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industrial development problems in Baghdad Governorate

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Abstract

In order to achieve significant and effective results through industrial development, the necessary means and mechanisms for this shall be secured, represented by real political will and sustainable institutional construction to accommodate the dimensions of industrial spatial development, legislation and regulations that would ensure integration and consistency between the dimensions of industrial development. Industry in Baghdad governorate is not without problems, including those related to Industrial establishments, the problem of energy and infrastructure, and problems that pertain to industrial development itself (economic, social, administrative, legislative, environmental) and these problems would impede industrial development; Here, it is necessary to work on effective handling to reduce them and advance the status of the industrial sector and its development. The research has reached conclusions, including that the unstable political situation, wars, conflicts and political divisions within the unstable government tendencies led to the accumulation of these problems, which reflected negatively on the industry and the prevalence of administrative corruption that It caused negative effects on the industrial sector through weak industrial investment, flight of funds outside the country, lack of job opportunities, continued unemployment, absence of industrial plans, emigration of scientific competencies and experienced people, as well as neglect of infrastructure and low quality in industrial production, especially in the public industrial sector, from the foregoing findings of the research. To important suggestions for the purpose of achieving the objectives of industrial development in the province of Baghdad.

Keywords

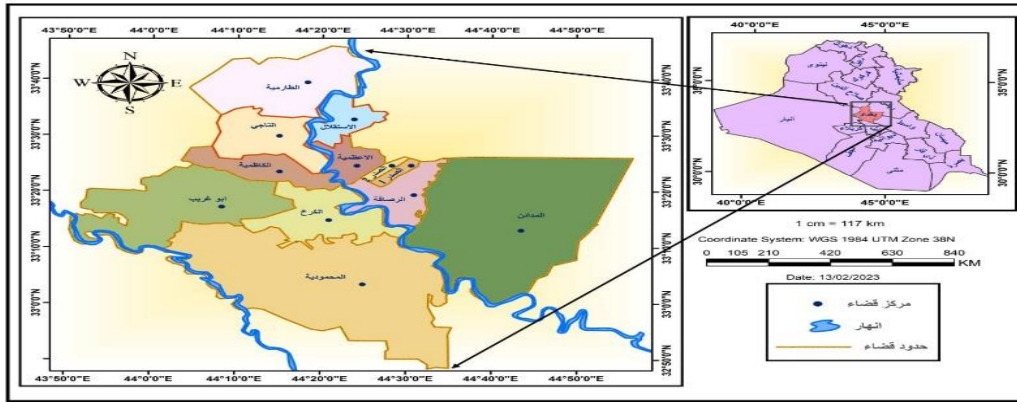
development - industry - industrial development

Introduction

The experience of industrial development in Iraq, especially in the province of Baghdad, has gone through various stages that have witnessed the development and sometimes a clear decline in the level of industrial development movement, as this has been linked to the nature of economic, social, political and security events that have educated Iraq in general and the province of Baghdad in particular, which reflected negatively on the decline of industrial development and led to the accumulation of many problems that significantly affected industrial development in the province. Iraq, especially the province of Baghdad, is one of the recent and continuous studies that receive international and national attention, especially by the United Nations, which has long emphasized the importance of the subject of industrial development through the issuance of many international reports, the most recent of which was the report (sustainable development) announced by the United Nations in 2016, which committed countries to implement the goals of the sustainable development plan, as this was mentioned in the ninth goal of its objectives, which are: (Building a flexible infrastructure, promoting comprehensive and sustainable industrialization and encouraging innovation), which must be achieved in the countries of the world, including Iraq until 2030). Therefore, the current research problem is facing industrial development problems Economic, social and political without real treatments or development plans in the province of Baghdad? The answer to this is according to the hypothesis that the decline of industrial development has been linked to various economic, social and political conditions, so addressing the reality of industrial development towards the development of levels according to future development trends with the development of specific development plans and goals with time dimensions in which to address and reduce these problems and identify them. The research methodology came in the data collection and information and review the official departments in the province of Baghdad to obtain them, as well as office work, which is to see the sources related to the subject of books, references, research, periodicals, letters, and field study through field visits to industrial sites, observations, personal interviews and extrapolation of the current reality.

