

**News coverage of the Iraqi Parliament elections on the websites of
Iraqi newspapers
Analytical study of Al-Zaman newspaper website
From (2018/ 4/ 14) To (2018/ 6/14)**

Prepared by



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Abstract

The Iraqi parliamentary elections held 2018 had busied public opinion and occupied large areas of local, Arab and international newspapers as well as the websites of the newspapers. The news and reports were in the forefront of the arts on which press coverage was based and relied on various press sources to obtain information about the parliamentary elections. The research aims at identifying the topics that have received the attention of the electronic newspaper Al-Zaman, as well as the news formats, the type of coverage, and typographic elements used in the news coverage of the 2018 parliamentary elections.

The research was based on the descriptive analytical method using the content analysis tool to describe the apparent content. The analysis form included the main categories, such as (what was said) and (how was said), which resulted in subcategories for both categories. In order to get a reliable result, measurement of reliability and analysis had been adopted by applying Holesty equation and the result was (80%), and this result is applied to the Pearson equation to give a high stability rate (83%). The research sample consisted of the daily Al-Zaman daily newspaper for the period from 14/4/2018 to 14/6/2018.

Key Words: News Coverage - Elections - Iraqi Parliament.

First: the Research Problem

The research problem is considered one of the most important steps in the context and fundamentals of scientific research, because defining the research problem entails later on the quality of the data that will be collected and the importance of the results that are reached (Authors Group, 2002: 26).

The research problem can be formulated in the form of questions that the researcher describes and then tries to answer them in his research by careful observation and statistical analysis of the results of this observation and to verify the validity of the observation.

The research problem was summed up in several questions from my agencies

- 1- What is the type of news coverage for websites?
- 2- How big is the news coverage?
- 3- What are the sources relied upon for news coverage?
- 4 - What are the topics of news coverage?
- 5-What are the typographical elements used in the news coverage.

Research Aims

- Know the type of news coverage.
- Know the size of the coverage.
- Learn about the coverage sources.
- Learn about the topics of coverage.

Search Categories

The research has been divided into several main and sub-categories, as follows:

1 - How was it said? They include:

- A - Forms of news coverage
- B - the journalistic arts used in the coverage
- C - the typographical elements adopted in the coverage

2 - What was said category? (Subject Category) includes:

- A - Candidate elections
- B - political parties
- C - economic issues
- D - Security issues
- E- Violence and assassinations

The Research Sample

The website of Al-Zaman newspaper was chosen, for the period from (4/14/2018) to (14/6/2018), which limits the period for nominating the elections and conducting them, and only the main page data was analyzed.

Search limits

Spatial boundaries: The Al-Zaman newspaper website has been chosen.

Temporal boundaries: They represent the period from 4/14/2018 to 14/6/2018.

Thematic boundaries: The subject of the 2018 Iraqi elections.

Search Results

1. The interpretative coverage ranked first with a frequency of (128), and a rate of (48.1)
2. News art ranked first with frequency (156) and a percentage (58.7)
3. In the field of news coverage sources, the reporter got (80) repeat and got (30.0), followed by the delegate got (60) repeat rate (22,5), and then the internet came with (70) repeat and (26,3) rate Then came the citizen journalist who did not get a repeat and percentage, and then came the agencies, which got a repeat (56) and a percentage (21.0)

Recommendations

- 1 - The necessity to give a wide space in news coverage of election-related content to the website of Al-Zaman Al-Iraqiya newspaper.
- 2- Recommends the necessity of expanding the use of all forms of journalism and employing them in covering the Iraqi parliamentary election campaign.
- 3 - Organizing courses to raise the efficiency and qualification of Iraqi journalists in the field of press coverage of the elections and the use of the latest technological techniques to keep pace with media developments and the speed of transferring the event.

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