14 Suleiman Abdullah al-Harbi, Concept of Security, Levels and Threat Formula, Arab Journal of Political Science, Issue (19), Center for Arab Unity Studies, Beirut, 2008, p. 12.

medical journal Lancetas of June 2006, as shown in table 1, the journal relied on a study conducted by Iraqi doctors under the dual supervision of the Bloomberg School of Public Health and Johns Hopkins University in Maryland and published on October 12, 2006. According to the study, the number of Iraqi deaths is 12 times higher than u.S. statistics, which in 2006 put the number at between 25,000 and 30,000. The study finds that 56 percent of victims were killed by U.S. bullets.<sup>15</sup>

After the bombing of two shrines in Samarra on February 20, 2006, the waves of violence continued to escalate, bringing the country to civil war. It has also experienced a clear decline across the country, with the exception of Diyala province. Overall, the death toll in 2007 was more than 16,000 civilians, according to the Iraqi Interior Ministry's official BianT, while the number was around 12,000 in 2006. Overall, the number of victims up to the fourth month of 2013 was 123366 according to iraqbodycount estimates and as shown in the table.

In 2003-2012, 4,804 American troops and allied forces were killed, with 4,486 American deaths, followed by Britons with 179 deaths.

Table (1). Various estimates of Iraq's human losses after 2003 as a result of terrorist operations

The side	Number of victims (person)	From 2003 to
Iraqi Ministry of Health	151000	June 2006
British Medical Journal Lancet	601000	June 2006
ORB Polling Center	1033000	Water 2007
<a href="http://icasualties.org">http://icasualties.org</a> site*	67703	2008
<a href="http://iraqbodycount.org">http://iraqbodycount.org</a> site	123366	April 3, 201

\* Who was killed by the fire of foreign forces and security services only

Source: From the work of the researcher based on:

-<http://www.iraqbodycount.org>

- <http://icasualties.org/>

If we track the numbers of Iraqi and occupying forces during the period 2003-2013, we note the significant difference between those who fall from Iraqi victims compared to the deaths of the occupying forces, their security companies and supporting forces, as the victims of the occupying forces are much lower than those of the Iraqis as shown in table 2. According to the schedule, the death toll from the occupying forces ranged from one in 2012 to 961 in 2007, the highest figure this year as Iraq witnessed hot events that required the occupying forces to intensify their patrols in hot spots, while in 2013 the occupying forces lost no lives as a result of the withdrawal of their forces from Iraq and the retention of an unknown number of their staff in their embassies inside the Green Zone, but Mr. Michael McClellan Prior to the U.S. withdrawal from Iraq, the U.S. Embassy spokesman said that its embassy staff was estimated at 15,000, and currently estimated the number of Iraqi victims was 3,000.

Table (2). Numbers of Iraqi victims and occupying forces for 2012-2013

The year	Victims of the occupying forces

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.zmag.org>

	Americans	British	The rest of the countries	Total	Iraqi victimsN
2003	486	53	41	580	12039
2004	849	22	35	906	11545
2005	846	23	28	897	16161
2006	823	29	21	873	29088
2007	904	47	10	961	25456
2008	314	41	4	322	9710
2009	149	-	-	150	5132
2010	60	-	-	60	4109
2011	54	-	-	54	4147
2012	1	-	-	1	4573
2013*	-	-	-	-	1352
Total	4486	215	179	4804	123366

