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Security Media

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Chapter one

Security media

The concept of security media is a newly emerging term that has its own nature and philosophy, with a security connotation that is linked to the countries' policy and strategy, and contributes to serving the security and stability of society. Security media seeks to establish security awareness that raises morale and aims to spread reassurance in the souls of the masses, and consolidate their convictions of the necessity of their participation in Preventing phenomena that affect the security of the country, as members of society, is a shared responsibility between security personnel and other individuals, Security media is defined as a group of integrated operations carried out by specialized media in order to achieve the greatest degree of social balance in order to preserve the security of individuals and the safety of society. Security media is achieved through the security services delivering all news and facts regarding the security conditions and their events to all media outlets. What shows that the close relationship between the security services and the media is what establishes an effective security media, There are many sources of security media. They include official sources that are issued by government agencies, enjoy a high degree of officialdom, and are highly credible and trusted by the targeted audiences with the information. There are private sources that represent people and private or civil institutions that are closely related to the event. Security sources in society, or sometimes they may be involved in a specific security issue, and these sources are often not a source of trust among the masses.

The media has become the backbone of development in our present time, like industry, agriculture, and wealth. The development and prosperity of society has become dependent on the quantity and quality of information, technologies, and resources it possesses. Hence, the role of the media emerges in any society, which has turned into an industry based on solid foundations, and as long as every society has An intellectual or material industry with elements and components. The elements of the media industry are:

1- Media message.

2- The human element.

3- The technical means (the channel through which the message is transmitted).

- Objectives of security media:

The security media has multiple goals, which are primary and secondary. The main goal that the security media seeks is to spread reassurance to all individuals. As for the secondary goals, they can be summarized as follows:

1- Awareness objectives: What is meant is for the security media to publish all information that contributes to raising the levels of awareness among individuals, through the media's cooperation with the security authorities, which contributes to strengthening the relationship between society and the security media.

2- Preventive objectives: This means that the security media continues to educate the public on a permanent and continuous basis, in order to enable them to take the necessary actions regarding situations, in addition to protecting their property and the safety of their security. It also contributes to the use of methods that will restrict and reduce the commission of crimes.

3- Social objectives: The security media publishes media materials and contents that play an important role in influencing the protection of values, morals and ethics, fostering social behavior, and using contents that contribute to protecting society from crimes and confronting them.

-Characteristics and components of security media

There are a number of features and components upon which the security media is based and characterized, which make it a specialized media that differs in part from the general media, and these components constitute the identity of the security media, as follows:

1- It is a type of specialized media that is based on honesty and objectivity in informing citizens of information, facts and laws that affect the security and stability of society.

2- It is a media that cooperates with other media outlets and can achieve the goals and objectives of the security institution and create a positive impression in the minds of the masses.

3- It is positive media, as it seeks to achieve constructive interaction between the security services and the public.

Chapter two

Security media in Iraq

The security media in Iraq was largely linked to fear and intimidation, and was characterized by a weak ability to persuade. Since 2003, transformations have occurred in it resulting from the major changes witnessed in the general conditions in the country, especially the security, political, and economic conditions. Regardless of the nature of the political, economic, and social environment, The sobriety and maturity of the security media make it able to contribute effectively to security, and this importance requires the development of plans with strategic frameworks and programs aimed at raising the level of the security media. The security media in Iraq has several weak points, as follows:

1- The tendency towards centralization in issuing press releases and making statements to the media.

2- Weakness and lack of messages sent to the public through the media.

3- Failure to adopt a national security media strategy that is consistent with the scale of the security challenges facing the country.

4- Seeking to hide information related to security breaches.

5- Poor selection of employees concerned with the media and public relations aspect in security and military institutions.

6- Lack of financial allocations and weak capabilities available to media departments and sections in security and military institutions.

7- Lack of awareness of the importance of electronic media by security and military institutions, despite most of them owning websites.

8- The intersection between politics and security at the media level.

9- Confusing the functions and tasks of public relations and media, and merging them into one department or department.

10- The lack of unity and coherence in the media discourse of security and military institutions, and sometimes contradictory statements and statements.

