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# Geographical analysis of the participation rate in the parliamentary elections of Diyala Governorate for the year 2021

#### Ali Sahib Abbas Al-Taei

University of Babylon - College of Education for Humanities - Department of Geography

Email: alisaheeb1198@gmail.com

## Prof. Dr. Zaid Ali Hussein Al-Khafaji

University of Babylon - College of Education for Humanities - Department

of Geography

Email: Zaidalkhafagi85@gmail.com

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#### **Abstract**

The issue of electoral participation is one of the most important topics that have an important and clear impact on the manner and legitimacy of the transfer of power, until it became a phenomenon based on the cultural and political awareness of the voters. The study dealt with the participation rate in the elections in the international, second, third and fourth constituencies, as the study concluded that the voter turned out amounted to 44.1% throughout Diyala governorate, i.e. 55.9% of the voters did not cast their votes in the elections for the year 2021, and the number of voters reached Voters 462,913 out of a total of 1,047,767 voters, and the participation rates also varied in the four constituencies, with the highest percentage of voting in the third constituency reaching 48.5%, with a number of votes amounting to 111,174 voters out of a total of 229,083 voters. Voters, while the participation rate in the first constituency was 44.2%, the second constituency 41.8%, the third constituency 48.5%, and the fourth constituency 42% of the total number of voters. The clan has an important impact in supporting its candidates who fall under the banner of the clan or tribe and abide by its promises away from the principle of electoral and national culture in choosing the fittest and most qualified regardless of political or clan affiliation. Clan affiliation was clearly and significantly affected, as their orientation in the voting process was based on loyalty to the tribe and clan,

and this appeared through the great voting support for some candidates by the clan chief and his sons. Human factors also had a clear influence on the voters' behavior in terms of choosing the candidate or even his electoral participation. lack thereof .

## **Keywords**

participation rate, electoral participation, turnout rate, geographical analysis

#### Introduction

Since elections are a behavior and an organizational method for political human activity that is linked to geographical characteristics, and since knowing the effects that these characteristics leave on the behavior of voters in the electoral process is one of the most prominent features that distinguishes the geography of elections and the field of research, just as the study of geographical analysis of the results of the electoral process, which in turn Interested in studying the electoral behavior of voters and studying the natural and human geographical characteristics affecting this behavior. The role of the human factor emerged in particular in the study area more influential, represented by the size of the population and their age, gender, environmental and clan composition, as well as the social, economic and political characteristics, all of which combined to form geographical support areas for competing candidates. In the electoral process, the importance of studying these characteristics comes to the political geographer because they affect the voting behavior of individuals, and thus this behavior affects the final results of the elections.

First: the research problem

-Do geographical characteristics have an impact on the geographical variation in electoral participation in Diyala Governorate?

## Second: the research hypothesis

-Yes, there is a strong relationship between the geographical characteristics and the geographical variation in the electoral participation rate in Diyala Governorate.

## Third: the aim of the research

The research aims to know the voters' attitudes in voting participation, as well as to determine the extent of the spatial disparity in the electoral behavior of the voters between the four constituencies of Diyala Governorate, according to the influence of geographical characteristics on the size of the electoral participation rate.

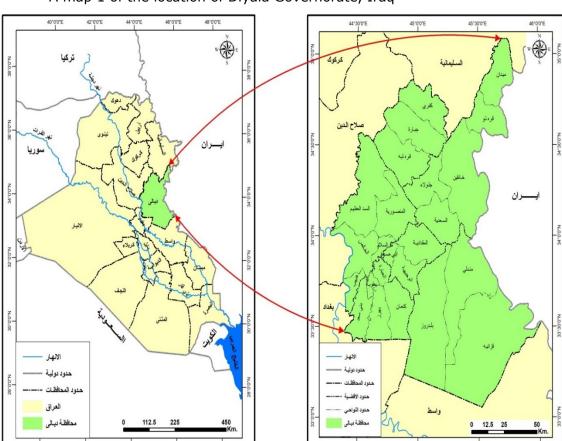
#### Fourth: Research Methodology

The spatial and spatial approach was followed, and they are among the approaches used in the geography of elections.