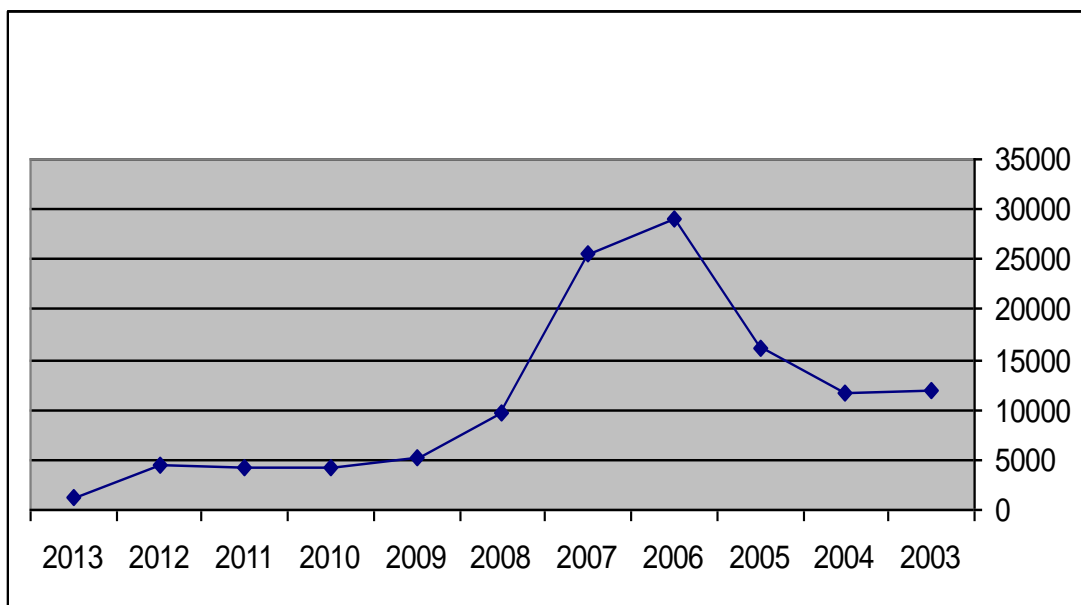
\*Until April

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:

-<http://www.iraqbodycount.org>

- <http://icasualties.org/>

(1) The development of iraqicasualties during the period 2003-2013



Source: Researcher B's work is to rely on table data(2).

We conclude from the above that this large number of terrorist operations and the resulting human and material losses must be affected in one way or another by the lack of success required for good governance in Iraq.

### **Second: Political and social stability**

Political and social stability is one of the basic axioms of good governance and thus the success of the process of economic development by initiating various service projects in any country, so any imbalance that affects them will undoubtedly lead to the failure of the whole process. Many decades ago. Most of the economic prescriptions and theories aimed at lifting them out of the reality in which they live and integrating them into the global economy have not worked to be an important and influential part<sup>16</sup> of it.

In Iraq, the political process has seen great challenges, namely the conflict of the electoral programs of the various parties, especially the major ones, as each political party represents the interests of its nationality or community is so important that it is placed on the top of its priorities, although this is not announced in many times, and the complexity of this issue is the inability of a particular coalition to win the parliamentary seats necessary to form a government alone, which means the need to coalition with other parties and coalitions does not. It is consistent with his tendencies to form a government, which suffers from increasing political tensions in a way that undermines the strength of the state and limits its holding in control. In the last parliamentary elections of 2010, the political dispute over the formation of the government was resolved only after the federal court intervened in the issue of interpreting the larger bloc, and then continued the tensions for nearly four months until the arrival of the Erbil agreement, which charted the course of the government and its powers to also provoke a debate about the extent to which this agreement approaches or moves away from the Iraqi constitution. These political differences have misled the concept of good governance, especially since we have added its impact on the social and tribal realities in Iraq, although to a lesser extent, the current events in some Iraqi provinces, which represent an essential component of Iraqi society, which began in the form of sit-ins and began with certain demands gradually rising to demand the overthrow of the government or the establishment of federalism or perhaps even secession or internal fighting.

Talking about the issue of good governance in light of these social unrest and the prevailing security conditions is a fantasy because we cannot imagine the future image of the country in light of these escalating events, and if we add the Syrian scene and the division of Iraqi society in its direction, the future picture is becoming blurry and cannot be predicted in any way.

### **Third: administrative and financial corruption:**

The economist views corruption by focusing on the relationship between it and the low level of investment for the purpose of human development, but the jurist sees corruption as a deviation from compliance with the law, and the politician looks at corruption through its relationship to influence good governance, and the sociologist sees corruption as a violation of some social values that harm<sup>17</sup> society. However, the common denominator of all these definitions remains the misuse of public power, office or authority to obtain special

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<sup>16</sup> Hillier B, *Macroeconomic Debate*, Blackwell, Oxford, UK, 1992.

<sup>17</sup> Daoud Khairallah, *Corruption as a Global Phenomenon and Controlled Mechanisms*, Arab Future, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Issue (309), November 2004, p. 67.

benefits. Excludes bribes among the private sector" in what<sup>18</sup> Transparency International • defined as "any action involving the misuse of public office for the self-interest of himself or his group". The World Bank also defines corruption as an abuse of public office for private gain. Corruption usually occurs when an employee accepts a request, extortion or bribe to facilitate a contract or a public competition, as well as when agents or intermediaries of private companies or businesses are offered bribes to take advantage of public policies or procedures to overcome competitors and make profits outside the framework of applicable<sup>19</sup> laws.

