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AI usage declaration

The authors declares that the content of this work were not generated using AI.

Author contribution

The authors have contributed solely to all aspects of this research work.

Ethics information

Ethics approval was not required for this research.

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The effect of exposure to Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israeli war on Kurdish users' perspective

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Abstract:

This study, which is entitled “The effect of exposure to Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israeli war on Kurdish users' perspective”, aims to investigate the impacts, in which exposing to Facebook's coverage of the Iran-Israel war; in particular the Kurdish accounts and pages, had on the Kurdish users' perspectives. To achieve this aim, the study employed survey method and a questionnaire form to collect data from a convenience sample of participants, which constituted of 400 Facebook users, to investigate their attitudes and opinions in this regard. A Google form for the questionnaire was designed by the researchers and distributed among the participants. The researchers resorted to a descriptive approach to interpret the results and SPSS software to manage and analyze the data. The results of this study show that exposure to the Kurdish Facebook accounts/pages regarding the Iran-Israel news and information had impacts on the Kurdish users' perspectives to the war, and what this war could lead to such as instability and panic, in addition to their viewpoints on the reasons and outcomes of the war.

Keywords: Facebook, news coverage, Iran-Israel war, Perspectives of social media users.

The Effect of Exposure to Facebook Coverage of the Iran-Israeli War on Kurdish Users' Perspective

1- Introduction

The Media in general, has a key role in society. It has an effective say in almost all sectors of our lives. During normal circumstances, it should help in building society and contribute to the development process, either by playing a watch role to observe the governments and authorities, or through increasing the awareness of the people in many sectors and in many ways. When it comes to social media platforms, the situation is different to some extent, since internet users are empowered through Web 2.0 to be a vital and active part in the media scene. Nowadays, ordinary citizens, who have even a limited skill of using media new technologies, can generate media content, post and publish contents, and comment and express their opinions, share ideas, and communicate with anyone. The proliferation of media new technologies, in turn, even accelerated and expanded the spread of information and content generation in a variety of forms and created a virtual space where individuals and groups can participate and have effects on each other's beliefs and perspectives.

To stay in parallel with and make use of the web 2.0, particularly with social media networks and platforms, almost all mainstream media channels resorted to these platforms by creating accounts and pages to stay in touch with their audiences on one hand, and to reach a wider audiences on the other. Thereby, the effects of social media platforms have become a controversial topic amidst academics and among other relevant parties, especially because these platforms could bring changes and the shape public sphere in society, mainly during conflicts and tensions. As such, this study focuses on a significant topic, which is examining the effects of exposure to Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israeli war on Kurdish users' perspectives. To achieve the objectives, the study has employed the necessary methodological procedures and drawn on theoretical literature. In the first chapter, a review of relevant literature is discussed, in addition to a background of the Iran-Israel conflict and hostility, and the effects of the media on society. In the second chapter, the methodological procedures are addressed, such as the problem statement, the significance of the study, the questions and the objectives of the study, the method, data collection, and sampling procedures. Finally, in chapter three, the findings and discussion of the results are presented in tables with adequate descriptive analysis of the results. At the end of this chapter, the conclusion and several suggestions for future academic work are provided.

2- Literature review:

This section is devoted to discussing the theoretical part of the study. It first reviews and presents several relevant literature, which examined and investigated the effects of social media on individuals' perspectives and attitudes. After the literature review, this part of the study provides a background of the conflict between Iran and Israel to understand the reasons for the war and its impacts on the neighboring countries. The impacts of social media and media on society in general will also be discussed.

With the evolution of social media platforms and emerging conflicts and wars, many studies have been conducted to explore and examine the effects, which the coverage of these platforms on the conflicts could have on the internet users' perspectives in the war zone or elsewhere in the world. Since war influences all aspects of life, various media channels address it, and a wide range of audiences will be exposed to the messages of these media channels. Social media platforms' advent and development have complicated the scene as internet users and ordinary audiences have become a vital part of generating content and dissemination them.