#### Fifth: The boundaries of the search area

,located astronomically between latitudes 33.3-35.6 north and longitudes 44.22-45.56 east, with an area of 17685 km2. The study area consists of 21 administrative units located in The central part of Iraq is bordered by the provinces of Baghdad and Salah al-Din to the west, Sulaymaniyah to the north, Wasit province to the south, and the international border with Iran to the east . , as shown in the map 1.

As for the temporal limits of the study , they were represented by the parliamentary elections for the Iraqi Council of Representatives for the year 2021 in Diyala Governorate.



A map 1 of the location of Diyala Governorate, Iraq

Source: Republic of Iraq, Ministry of Water Resources, Directorate of Public Survey, Administrative Map of Iraq, 2021, scale 1:1,000,000, and program outputs, Arc Map 10.4.

first topic : the geographical distribution of voter turnout in the 2021 Diyala governorate elections

First: The geographical distribution of participation in the four constituencies in the Diyala governorate elections for the year 2021

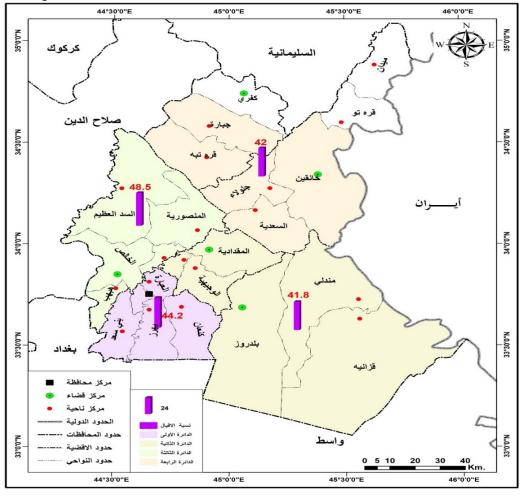
The number of actual voters in the Diyala governorate elections reached 462,913 out of the total number of voters 1,047,767, with a turnout rate of 44.1%, as shown in Table 1 and Map 2.

Table 1 The voting participants in the 2021 elections, according to the four constituencies of Diyala Governorate

Circle	The number of registered voters	The number of voters	% turnout
The first	355840	157,586	2 ,44
the second	250103	104593	41,8
Third	9083 2 2	111174	48,5
Fourth	212741	89560	42
the total	1047767	462,913	44,1

Source: From the researcher's work, based on the data of the Independent High Electoral Commission, Diyala office, unpublished data, 2021.

 $\mbox{{\sc Map}}$  2 Voter turnout rates in the 2021 Diyala governorate elections, according to the four constituencies



كثافة التغابية عامة كثافة تصويتية

Source: based on the data of Table 1.

It is clear from table 1 that the voter turnout amounted to 44.4% in the whole of Diyala governorate, meaning that 55.9% of the voters registered in the registration register of the Commission did not cast their votes in the 2021 elections.

We also note that the percentage of participation in the constituencies of the study area varied, as the highest percentage of voters was in the third constituency at 48.5% of the total number of voters in the constituency, while the percentage of voting in the first constituency was 44.2% and the second constituency at 44.2%. 41.8%, the third district with 48.5%, and the fourth district with 42% of the total number of voters in each district.

We will explain this discrepancy in the participation rates between the four constituencies in Diyala Governorate by dividing their constituencies into three levels:

- 1- The first level: a constituency in which the voting percentage was lower than the general average for the governorate 44.1%, the district center of Al-Muqdadiya, Abi Saida, Al-Wajihiyah, and the district center of Balad Rose, Qazania, and Mandali , with a voting rate of 41.8%, with a number of voters amounting to 104,593 voters. Their percentage is 22% of the total voters in Diyala Governorate , and this category also included the fourth constituency, i.e. the district center of Khanaqin, Jalawla, Al-Saadiya, Jubara, Qara Taba and Qazaniyeh, with a vote rate of 42%, and the number of voters reached 89560, i.e. 19% of Total county voters.
- 2- The second level: constituencies in which the voting rate was similar to the general average for the governorate 44.2%. This level included the first constituency, which is the district center of Baqubah, Kanaan, Bani Saad, Buhriz, and Al-Abara, with a vote rate of 44.2%, with a number of voters amounting to 157586, with a percentage of 34. % of the total county vote.
- 3- The third level: a constituency in which the voting rate was higher than the general average for the governorate 44.1%. This level includes the third constituency with its districts, the district of Al-Khalis, Al-Azim, Habheb, Al-Mansouriya and Al-Salam, with a voting rate of 48.5%, with a number of 11174 voters, and their percentage is 24. % of the total number of voters, and the participation rate increased in the third constituency as a result of the tendency of clans and tribes residing within this constituency to support their candidates, especially in rural areas . B away from religious meetings and speeches.

## Second: Voting turnout in the first electoral district

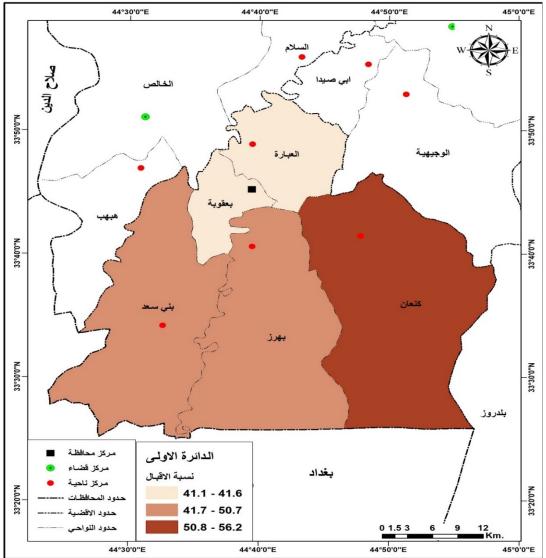
The number of actual voters in the first constituency reached 157,586, equivalent to 34% of the total voters for the four constituencies, and a turnout rate of 44.2% of the total number of voters in the first constituency, as shown in Table 2 and map 3.

Table 2 The percentage of actual voters in the 2021 Diyala governorate elections in the first constituency

The first circle	The number of registered voters	The number of actual voters	% turnout
Baquba district center	194,951	80144	41,1
Canaan	27763	15598	56,2
Bani Saad	47357	22952	48,4
Bahrz	34842	17695	50,7
Phrase	50927	21197	41,6
the total	355840	157,586	44,3

Source: From the researcher's work, based on the data of the Independent High Electoral Commission, Diyala office, unpublished data, 2021.

Map 3 Voter turnout rates in the 2021 Diyala Governorate elections, according to the regions of the first constituency



Source: Based on the data of Table 2.

By looking at Table 2 and Map 3, it shows us the following: The voter turnout in the first constituency amounted to 44.2%, which is approximately 55.8% of the number of voters who did not participate in the 2021 elections within this constituency.

1- The voter turnout in the 2021 elections varied in the first constituency, as the highest turnout rate was recorded in the Canaan region 56.2%, while the district center and Al-Abara recorded the lowest voter turnout 41.1% and 41.6%, respectively. Saad 48.4% and Buhriz 50.7%.

We can translate this discrepancy in voting rates between the regions of the first electoral district into: The first category: areas in which the percentage of votes was higher than the general average for the first district 44.3%. It included the Canaan region, with a voter turnout of 56.2%, with a number of voters amounting to 15,598 voters, i.e. 9.89% of the total number of voters in the first constituency. It also included the Buhriz region,

with a turnout of 50.7% of the total number of its voters. The adult is 17695 voters, their percentage is 11.22% of the total voters of the first district, as well as the Bani Saad region, with a turnout of 48.4%, with the number of voters 22952 voters, and their percentage is 14.56% of the total voters of the first district.