In an extensive way, we say that corruption is "an act contrary to laws or ethics carried out by a person when he is suing or obtaining a promise to receive funds within or outside the scope of legitimate channels for the purpose of personal use in exchange for the provision of confidential facilities related to the administrative position of this person to external clients. The list of corruption includes but is not limited to: bribery, blackmailing extortion, influence peddling, Nepotism nepotism, fraud, and the use of accelerated incentives, which is the money that drives government officials to expedite the consideration of a special matter within their jurisdiction to obtain the citizen's right."<sup>20</sup>

Corruption was not new in Iraq, but its roots date back to the Ottoman occupation era when the public service was sold and rented, so it was rooted in the structure of the Iraqi state since its founding, as senior Iraqi politicians abused their powers.<sup>21</sup> Similarly, Rachid Ali Al-Kilani (1892-1965) used his position as Minister of Interior and Justice to take advantage of rents and other obligations from Qadiri waqf holders. In a record period (approximately four months), he was able to raise Rs. 80,000, excluding the amounts received by his agents as commissions. He also gave the waqf properties in Luai Hilla and Diyala rent for 60,000 rupees paid in advance. Up to Rs. 170,000 was raised. Former Prime Minister Tawfiq al-Suwaidi (1892-1968) was also accused of colluding with traders by leaking government decisions to increase customs duties on certain goods before they were officially announced.<sup>222324</sup>

During the years 1964-1968, corruption became apparent and the military began selling import permits obtained through their position in the ruling institution to a soft cod with generous customs exemptions.<sup>25</sup>

The era of sanctions (1990-2003) imposed by the United Nations Security Council deepened the state of widespread corruption in the country and introduced it into a new space,

<sup>18</sup>George Moody Stuart, Cost of Corruption, Global Experiences, Issue (13), p. 50.

• Established in 1995 and based in Berlin, Transparency International is a non-governmental organization tasked with increasing the chances and accountability of Governments and restricting domestic and international corruption, and is an international anti-corruption movement. Its activities are funded by donations and subsidies that Presented by a number of governmental and non-governmental bodies and organizations, economic institutions such as the World Bank and the United Nations, and Some of the Companies Trans nationalities.

<sup>19</sup> Haidar Nema Bakhit, Economic Stability Policies in Selected Countries, Unpublished PhD Thesis, Faculty of Management and Economics, Kufa University, 2007, p. 86.

<sup>20</sup> Hassan Latif Kazem Al-Zubaidi and Atef Lafi Al-Saadoun, Corruption in Iraq: Its Roots and Bitter Fruits, Economic Studies (Baghdad: Beit al-Hikma), Sunnis (6), Issue (18), Summer 2006, p. 27-28

<sup>21</sup> Hanna Batato, Iraq: Social classes and revolutionary movements from the Ottoman era until the establishment of the Republic, Book I, translated by Afif Al-Razaz, Arab Research Foundation, Beirut, 1990.

<sup>22</sup> The same previous source, p. 240.

<sup>23</sup> Leora Lukitz, Iraq and the Search for Identity, Translated by Dilshad Miran, Dar Aras, Erbil, 2004, p. 120

<sup>24</sup> Abdul Razzaq al-Hasani, History of Iraqi Ministries, C2, i3, Al-Irfan Press, Sidon, 1965, p. 242.

<sup>25</sup> Jawad Hashem, Memoirs of an Iraqi Minister with Al-Bakr and Saddam: Memories of Iraqi Politics 1967-2000, Dar al-Saki, Beirut, 2003, p. 256.

social acceptability. Corruption, bribery and abuse of office seemed to be within the context of custom as long as the economic system did not meet the lowest basic needs of individuals, wage levels deteriorated while inflation levels rose to deepen the gap between individual potential and actual needs.