A relevant study entitled 'Social media users' perception of western media coverage of the Russian-Ukraine war', conducted by Utulu (2024), investigated social media users' perception of the role of western media coverage of the war between these two countries. The study employed a qualitative research approach to investigate users' responses to a question posed by an online discussion forum focused on the unbalanced coverage of the stories of both sides of the war. The study selected 113 responses of the social media platform users, who answered the question posed by the online discussion forum, which was "Why are we not hearing Russia's side of the story in the media to explain why they are fighting with Ukraine, and are there not always two sides to a story?". According to the results, the users were divided into two categories; one believed that the western media channels blocked news and information of the Russian side of the fight story, while the other category thought that the western media shows and disseminates news

of the Russian side of the story.

Moreover, another study entitled 'The Impact of Social Media on Conflict Perception: Case Studies of Russia-Ukraine and Gaza Conflicts', conducted in 2024 on both the Russia-Ukraine conflict and the Gaza war (Ghosh, 2024). The study provides an understanding of how social media platforms contribute to forming public opinion and perception during wars through dissemination of opinions, stories, and details of the wars. The researcher employed a mixed methods design, including quantitative and qualitative analysis, in particular content analysis and secondary data interpretation, to achieve the objectives. It concluded that social media platforms have considerable effects on shaping perceptions relevant to the Russia-Ukraine war and the Gaza conflict. According to the findings of the study, social media platforms have a significant role in conflicts and in peace building also (Ghosh, 2024, pp.22-23).

Other studies and articles have investigated the perceptions of the public, for instance, according to Tweissi (2025), during the Iran-Israel war, a considerable number of media contents such as texts, images, and videos were generated by AI technologies to manipulate people of both countries. These contents, which were later revealed that they are AI generated, were disseminated through social media broadly. This article also refers to the fact that during the war there were efforts of both sides to use news and information, whether factual, fake, or manipulated, as a weapon against each other. Furthermore, Tweissi (2025) argues that both countries tried to control information about the war and resorted to both traditional and social media platforms for a rapid, easy, and broad spread. As such, these media channels were a tactical tool for disseminating information to affect public opinion inside both countries and worldwide. Additionally, according to the article, one of the main battlefields nowadays is the virtual space, in which algorithms and AI technologies have a vital role to amplify and disseminate information and strengthen manipulation. Tweissi (2025) describes such use of content in social media platforms and traditional media channels as "weaponization" of information that targets beliefs, viewpoints, and feelings of people. To make effects, many tactics are used in these platforms and media channels, such as resorting to imitating people's experience and emotion, and suggesting many activities and actions, in addition to influencing our feelings in many ways. In terms of the war between Iran and Israel, the article stresses that both countries were concerned during the war with the way in which the world and local viewers look at their actions and responses to the war developments. Similar academic works have been conducted on the same topic, but in different areas. For example, 'The Gaza war coverage: the role of social media vs. mainstream media' is research that focuses on the media coverage of the war between Israel and Hamas in Gaza.

3 - Background of Iran-Israel: From alliance to enemy:

It is argued that Iran-Israel hostility and conflict dating back to almost 46 years ago in particular to the Islamic revolution in Iran in 1979, as the new government of Tehran accused America and Israel for the grievances, instability and the conflicts in the Middle East, which is why adopted a new policy against these two countries (Mehvar, 2025). Otherwise, both Iran and Israel once were allies, specifically from 1948-1979 and they had strong ties in different sectors. The tensions increased and escalated in the early 2000s, when in one hand, it was alleged that Tehran works to have a nuclear program, and on the other hand, in the aftermath of the collapse of Saddam Hussein regime in 2003 by the US-lead coalition powers, Iran was accused of imposing its domination and control across the region (Britannica, 2026). As such, it was argued also that Iran supported and backed some political and militant groups financially or by arming in the area, to guarantee its domination (BBC, 2025; Baumgartner, 2023; Kane, 2018). The conflict and hostility between them reached to the peak when Israel first launched a heavy air and missile strike on 13 June 2025 against Iranian military and nuclear sites in Tehran and other major cities of this country (BBC, 2025; DW, 2025; The New York Times, 2025; The Observer, 2025). The response from Iran also came soon in this war, which is known as the (Twelve-day war as it lasted from 13-24 June 2025) when Tehran conducted a series of strikes against Israel's different facilities (Goldberg, 2025).