Research Limits: The research limits for Baghdad Governorate are as follows

- 1- The spatial dimension: It is represented in the province of Baghdad within its administrative units, which extend over an area of (4555) km² in (12) administrative district, which is the study area, which represents part of the total area of the Republic of Iraq, amounting to (435052) km² and as shown in the map and table(1)



Map (1) Administrative Spatial Boundaries of Baghdad Governorate
 Source: From the work of the researcher based on: Republic of Iraq,
 Ministry of Water Resources, General Commission for Survey, 2022

Table (1) The area and percentage of Baghdad Governorate districts (%) for the year (2022)

No.	Name of the district	Area (km ²)	Percentage
1	Karkh	301	7
2	Kadhimiya	179	4
3	Taji	227	5
4	Tarmiya	291	6
5	Abu Ghraib	612	13
6	Al-Mahmudiyah	1209	26
7	Rasafa	230	5
8	Adhamiya	119	3
9	autonomy	128	3
10	Al sadr 1	116	3
11	Al sadr 2	84	2
12	Madain###	1059	23
Total		4555	100

Source: Baghdad Provincial Council, Planning Department, unpublished data, 2022

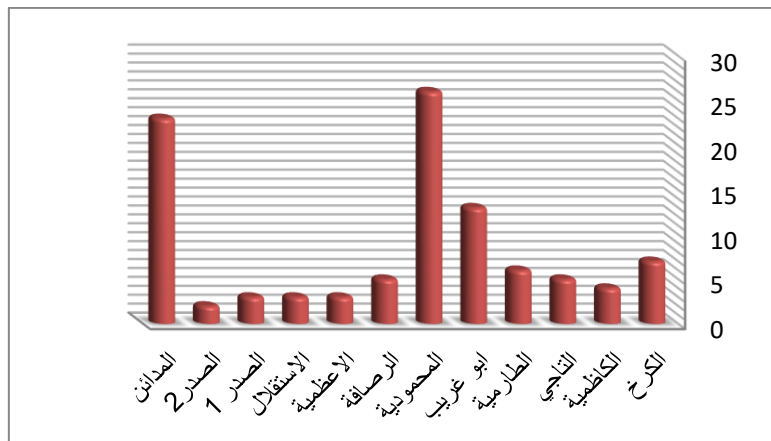


Figure (1) A graphic representation of the area and percentage of the districts of Baghdad Governorate (%) for the year (2022)

Source : The researcher's work based on table (1) data

2-The temporal dimension: The temporal dimension is a study of the status of industrial development in the province of Baghdad for the years (2010- 2022).

I. Economic Problems

One of the most common economic obstacles is what is known as the vicious circle of poverty, which formed one of the most important development obstacles in Iraq, especially in recent decades, with the low level of savings, which led to a decrease in the level of income for individuals, which in turn affected the decline in purchasing power, which eroded the lack of national production and its limitation in the markets, which was reflected in the deterioration of institutional and economic structures in all economic sectors. This was accompanied by an increase in the population and a decline in food security due to several reasons, including climate changes, wars and the unstable security and political situation in Iraq. As well as the openness of markets in Iraq to imported products and the non-activation of the law to protect the local product and the customs tariff law, which led to weak competition of local production of imported products with high production requirements of energy, fuel and raw materials. The result was a low contribution of local goods in the market and a cycle of scarcity of capital and low accumulation, and a cycle of technical and technological underdevelopment and obsolescence of machinery and machinery in the industrial sector, especially in the public sector, such as in the leather industry, textile, wool and cotton factories, and a lack of access to raw materials, especially imported main and secondary. The failure to ensure the continuity of access to these materials and according to the times and quantities required, as a result of the political, security and economic conditions of the country as well as the high prices and transport costs⁽¹⁾, as these episodes should be addressed and limit their expansion in the economy, especially the industrial sector, so that the expansion of this phenomenon will destroy the national industry and undermine its pillars and weaken its competitiveness through low production and sales rate of industrial products, which entails a decline in the volume of revenues and increase economic losses in light of the expansion of this phenomenon.