According to the corruption index published by Transparency International Secretariat, which ranges from zero to 10, the closer the index is to 10, the higher the transparency of that country. According to the organization's 2006 corruption index, which is <sup>26</sup>one of the most important releases, it included a large sample of 163 countries in the world studied by the organization, in which countries that have deteriorated in corruption compared to previous versions such as the United States, Israel, Brazil, Cuba, Jordan and Tunisia. The index (9.6) scored while Denmark came in fourth place after reaching the index (9.5) and Iraq came in penultimate place with Guinea and MinamaR after the index reached each (1.9) while Haiti came in last place after its corruption index (1.8) and as shown in the table. In another FAO report, which included a broader sample of 183 countries for the period 2002-2008, Iraq remained in a position of bad, with the world's most corrupt countries leading after Somalia and Myanmar.<sup>27</sup>

Table (3). Transparency International Corruption Indicators 2006 (Selected Countries)

Order	State	Grade	Order	State	Grade
1	Finland	9.6	70	China	3.3
1	New Zealand	9.6	70	Egypt	3.3
1	Iceland	9.6	105	Iran	2.7
4	Denmark	9.5	121	Russia	2.5
14	Canada	8.5	156	Sudan	2.0
20	United States	7.3	160	Iraq	1.9
34	Israel	5.9	163	Haitian Creole	1.8

Source: Haidar Nema Bakhit, Economic Stability Policies in Selected Countries, PhD Thesis, Faculty of Management and Economics, Kufa University, 2007, p. 86.

In a 2010 FAO report that included a sample of 178 countries, Iraq ranked 175th globally ahead of Afghanistan, Myanmar and Somalia, up from 1.5 degrees, while Denmark, New Zealand and Singapore ranked first with 9.3 degrees each. Bahrain is followed by the 48th Arab World, with the index value at 4.9 degrees as shown in the table.<sup>28</sup>

As for the 2012 report, which included a sample of 176 countries, there was a relative improvement in Iraq's corruption index, which was 1.8 degrees to improve its level as well and advance six places when it ranked 169th in the world and as shown in table (4), but it remains a low level globally reflecting the depth of the problem that the country is experiencing and

<sup>26</sup> <http://www.transparency.org/>

<sup>27</sup> Transparency 2009 report.

<sup>28</sup> Transparency 2010 report.

therefore talking about good governance and its possibility of achieving it in the foreseeable term of fantasy without a significant improvement in this problem.

Table (4). Transparency International Corruption Indicators 2010 and 2012 (selected countries)

Order	State	Grade		Order	State	Grade	
		2010	2012			2010	2012
1	Denmark	9.3	9.0	48	Bahrain	4.9	5.1
1	New Zealand	9.3	9.0	50	Saudi Arabia	4.7	4.4
1	Iceland	9.3	8.2	50	Jordan	4.7	4.8
4	Finland	9.4	9.0	78	China	3.5	3.9
4	Sweden	9.4	8.8	175	Iraq	1.5	1.8
19	Qatar	7.7	6.8	176	Afghanistan	1.4	0.8
22	United States	7.1	7.3	176	Minamar	1.4	1.5
30	Israel	6.1	6.0	178	Somalia	1.1	0.8

Source: Prepared by the researcher based on:  
Transparency Organization report 2010, p. 78-79.  
Transparency World Report 2012.

These international reports, regardless of their accuracy and conformity to reality, undoubtedly show the extent of administrative weakness of Iraqi institutions. Lack of dissatisfaction with the system of government that leads the country, not to mention the loss of hope for social justice.

#### **Fourth: Job sagging and public sector inflation**

The authors of the language believe that the literal meaning of a sagging punch is turbulence and relaxation and some believe that the meaning is tumor, bloating or excessive increase of a certain amount in a way that undermines the required proportionality, so it is in the language of economists the increase that gives reverse results of low productivity rather than increase.

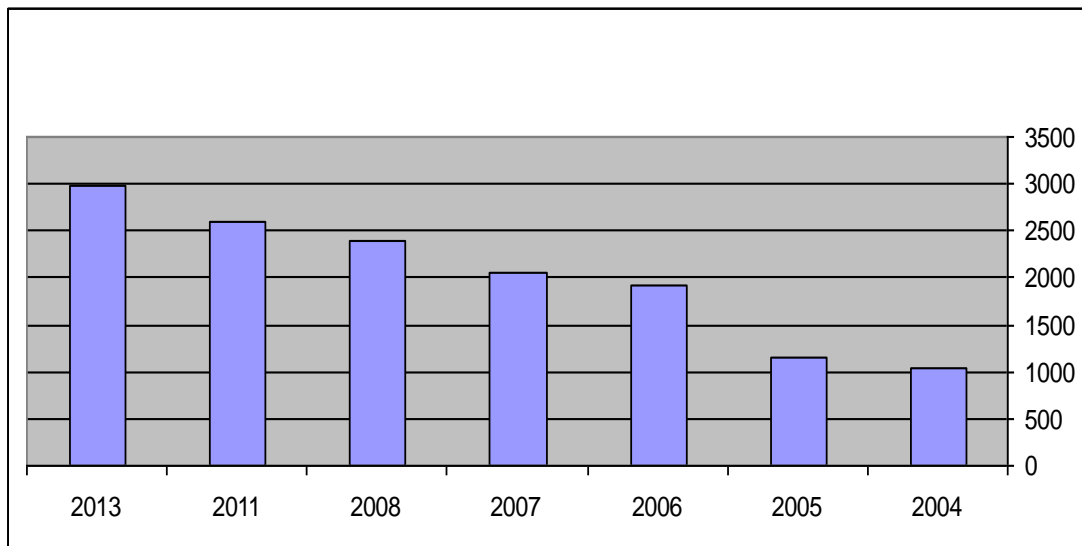
According to economic laws, increasing variable production inputs with constant factors of production at a certain stage increases output volume and productivity, and to a certain extent, the gradual decline in production as a result of the negative addition of new inputs begins. The