4 - Impacts of media on society

Mass media is a powerful and vital tool in the society as it plays effective role to provide a wide range of significant information to the citizens and empower them to participate in the common debate, hold the authorities accountable, shape public opinion and perspective, and improve understanding (Gandini et al., 2025; Singh, 2025; Minges, 2023 and Puddephatt, 2006). The evolution of the digital media and the advent of Web 2.0 at the late 1990s, and the proliferation of communication new technologies and the advent of social media platforms, offered citizens a great access to information sources in one hand, and empowered them to participate in media content generating in the

other hand (Oggolder, 2015; Darwish and Lakhtaria, 2011). The traditional and mainstream media channels, which were known by the one way mass communication, also made their way into the new era by enhancing their presence on the internet. The mainstream media channels launched websites and granted their presence on popular social media platforms to reach more audiences, and expand, stay updated and relevant (Ahlers and Hessen, 2025; Ahern, 2025; and Auwal, 2016).

Concerning affecting people's perspective and opinion, the media is considered the essence pillar for shaping their attitudes. For example, (Dye, 2025; Galea, 2025; Happer and Philo, 2013) believe that media channels have the key role in shaping and forming the public's opinion by informing them in fields, which they do not have understanding or experience with. As such, there will be effects on their beliefs, attitudes, and perspectives to these fields. They also argue that when the audiences receive information through media channels, there will be changes and actions at the collective level. Eventually, this could affect audiences' attitudes, and in the long run, this could bring a social change. When it comes to social networking platforms, such effects are even more obvious as these platforms and media, and communication new technologies in general have become a vital part of the daily use of a considerable number of people around the world because of their features, which can be used for many purposes (Bendar, 2025). For individuals, such platforms act as a tool of communication, providing information, in addition to providing a medium to present their content and express themselves. The mainstream media channels, organizations and governments also use these platforms, particularly Facebook, to reach people (Chugh and Verma, 2016). Media channels, which aim to reach their audiences, rely to a great extent on their social media accounts on Facebook, to reach a wider number of people. As such, this study aims to investigate what effects the exposure to Facebook's coverage of the Iran-Israel war has on the Kurdish users' perspectives.

5- Research methodology:

This part of the study addresses the methodological procedures, problem of the study, questions, and objectives in addition to its significance.

1-5: Problem statement:

In a conflicted situation like war, problems and issues will emerge due to the many problematic and difficult circumstances that arise because of the war influences. For this study, the main problem is that there is a vague, and a lack of understanding of the effects the exposure of Facebook coverage had on the Kurdish users' perspectives towards Iran-Israel war (13- 24th June 2025), which lasted for 12 days.

2- 5: Research questions:

The main questions of this research are as following:

- 1- To what extent the exposure to the Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel affected the Kurdish users' perspective?
- 2- What are the impacts that exposure to the Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel war had on the Kurdish users?

3- 5: Research objectives:

This research attempts through answering the questions to achieve the following objectives:

- 1- Examining how and to what extent the exposure to Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel war information and news influenced the perspectives of the Kurdish users.
- 2- Exploring the impacts, that Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel war had on the Kurdish users' perspective.

4- 5: Significance of the study

This study is significant in several aspects. First, it offers a profound insight and understanding of the impacts that social media platforms have on those who have accounts on these platforms or check them on a regular basis. This creates a better awareness to using, dealing with, and absorbing the information on social media. It will also help other academics to benefit from this study for more academic works on this topic. Another significance is that this study is considered unique so far as it examines the effects of the Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel war on Kurdish users' perspective, as geographically they are located between the two warring parties, Iran and Israel, and were influenced

to some extent by the war.