The reason for the high voter turnout in these areas is due to the tribal, tribal and rural nature prevailing in these areas. The clan had a major role in supporting its candidates or adhering to its promises to one of the candidates or political parties, far from being committed to the principle of patriotism and electoral culture in choosing the fittest, regardless of his affiliation.

1- The second category: areas in which the voting percentage was lower than the general average for the first district 44.3%.

It included the Baqubah district center with a turnout of 41.1% with a number of voters amounting to 80144 voters, i.e. 50.85% of the total voters in the constituency, and the phrase also with a turnout of 41.6% with a number of voters It reached 21,197 voters, representing 13.45% of the total number of voters in the first district.

The reason behind the reluctance to participate in the electoral process is due to the voter's lack of confidence in the electoral process and their belief that it is useless, similar to the electoral processes or previous sessions in which no tangible change occurred. In providing the services that the voters aspire to.

Third: Voting turnout in the second constituency

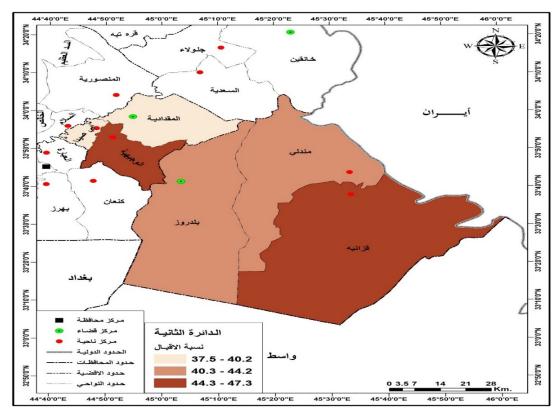
Where the number of voters in the second constituency reached 104,593, equivalent to 22.59% of the total actual voters in the four constituencies, with a turnout of 41.8% of the total voters in the second constituency, as in the table 3 and map 4.

Table 3 The percentage of actual voters in the Diyala governorate elections for the year 2021 in the second constituency

and year zezz in the second constituency			
The second circle	The number of registered voters	The number of actual voters	% turnout
Muqdadiya district center	102202	41169	40,2
Abi Saida	29,778	11172	37,5
relevance	25680	11778	45,8
Baladruz district center	62082	27480	44,2
Mandalay	21419	8761	40,90
Kazanya	8942	4233	47,33
the total	250103	104593	41,8

Source: From the researcher's work, based on the data of the Independent High Electoral Commission, Diyala office, unpublished data, 2021.

Map 4 Voter turnout rates in the 2021 Diyala governorate elections, according to the regions of the second constituency



Source: Based on the data of Table 3.

## From Table 3 and Map 4, the following is clear to us:

- 1- The turnout rate for voting in the second constituency was 41.8%, i.e. 55.2% of the voters did not cast their ballots.
- 2- The discrepancy in participation rates in the 2021 elections in the second constituency, if the highest voter turnout was in Qazaniyah 47.33% and Wajihiyah 45.8%, Balad Ruz district center 44.2%. The lowest participation rate was recorded within this constituency. In the regions of Abi Saida, with a turnout rate of 37.5%, the center of Al-Muqdadiya district 40.2%, and Mandali 40.9%. This discrepancy can be translated into voting rates between the regions of the second constituency by dividing them into two categories:
- 1– The first category: regions in which the voting rate was higher than the general average for the second constituency 41.8% . The total number of voters in the second constituency, and the Al-Wajihiyah region, with a turnout of 45.8%, with a number of 11778 voters, and their percentage was 11.26% of the total number of voters in the second constituency, and the district center of Balad Ruz district, with a rate of 44.2%, with a voter turnout of 44.2%. Their number is 27,480 voters, at a rate of 26.27% of the total number of voters in the second district.
- 2- The second category: areas in which the voting percentage was lower than the general average in the second constituency 41.8%

It included the Abu Saida region with a turnout of 37.5% and the number of voters in the second district, Baquba district center 40.2% with a number of voters amounting to 41169 voters and their percentage 39.36% of the total

voters in the second district, and the Mandali region with a rate of Turnout amounted to 40.90%, with a number of voters amounting to 8761 voters, and their percentage was 8.37% of the total voters in the second constituency.