State worked on continuous employment to alleviate high unemployment rates, which in 2003 were more than 28 per cent, which fell the following year to 26.8 per cent.

The continued growth of the various state institutions and the increase in the number of workers at rates that often exceed the rate of economic growth is due to the fact that the new state has inherited, continued employment regardless of the actual need for this large and ever-growing number resulting from continued public sector inflation in order to achieve a number of targets, perhaps the most prominent of which, as we have explained, absorb high unemployment and absorb as much unskilled labour as possible that does not have sufficient capacity to obtain jobs.<sup>29</sup>

The continuation of this process has increased the inflation of the various organs of the state. No Iraqi follower can ignore the significant bureaucratic inflation that occurred after 2003, resulting in continued pressure towards increased wages and salaries. The number of employees continued to increase, reaching 2,389,901 in 2008, then rising to more than 2.6 million in 2011, and at the beginning of 2013 the number of employees is estimated at 2.98 million.

Form (2): The number of Iraqi government employees developed during the period (2004-2013)



The government's continued work at high rates of disguised unemployment does not mean that it is as convinced of this irrational situation as it is satisfied with the exceptional circumstances that the country is going through, as this situation allows individuals to have an acceptable level of income that guarantees a decent life, which helps to integrate them with society and thus accept the policies of the State. for the human investment that society has endured.

Sagging jobs and the inflation of the size of the public sector are contradictions of good governance as it reflects a situation of not making optimal use of the economic resources available in the country, particularly humanity, and thus wasting opportunities resulting from their optimal use in achieving sustainable human development. Not to mention the financial

\* Except for Kurdistan.

<sup>29</sup> Central Bureau of Statistics and Information Technology, Central Bureau of Statistics and Information Technology, Employment and Unemployment Survey in Iraq 2006, July 2007, Multiple pages.

\* Former Planning Minister Ali Baban said in 2010 that many employees were in fact unemployed.

obligations of the State Treasury, which could expose the country to a real crisis if the oil sector is exposed to a particular crisis or symptom, as happened in 2009, when Iraq's oil revenues declined significantly as a result of the repercussions of the mortgage crisis in 2007, and if we add to these large numbers of retirees and various security forces, it becomes more Bad.

#### **Fifth: Administrative bureaucracy**

Bureaucracy is usually called bureaucracy by virtue of offices and it reflects the state of state governance, administration and guidance by senior officials who are in one way or another keen to maintain and maintain the system of government because it is so linked to their interests that they become part of it. Bureaucracy is a set of rules of conduct and certain patterns of administrative measures centered on literal adherence to the prevailing laws and adherence to the phenomena of the prevailing legislation to the extent that it reaches the deadly routine at work and therefore <sup>30</sup> it kills creativity in work and development and entrepreneurship and everything goes within pre-known and ready templates, as it is a vision of the rigidity of the system of relations in the institution. When some see bureaucracy as the antithesis of revolutionaryism and far from good governance, without getting rid of this bureaucracy, good governance cannot be reached even if there is an improvement in previous factors.

#### **Ways to promote good governance in Iraq**

We have already shown the main obstacles to achieving good governance in Iraq, which were the security situation, political and social stability, administrative and financial corruption, job sagging, and the inflation of the size of the public sector and the administrative democracy. Taken together, these factors, as well as others, have significantly undermined the concept of good governance in Iraq, reflected in the situation of a country in recent years.