II. Social problems

These obstacles are:⁽²⁾

- 1-The low level of education and the increase in illiteracy rates among the population, which leads to a low level of technical skill and a low level of income.
- 2-The weak link between education and productive fields, that is, there is no coordination between the productive and educational institutions of the state through the inputs and outputs of education, and the most important of these institutions are vocational schools and universities specialized in the rehabilitation of students with scientific

(1) Mohammed Delf Ahmed Al-Dulaimi and Fawaz Ahmed Al-Mousa , Geography of Development Concepts - Theories - Application, 2nd Edition, 2009, pp.50-53
^{Ibid.}, p. 34.

- specialties that provide industrial establishments with skilled labor.
- 3- Weak capabilities for training and qualification that give the accumulated experience to the labor force.
 - 4-The use of undeveloped methods in the production process, which limits development and development.
 - 5- Low level of health due to the lack of availability of health centers and modern hospitals and health service of doctors in industrial establishments, especially for the labor force, which causes a low level of ability to work in the labor force.

III. Administrative problems

The administrative obstacles are evident in the pattern of investment decisions, as we find that the organizations that make investment decisions are advisory organizations in ministries and government institutions, especially the Ministry of Industry and Planning and the Provincial Council, which draws up plans and policies and are implemented by sectoral organizations . Cooperation between these institutions, as it is clear that the administrative and bureaucratic organization is an obstacle to the development and advancement of many sectors, including the industrial sector, as there is no cooperation and organization between the competent organizations and ministries on the central and decentralized administrative side at the national level on the one hand and cooperation between institutions In the region on the other hand, and also the phenomenon of administrative corruption and its negative repercussions suffered by Iraq, especially after the events of (2003) and for many reasons, including the weakness of the rule of law and the absence of control in government institutions and the protection of spoilers in the pyramid, which results in the emergence of negative effects in the economic sectors, including the industrial sector, so the phenomenon of administrative corruption is one of the main obstacles and challenges facing sustainable industrial development in Iraq and the province of Baghdad in particular as it constitutes a major obstacle to any industrial activity, as the principle of quotas in the process The political system of Iraq, which has been applied in all sectors and government institutions, including the Ministry of Industry, Minerals and Planning and the smallest government institution, has led to the exclusion of men of experience and scientific competencies that have accumulated experience in the industrial sector and marginalize their role and fight them in real work or develop effective plans to save the industrial sector from destruction and destruction, which led to their exclusion, marginalization and migration of the majority of them out of Iraq.

The forms and manifestations of administrative corruption and its mechanisms have become clear and known in Iraq as follows: (3)

- 1-Overtaking public money:** This is done by using the functional influence of some men in order to achieve partisan and personal benefits.
- 2- Smuggling of funds:** Due to the instability of the country in its overall political, security, economic and social conditions, this has led to an increase in the smuggling

(1) Nasser Obaid Nasser , The phenomenon of corruption , Dar Al-Mada for Culture and Publishing , Damascus, 2012, p. 79

of funds out of the country .

3- Exploitation of public government positions: Many owners of public government positions resort to exploiting their important positions to achieve financial gains and operate their own business.

4- Nepotism and patronage: There are some officials who work for a political party or a certain party to which they belong or the blocs responsible for it and work to favor one party over another without the right and disable industrial investment contracts or pay them to incompetent parties affiliated with officials and influencers.