5- 5: Research scopes:

The Iran-Israel war in 2025, which lasted 12 days (13-24 June), was covered in almost all media channels around the world, and was a significant controversial topic on social media platforms such as Facebook. This study focuses on the coverage of the Kurdish accounts and pages on Facebook of the Iran-Israel war during the 12 days of the war, and targets Kurdish Facebook users to investigate their perspectives.

6- Findings and discussions

In this part, the results and collected data are displayed in tables, presenting their repetition, percentage, mean, standard deviation, and other statistical results. Moreover, a descriptive analysis and discussion are provided for each table, and for the statistical results to provide a better understanding.

6: Questionnaire development:

To examine the influences of the Iran-Israel war coverage in 2025 on Facebook on the Kurdish users perspectives, the researchers employed a survey method with the use of a questionnaire form to measure the sample's perspectives.

The researchers reviewed previous relevant and similar literature conducted on the same topic to be aware of the field's gaps and to adapt best methodology for the current study. They first designed a questionnaire based on a 5-point Likert scale according to the objectives and the targeted sample of the study. It was sent to academic experts for scientific evaluation. As such, the researchers made changes and modified the questionnaire according to the experts' notes and comments. Second, the questionnaire was created in Google Form and eventually it was distributed among the participants who are Kurdish users of Facebook. The link of the Google Form was sent to the participants through Facebook Messenger, chat applications, and it was also posted on the Facebook groups to be filled out.

2- 6: Reliability and validity of the questionnaire:

To measure the reliability of the questionnaire and develop a reliable form, it was sent to academic experts¹ by the researchers in order to get their perspectives and evaluation to adapt a more reliable survey questionnaire. After it was received back from the evaluators and taking their notes into consideration, the proportion of the accordance between the original questionnaire and the evaluators' notes and comments was (95.98%), which is acceptable and reliable scientifically.

In terms of the validity of the questionnaire, the Alpha Cronbach formula was applied, and the result was 0.81. This means the questionnaire is valid to a good extent.

3- 6: Sampling and statistical procedure:

To achieve the objectives of the study, the researchers chose a sample of those who use Facebook and have accounts/pages on this social networking platform. This platform was chosen as it is one of the most popular platforms in the Kurdistan region, in particular for posting and reposting news and other contents by either individuals or media channels. The researchers resorted to convenience sampling and as such; the questionnaire was distributed among Facebook users who exposed to the coverage of Iran-Israel war and (400) participants responded to it. This sample size is sufficient for such academic work and meets the requirements of the study's topic. For statistical procedures, SPSS was used to find the repetitions and measure the mean and standard deviation. Furthermore, to find the correlation between the variables with one another, the Spearman correlation test was

1- The academic experts are:

- Prof. Dr. Ibtisam Ismael, Media expert, University of Sulaimani
- Prof. Dr. Salam Nasraddin, Media expert, University of Sulaimani
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Araz Ramazan, Media expert, University of Raparin
- Asst. Prof. Dr. Jwan Jalaladdin, Media expert, University of Sulaimani
- Dr. Kovan Hussain, Media expert, University of Sulaimani

used. As mentioned earlier in this chapter, the Alpha Cronbach formula was used by the researcher to test the validity of the questionnaire.

4- 6: Demographic information:

Table (No.1) provides a summary of the demographic information of the participants. According to the results, the majority of the participants are female (217), which constitutes (54%) of them, while male participants are (183) participants, which constitutes (45.8%). In terms of age, the table illustrates that (129) of the participants, which constitutes (32.3%) are aged from (18-22) years. In the second place, as can be seen from the same table, come those who are aged 23-27 years old, with 127 participants and (31.8%). This result shows that the vast majority of those who responded to the questionnaire are youth and they use social media platforms more compared to other age groups.