- Official means of security media:

In the past, Iraq issued many publications specialized in security, defense, science, and military and security arts. Everything related to security awareness was important. These publications include:

1- The Military Magazine: It was issued in Baghdad by the Ministry of Defense in 1924. It covers every 3 months, and it discusses military technical, scientific, and historical topics, instructions, and military news in Iraq and the world.

2-The Police: A specialized monthly magazine issued by the General Police Directorate in Baghdad 1927.

3- Voice of Warriors: A specialized newspaper granted a franchise in Baghdad. It discusses the affairs of military personnel on disability, and is edited by an elite group of officers.

4- The National Guard: A political magazine issued by the General Command of the National Guard Forces, which was formed in 1963 by order of the Revolutionary Command Council at the time.

5- Voice of Civil Defense: Issued by the Civil Defense Directorate. It was granted the privilege in 1969, and was concerned with disseminating the Directorate's activities and the courage of its members in fighting fires, and educating citizens on how to deal with fires and prevent them.

6- Professional Future: A quarterly magazine issued by the Ministry of Interior. It was granted the privilege in 1966 and was concerned with various professional issues and topics, including security.

7- Al-Jundi Magazine: It was issued during the royal era and continued to be published until 1963, after which the Ministry of Defense issued Al-Yarmouk Magazine as an alternative to it.

8- Al-Qadisiyah Newspaper: It was issued by the Ministry of Defense at the beginning of the Iran-Iraq War in the early 1980s. Copies were distributed free of charge to fighters on the front lines. After the end of the war, the Ministry of Culture and Information continued to issue the newspaper, until 2003.

9- Al-Zikra newspaper: It is the mouthpiece of the Warriors Association in Mosul. It was published for the first time during the royal era, in 1954.

Today, the Ministries of Interior and Defense issue a set of publications:

1- Al-Haris newspaper: A general weekly newspaper issued by the Ministry of Interior. Its first issue was published in 2012.

2- Iraq Tent Newspaper: Published by the Ministry of Defense, its first issue was published in 2007.

3- My Country Magazine: A quarterly military magazine issued by the Ministry of Defense. Its first issue was published in 2005.

4- Basra Call: A monthly newsletter issued by the Directorate of National Intelligence and Investigations in Basra Governorate. Its first issue was published in 2011.

All of these publications are printed neatly and well, and it is easy for every researcher and specialist to sense that they contain large doses of moral guidance aimed at motivating security personnel to loyalty, sincerity, courage and integrity. However, they contain weak points, one of which is that they have a direct and frank promotional speech. It makes it not characterized by attractiveness or the ability to persuade, in addition to the exaggeration in publishing pictures of officials, and also that these publications are distributed free of charge to security and military departments and institutions, and therefore they are not available in the markets, which makes them less circulating among the public, and as a result less effective.

With regard to visual security and military media, the Ministry of Interior produces the Watchful Eyes program, which is a security program concerned with covering news and developments of the Ministry's work and its formations in the governorates and its field security activities, while Al-Iraqiya Channel presents a weekly program aimed at traffic awareness called Traffic Stop, and the Ministry of Defense produces The Iraqi Protectors Program, which presents news from the Ministry, the ground teams, the air forces, and the navy.

- Iraqi security media via social media networks

Social media networks play a major role in the world in the field of security media, and the excitement of these websites stems from their wide popularity. For example, Facebook, which was launched in 2004, has reached more than a billion users, despite the great appeal that Facebook enjoys. For Iraqi Internet users, the security forces only belatedly realized the importance of this site and other social media networks, It seems that benefiting from these networks is not based on central planning and decisions from the Ministries of Defense and Interior, but rather is sought to be achieved by some officers in the media departments in a manner characterized by randomness, as Facebook is filled with many pages that suggest that they belong to the army or police and security agencies affiliated with the Ministry of Interior, and it is difficult Verify the authenticity of these pages.