Therefore, administrative corruption is one of the main obstacles that cause negative effects on the industrial sector in Iraq and the province of Baghdad, especially through weak industrial investment and the smuggling of money outside the country and the lack of employment opportunities and continued unemployment and underemployment and the absence of industrial plans and the migration of scientific competencies and experts in the industrial sector and waste of public money and the great material cost of corruption, especially in the Ministry of Industry and Minerals and the weakness and neglect of infrastructure and low quality in industrial production, especially in the public industrial sector, As the data and studies of international organizations concerned with transparency and anti-corruption, administrative corruption in Iraq costs the country large amounts up to billions of the volume of GDP, and on this basis Iraq has become in advanced positions in the ranking of the most corrupt countries in the world, as Iraq's ranking in the global corruption scale for (2020) ranked fifth in the Arab world after Sudan and ranked (12) globally among (180) Therefore, it is not expected that Iraq will rise developmentally without correcting the path of development and reducing and eliminating the manifestations of administrative corruption in institutions, including industrial sector institutions, the state and those in charge of governance should The government today is ever concerned with moving not to maximize the personal benefits of politicians, but to make the economy based on organizational investment and efficient resources, and find a real investment strategy to promote the vital industrial sector, which is the basis for the advancement of the economy of Iraq and the province of Baghdad specifically along with the oil sector and other economic sectors.

IV. Legal and legislative problems

The legal and legislative system requires the development of social and economic structures in accordance with the development in the world in all fields. Failure to change the existing laws results in an imbalance in the economic and social conditions on the one hand and the legal and legislative system on the other. These laws include the right to own property, which is an obstacle in the development of the industrial sector, including the establishment of industrial zones and the future expansion of the industrial sector, which requires amending the legislation of the right to property to serve the public interest, as well as inherited laws that increase underdevelopment and restrict the procedures for establishing industrial projects. The industry is subject to incapacitating, routine, inflexible and non-transparent laws that do not respond to the change and development taking place in the world. Therefore, industrial development in addition to legislation and laws requires

decisions related to their implementation to be legally binding for all state institutions and individuals in society.

V. Political problems

It is represented in the political instability in Iraq and wars and political tendencies and divisions within the government trends are unstable, which led to weak investment and discourage capital owners to invest⁽⁴⁾, and this is very clear to a country such as Iraq exhausted by wars and tendencies and the American occupation, especially after the events of (2003), as the occupation destroyed vital sectors, including the industrial sector, which made it unable to keep pace with the progress and development in production and rely only on the oil resource within the extractive industries and exploitation of its interest through investment by affiliated companies.

VI. Technical and technological problems

The technical and technological development has become the distinctive character at the present time. There has been a positive change in the industrial production processes by introducing development in all industrial fields, including machinery, scientific and communication technologies, as shown in picture (1), as well as methods, innovations and discoveries, and the introduction of modern materials instead of the old ones in order to raise the industrial production level ⁽⁵⁾ The problem of technological technologies in the industrial facilities in the province of Baghdad is the obsolescence of the machines and machines used in those facilities. The equipment is characterized by its age, exceeding its life span, lack of production efficiency, large size and permanent malfunction, as it has become uneconomical and useless, as well as the additional costs borne by government institutions for the public sector and some of the private sector from frequent malfunction, maintenance and repair.



Picture(1) CNC machine programmed to cut, punch and seal metal sections in Al-Samoud Company in Taji District

(1) Salem Tawfiq Najafi and Mohammed Saleh Al-Quraishi , Introduction to Development Economics, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Mosul University, 1988, p. 53.

(2) Hassan Mahmoud Ali Al-Hadithi, Industrial Technological Progress and the Future of Regional Development, Journal of the Iraqi Geographical Society, University of Baghdad, Faculty of Arts, 1991, p. 5.