Concerning the education level, the vast majority of the participants either are Bachelor degree holders, or have lower degrees such as diploma, high school, or have basic education, whereas only a small fraction of the participants have higher education degrees such as PhD or Master. It can be seen from the data in table (No.1) that 186 participants (46.5%) have Bachelor's degree, and 76 of them (19%) have a high school certificate only, while only 16 participants are PhD holder (4%), and only 34 of them have Master degree (8.5%). This diversity of the education level of the participants is because the study focuses on the public who uses Facebook and not a specific category of society.

TABLE 1: DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION OF THE PARTICIPANT

Characteristics		Respondents N (%)	Rank
Gender	Female	217 (54.3%)	
	Male	183 (45.8%)	
Age (years)	18-22	129 (32.3%)	
	23-27	127 (31.8%)	
	28-32	72 (18%)	
	33-37	15 (3.8%)	
	38-42	18 (4.5%)	
	43-47	12 (3%)	
	48-52	15 (3.8%)	
	53 and more	12 (3%)	
Education	Basic (Primary)	24 (6%)	
	Secondary	8 (2%)	
	Preparatory	76 (19%)	
	Diploma	52 (13%)	
	Bachelor	186 (46.5%)	
	Higher diploma	4 (1%)	
	Master	34 (8.5%)	
	PhD	16 (4)	

5- 6: Users' habits with Facebook

In this part, the participants were asked three main questions related to using Facebook. In response to the question of how long they have accounts on Facebook, as it is illustrated in table (No.2), 182 participants (45.5%) answered

that it is been (7-9) years they use Facebook and have accounts. While those who been using Facebook for (4-6) years came in the second place, with 126 participants and (31.5%) of the total. It is apparent from this table that the vast majority of the participants have been using Facebook for many years; in other words, 4 years or more. This, in turn shows that the participants are eligible, have experience with using social media platforms and are aware of many influences of social media.

The mean and standard deviation were tested for each item to measure the dataset's center and spread, as it is showed in the table (No.2). For the period of using Facebook, the mean is (2.52) with a standard deviation of (0.971), which means the data are clustered to a high degree around the mean and this is means the participants' data are on average. In terms of the hours they spend on Facebook per day, the mean is (2.27) with a standard deviation of (1.157), which also indicates an acceptable average. Furthermore, for the times of using Facebook in the day, the mean is (2.18) and standard deviation (0,830), which also refers to a good average.

TABLE 2: DURATIONS AND TIME OF USING FACEBOOK BY THE PARTICIPANTS

	Period of using Facebook (By Year)	N (%)	Daily using Facebook (By hours)	N (%)	Times of using Facebook	N (%)
	1-3	60 (15%)	Less than 1 hour	144 (36%)	Morning	108 (27%)
	4-6	126 (31.5%)	1-2 hours	90 (22.5%)	Afternoon	112 (28%)
	7-9	182 (45.5%)	3-4 hours	82 (20.5)	Evening	180 (45%)
	10-12	12 (3%)	5 hours and more	84 (21%)		
	13 and more	18 (4.5%)				
	Sum	400 (100%)	Sum	400 (100%)	Sum	400 (100%)
Mean	2.52		2.27		2.18	
S deviation	0.971		1.157		0.830	

6- 6: Users' reactions to the contents and posts of the Kurdish Facebook pages/accounts about the Iran-Israel war:

The table below illustrates the participants' reaction to the posts on the Kurdish Facebook pages/accounts regarding the Iran-Israel war. In this part of the questionnaire, the participants were allowed to choose more than one choice. According to the results presented in table (No.3), commenting on the relevant posts by the participants comes at the top of the reactions with (58.8%). What is interesting in this data is that a valuable part (55.8%) has reported posts and contents on the Kurdish Facebook pages and accounts regarding the Iran-Israel war on this platform. This may be because the participants did not like some of these posts or considered them inappropriate or could harm the public mood. "Do not have any action" is another option, which was offered to the participants in the questionnaire. This also gained (39.5%) of the participants' answers. The results presented in this table show that the vast majority of the participants of this study were active users of Facebook during the Iran-Israel war in 2025, as they reacted to the posts. The mean and standard deviation result of the reactions refers to the fact that the impacts in general are on average, whereas in terms of each item (reaction), the results show that the impact of commenting is

higher than the other reactions, as its mean is (1.41) and standard deviation is (0.493).