- Iraqi security media and political interactions

The security media in Iraq is strongly influenced by the political movement of the participating and non-participating forces in the legislative and executive authorities. The many security violations that the country witnessed during the period (2007-2013), were used by the political forces opposing the government as a means of pressure and political influence, These forces consider their movements to stem from their concern for the stability of the security situation and the safety of citizens. However, it is quite the opposite. When a representative speaks in a press conference and directs harsh criticism of the security plans and describes them as a failure, accuses some military and security leaders of corruption, and speaks of a comprehensive and complete security collapse, This will inevitably make citizens feel more anxious and afraid, especially if the representative enjoys the support and confidence of the masses, as his statements could undermine the security media effort.

Chapter Three

Challenges created by the security media in Iraq

Iraq has witnessed major security challenges, and the security media in Iraq faces many challenges. Since the American invasion of Iraq in 2003, journalists and media professionals have been exposed to violence and threats, and many of them have been assassinated. The security media in Iraq suffers from a lack of resources and training, and lacks sufficient government support. These means face difficulty in obtaining information and verifying its authenticity, and are exposed to threats and pressure from armed groups and political parties. The Iraqi government is working to strengthen the security role of the media in the country, provide them with the necessary support, and improve the work environment for journalists and media professionals. It is important to provide adequate protection for journalists and media professionals, and provide them with the necessary support to enable them to carry out their work freely and safely.

The challenges faced by the security media in Iraq are multiple and complex, as this type of media was affected by the security and political conditions. The challenges include:

1-Security and safety: Security and safety issues are among the most prominent challenges, as journalists and security media workers are exposed to danger as a result of terrorist threats and military operations.

2- Weak media structure: The security media in Iraq may face deficiencies in its infrastructure and funding, which affects its ability to provide effective and reliable coverage.

3- Government control: Security media faces challenges with regard to freedom of expression and government control, which affects their ability to transmit information independently.

4- Electronic threats: The security media is exposed to increasing threats from electronic attacks, which requires strengthening digital security measures.

5- Sectarian and ethnic tension: Sectarian and ethnic tension in Iraq can lead to aggravation of relations within the media community, reflecting social and political challenges.

Despite these challenges, security media remains an essential tool in conveying information, educating the public about security events, and enhancing transparency and trust in security institutions.

Chapter four

Opportunities available to Iraq in employing security media

Iraq has great opportunities to employ security media and turn it into an important opportunity to enhance security and communication. This can be achieved by training media cadres on the concepts of security and maintaining social peace. Information technology can also be invested to improve monitoring and rapid interaction with security challenges, and enhance communication between security agencies. The media can contribute to conveying effective messages and building a deeper understanding of security issues among the public, as follows:

1- Developing the media infrastructure: Investing in improving and modernizing the media infrastructure can contribute to facilitating the effective and rapid transmission of security information.

2- Training media cadres: Providing specialized training programs for journalists and workers in the field of security media to enhance their skills and deep understanding of security issues.

3- Using social media: Taking advantage of the enormous capabilities of social media to disseminate security information immediately and reach wide segments of the public.

4- Strengthening international cooperation: establishing partnerships with international media to exchange information and highlight joint security efforts.

5- Organizing media events: Organizing conferences and workshops on security issues to highlight challenges and achievements.

We conclude that employing security media in Iraq is a vital opportunity to improve national security and enhance communication between security authorities and citizens. By exploiting these opportunities effectively, significant progress can be made towards building a safe and stable society.

Conclusion

At the conclusion of this research, the importance of security media in Iraq is clearly demonstrated as a vital tool for directing public opinion and conveying security information accurately and effectively, and the challenges facing this sector appear, and in light of the current circumstances, the role of security media is highlighted in helping society understand the security challenges it faces. Iraq, and enhancing cooperation to confront common threats.

Recommendations:

1- Strengthening cooperation between the security services and various media departments, and not withholding necessary information from the public.

2- Do not falsify the facts.

3- Taking advantage of the communication and interaction capabilities provided by social media networks in serving the objectives of security media, especially in the areas of security awareness.

4- Implementing organized media campaigns aimed at directing and supporting the public towards increasing security awareness.

5- Establishing a security media center that includes specialists from the Ministries of Interior and Defense, National Security, the Intelligence Service, and the Media and Communications Authority.

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