Fourth: Voting turnout in the third constituency

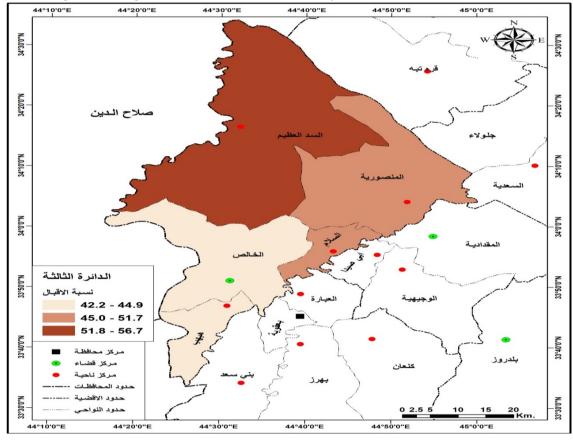
The number of voters in the third constituency was 111,174, equivalent to 24.1% of the total number of actual voters in the four constituencies, with a turnout of 48.5% of the total number of voters in the third constituency, as shown in Table 4 and a map 5.

Table 4 The percentage of actual voters in the Diyala governorate elections for the year 2021 in the third constituency

Third district	The number of registered voters	The number of actual voters	% turnout
Al-Khalis district center	52472	22188	42,2
the great	52332	29706	56,7
bhb	65008	29204	44,9
Mansourieh	37368	18745	50,1
peace	21903	11331	51,7
the total	229083	111174	48,5

Source: From the researcher's work, based on the data of the Independent High Electoral Commission, Diyala office, unpublished data, 2021.

Map 5 Voter turnout rates in the 2021 Diyala Governorate elections, according to the regions of the third constituency



Source: Based on the data of Table 4

## From Table 4 and Map 5, the following can be seen:

- 1- The turnout rate in the third constituency was 48.5%, which is equivalent to 51.5% of the total number of voters who did not cast their votes in the 2021 elections.
- 2- There is a discrepancy in the percentage of voting participation in the 2021 elections in the third constituency, as the highest participation rate was recorded in Al-Azim, which amounted to 56.7%, and the participation rate in Al-Khalis district center reached 42.2%, Hibb 44.9%, and Mansouriya 50.0%. 1% and peace 51.7%.

We can translate this discrepancy in the percentage of votes in the third constituency by dividing it into two categories:

1- The first category: areas where the participation rate was higher than the general rate in the third constituency 48.5%

It included Al-Azim, with a voter turnout of 56.7%, as the number of its voters amounted to 29,706 voters, i.e. a turnout rate of 26% of the total number of voters in the third constituency, and Al-Salam, with a rate of 51.7%, with a number of voters amounting to 11,331 voters, i.e. 10% of the voters of the third constituency, and it also included Mansouriya with a turnout of 50.1%, as the number of its votes reached 18745, with a vote rate of 16% of the total voters of the third constituency.

2- The second category: areas in which the voting percentage was lower than the average for the third constituency 48.5%

It included the Khalis District Center with a vote rate of 42.2% for the number of voters amounting to 22188 voters, i.e. 19% of the total voters in the constituency, and Hibb with a turnout rate of 44.9%, while the number of its voters amounted to 29204 voters and a percentage Turnout reached 26% of the total number of voters in the third constituency.

# Fifth: Voting participation rate in the fourth electoral district

Where the number of voters in the fourth constituency reached 89,560, equivalent to 19.34% of the total actual voters in the four constituencies, with a turnout of 42% of the total number of voters in the fourth constituency, as shown in Table 5 and map 6.