Source: Source: Field Study, taken on 20/2/2022

Not to mention the political and economic conditions experienced by Iraq in all fields, including the industrial sector of siege, wars and disputes, which made it not keep pace with the technical and technological development, which reflected negatively on the possibility of developing and changing machines and machines in general, except for some industrial establishments of the private sector, as modern advanced technologies were introduced in work, especially in metal industrial establishments, where a CNC machine was used, which means digital control using computers. With the beginning of the use of this technology, there was a remarkable development in manufacturing, which relied on labor and consumed a lot of time, capital and effort, as well as the occurrence of errors in manufacturing. With the use of the above technology, it contributed to reducing production time and costs, no matter how complex the product is. Modern technology systems became an important part of the industrial system that uses industrial integration methods (CIM). The manufacturing mechanism is characterized by product design to store it with high accuracy. Digital control systems are used in all manufacturing processes to be represented by digital steps and successive processes such as welding using laser as shown in the picture(2)



Image(2) Modern programmed CNC machine works by cutting, punching and stamping metal sections for the private sector in Abu Ghraib district
Source: Field Study, taken on 25/2/2022

One of the disadvantages of the old machines is the difficulty of obtaining spare parts for the machines and the cost of repair and maintenance is high, and the low productivity due to the consumption of these machines as well as the cause of environmental pollution. In order to reduce these disadvantages, we should keep pace with the technical and technological development in the industry and work to modernize the means of production, and the introduction of a new technology that works according to the advanced electronic system that reduces the work, time and effort of the workforce and reduces the costs of maintenance and repair and upgrading the technical level and efficiency of the product. It is clear to us through the field study that most industrial establishments of the public sector use technologies and machines of poor quality imported from foreign countries such as metal, textile, leather and food industrial establishments and the presence of old

machines in some industrial establishments (6) As shown in the picture (3)



Picture (3) of one of the malfunctioning machines in the metal industrial facility for the public sector in Al-Nasr Company in Taji District

Source: Field Study, dated 5/3/2022

The cessation of some facilities led to the disappearance of machines and their inability to work, such as paper and electrical industrial facilities in the Taji district and construction in Nahrawan and concrete panels in Abu Ghraib. As for the industrial facilities of the private sector, some machines are modern and some of them are old. Therefore, the industry in Baghdad governorate suffers from a low technical and industrial level that works to confuse and limit the industry. Therefore, the government, decision-makers and institutions with the public and private sector should be aware of all these obstacles and reduce them by developing effective and successful strategies characterized by their flexibility and renewability, and their sensitivity to economic and social obstacles in Baghdad governorate.

Conclusions and suggestions

- 1-The unstable political situation, wars, tendencies and political divisions within the unstable government trends led to the accumulation of economic and social problems, which reflected negatively on industry in the province of Baghdad.
- 2-The spread of administrative corruption, which causes negative effects on the industrial sector in Iraq and the province of Baghdad, especially through weak industrial investment and the flight of money outside the country and the lack of job opportunities and the continued unemployment and underemployment and the absence of industrial plans and the migration of scientific competencies and experts as well as the weakness and neglect of infrastructure and low quality in industrial production, especially in the general industrial sector.
- 3- The industry suffers from the use of technological techniques in industrial facilities in the province of Baghdad from the obsolescence of the machines and machines used in

(1) Field study, for industrial establishments in Baghdad Governorate, for the period (1/2/2022-1/5/2022)

those facilities and the equipment is characterized by its old age, exceeding its life span, lack of production efficiency, large size and permanent malfunction.

With that being said , the research can present a number of proposals that would work to reduce the problems facing industrial development in the province of Baghdad.

- 1- Activating effective government laws and legislations aimed at the development of the industrial sector, including combating administrative corruption and protecting the local product and customs tariffs on foreign goods, as well as the local or foreign investment law.
- 2-The rehabilitation and reconstruction of stalled industrial facilities and infrastructure will have a positive impact on the development of the industrial sector.
- 3-Introducing modern technology in the industry and working to modernize the means of production, and introducing a new technology that works according to the advanced electronic system that reduces work, time and effort.

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