The ways to promote good governance in Iraq are numerous and varied, the most important of which can be highlighted by the following points:

#### **First: Review the government apparatus**

If it is justified at the present time, the near future must see a real solution to this problem and reduce its various effects. The productivity of public sector members in Iraq is low relative to productivity in developing countries and the size of the government sector is the highest in the world relative to the size of the population. Therefore, the issue of supporting the private sector in a way that qualifies it to create jobs and jobs and thus relieve pressure on the public sector.

#### **Second: Addressing the problem of corruption:**

The seriousness of the effects of the problem of administrative and financial corruption obliges the state to work seriously and effectively to solve this problem and mitigate its effects and consequences. Good and rational governance cannot be envisaged with this problem. This is done by taking advantage of the experiences of countries that have experienced this problem and are engaged in its circumstances and characteristics with Iraq, and through the participation of an organized civil society in a serious and effective manner. An effective and transparent system of oversight, supervision and accountability of social institutions has been established.

#### **Third: Promoting administrative decentralization:**

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<sup>30</sup> O. Tiorean, G. Bratucu, The Evolution of The Concept of Bureaucracy, Bulletin of the Transilvania University of Braşov, • Vol. 2 (51) – 2009, P.245.

The issue of strengthening administrative decentralization is important in the process of state administration by working to regulate its relationship with the center and determine the powers of each of them in accordance with the Constitution, a research that does not lead to any conflicts in the implementation of various development programs. This is done through the implementation of economic programmes, the work of financial independence and an effective local tax system that is not incompatible with the state tax system. The Kurdistan Region operates independently of the central government in Baghdad, with more than 60 municipalities run by government<sup>31</sup>officials.

#### **Fourth: Strengthening the national identity:**

It is obvious that people in any case cannot forget their ethnic and religious affiliations or at least tolerate the issue of abandoning these affiliations, so the state must work through various means such as legislative and legal means and through various media to encourage individuals to integrate with colors and spectra. Others without abandoning their different affiliations and beliefs through the achievement of social justice and the equality of individuals with rights and duties. On the contrary, a breach in this aspect means dragging the country into a dark tunnel.

#### **Fifth: Strengthening the role of civil society organizations:**

In the last decade of the last century, there were multiple views that relying entirely on the state in any political, economic and social aspect would not yield the desired results, as it needed the support of certain entities, whether formal or informal, including civil society organizations, which are also called non-profit organizations, and increased great interest in these organizations, by institutions and organizations. International, because of the great role these organizations play in the process of social and economic development.

Civil society organizations emerged clearly in Iraq after the political change in 2003, specifically when military administrator Paul Bremer issued Resolution 45 of the year on NGOs, estimated at more than three million organizations linked to the Ministry of Planning as the authority responsible for granting licenses. Rebuilding Iraq by allocating part of the reconstruction funds provided by donors to these organizations, which has encouraged many to establish fictitious or sham organizations that do not do any real work.

This reality does not eliminate the role that these organizations can play in economic reform, supporting the human development process and working on its foundation, especially since it has played a major role in a place other than the world, as is the case in a number of Asian<sup>32</sup>countries.

## **Conclusions**

After we borrow from the research paragraphs on what good governance is, the barriers to its implementation in Iraq, and then ways to strengthen it, we are supposed to provide a summary of the study's most significant findings to serve as a foundation for the inclusion of the study's most significant recommendations in order to achieve the study's objective, which is good or good governance. Our findings support the conclusion that good or good governance, its principles, foundations, and requirements are far from reality in Iraq, and thus that talking

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<sup>31</sup> Dr. Hassan Latif Zubeidi, source mentioned above, p. 9.

<sup>32</sup> Corazon Material Leon, Reform Administrative in Asia: Philippine experience, in: Selected global experiences in Reform Administrative Translation: Fathi Osman, [Others] Arab Organization for Development, Administrative Cairo, 1998, p. 223.

about achieving good governance in the current period is a fantasy as a country living in a state of social contradictions caused by a lack of trust between these components and external intervention aimed at strengthening those contradictions, not to mention the unstable symbiotic relationship between these components. This is occurring in a few other countries in the region, which reflects its advantages over the Iraqi scene in one way or another, and when we add the problems of administrative and financial corruption, sagging functions, and the low participation of women in political life, despite the fact that they represent 25% of members of parliament and provincial councils through the quota mechanism that accompanied the first elections following the occupation, As a result, our study identified these conditions as the primary causes of lack of access to good governance, and resolving them in the coming years will entail repositioning the State and its various institutions on the path to optimal governance in a manner that benefits the national economy and achieves high levels of human development.

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