Table 5 The percentage of actual voters in the Diyala governorate elections for the year 2021 in the fourth constituency

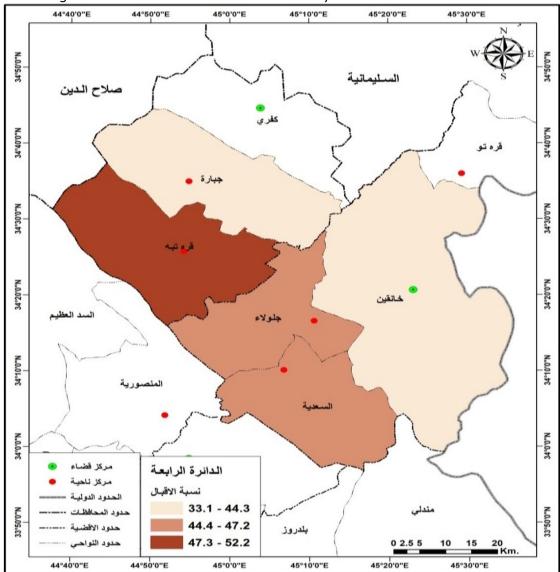
Fourth district	The number of registered voters	The number of actual voters	% turnout
Khanaqin district center	83961	27827	33,1
Jalawla	55615	26266	47,2
Saadia	32408	15083	46,5
Karataba	29323	15311	52,2
mighty	11434	5073	44,3
the total	212741	89560	42

Source: From the researcher's work, based on the data of the Independent High Electoral Commission, Diyala office, unpublished data, 2021.

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Map 6 Voter turnout rates in the 2021 Diyala governorate elections, according to the areas of the fourth constituency



Source: Based on the data of Table 5

From Table 5 and Map 6, the following can be seen:

- 1- The turnout rate in the fourth constituency was 42%, which is equivalent to 48% of the total number of voters in the fourth constituency. They did not participate in the 2021 elections.
- 2- The discrepancy in the percentage of vote participation in the 2021 elections was in the fourth constituency, where the highest participation rate was recorded in Qara Tappah 52.2%, and the participation rate was in the Khanaqin district center 33.1%, Jalawla 47.2% and Al-Saadiya 46.5% % and Jabara 44.3%.

This discrepancy in voting percentages in the fourth constituency can be translated into two categories:

1- The first category: areas in which the percentage of voting was higher than the general average in the fourth constituency 42%

It included Qara Taba, with a turnout of 52.2%, with a number of voters

amounting to 15311 voters, and a turnout of 17% of the total number of voters in the Fourth District, and Jalawla, with a vote rate of 47.2%, of 26266 voters, and a percentage of A turnout amounted to 29% of the total number of voters 15083 and a turnout rate of 16% of the total number of voters in the fourth constituency and also the Jabara region, with a vote rate of 44.3%, with a percentage of 5073 voters, with a rate of 5% Of the total votes of the fourth constituency.

2- The second category: areas in which the voting percentage was lower than the general average in the fourth constituency 42%

It included the Khanaqin district center, with a turnout of 33.1% of the total number of voters in the fourth district, with a number of voters amounting to 27,827 voters, and with a turnout of 31% of the total number of voters in the four districts in Diyala Governorate.

#### **Conclusions**

- 1- that rate participation in circles electoral for a region the study differentiated where reached higher rate for the voters in Circle Third And by 48.5% of Total voters total in Circle In what She was rate vote in Circle electoral The first 44.2% and the circle the second By 41.8% and the department Third By 48.5% and the department Fourth By 42% of sum voters in all circle .
- 2- Geographical characteristics natural and human have a clear effect on the voting behavior of voters when polling, and human characteristics are the most influential on voter behavior and determining voting participation rates, either the lack or absence of the effect of some natural characteristics because of the capabilities provided by the human factor to overcome natural obstacles to set an appropriate date For the election day, as well as choosing the appropriate polling center.
- 3- I came up with results the study field for a topic the study in governorate Diyala that rate big from voters He was affected them belonging clan affected Clear and big where He was direct them in practical vote on Basis loyalty for the tribe and clan and this is Back from during the support My vote Great For some candidates from before president clan And her children

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