Table 3: Reactions to the posts on Kurdish Facebook pages/accounts

Reactions	Yes- N (%)	No -N (%)	Mean	Standard deviation
Emoji	204 (51%)	196 (49%)	1.49	0.501
Sharing in own (personal) account/page	178 (44.5%)	222 (55.5%)	1.56	0.498
Sending it to others and groups	223 (55.8%)	177 (44.3%)	1.44	0.497
Commenting	235 (58.8%)	165 (41.3%)	1.41	0.493
Reporting	230 (57.5%)	170 (42.5%)	1.43	0.495
Writing and posting depending on the relevant contents and topics	82 (20.5%)	318 (79.5%)	1.80	0.404
Don't have reactions	158 (39.5%)	242 (60.5%)	1.61	0.489

7- 6: Sources of information for the participants on the Kurdish Facebook pages/accounts:

According to the results presented in table 4 below, the participants mostly relied on the websites that reposted their materials and contents on Facebook to get information and news about the war; in other words, they accessed the websites through links to the materials posted on the Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook. The answers of the participants to this option were repeated (230) times, with (57.5%). On the other hand, the official information of the relevant countries, which were involved in the war, came in the second place with (175) times and (43.8%). The participants were also interested in the contents and materials of other sources, such as local experts' analysis, international Experts' analysis, Iran-Israel affair experts' analysis, and personal opinions, respectively.

The mean and standard deviation of the items, which are less distracted than other items, indicate that the participants relied mostly on the contents and materials of the websites reposted on the Kurdish accounts/pages of Facebook.

TABLE 4: SOURCES OF INFORMATION FOR THE PARTICIPANTS ON THE KURDISH FACEBOOK PAGES/ACCOUNTS

Sources of Information	Yes- N (%)	No -N (%)	Mean	Standard deviation
Websites' contents posted on Facebook	230 (57.5%)	170 (42.5)	1.43	0.495
Personal opinions	31 (7.8%)	369 (92.3)	1.92	0.268
Local Expert's analysis	110 (27.5%)	290 (72.5%)	1.73	0.447
Iran-Israel affair experts' analysis	42 (10.5%)	358 (89.5%)	1.90	0.307
International Experts' analysis	59 (8.14%)	341 (85.3%)	1.85	0.355
Official information of Iran and Israel	175 (43.8%)	225 (56.3%)	1.56	0.497
Others	143 (35.8%)	257 (64.3%)	1.64	0.480

8- 6: Impacts of exposing to Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel war:

To investigate the impacts of exposure to the Iran-Israel coverage on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook,

this part of the questionnaire raised 15 questions to the participants in order to know their experiences and opinions while they were exposed to the contents related to the war between the two countries. As it is shown in table (No.5) an overwhelming proportion of the participants followed and exposed to the coverage of the war on Facebook. The statistical results; the mean (1.39) with a (0.512) standard deviations demonstrate that a large proportion of them were exposed to and interested in the contents about the war. This means they were intentionally followed the events of the war and they were aware of the developments. It is also worth mentioning that a significant proportion of the participants believe that the contents that were posted on the Kurdish accounts and pages on Facebook were truthful and reliable for them. The mean, which is (3.59) and standard deviation of (.0622), shows that a great majority trusted in the news, information, and other contents of Facebook (Look at table No.5).

Regarding the format of the contents, which have had a greater impact on the participants, the findings illustrate that the video contents were more influential compared to images or written texts. The table (5) demonstrates the differences between the different contents about the war on Facebook. The video contents came in the first place in terms of affecting the users, with almost all of the participants (394 repetition) agreed and strongly agreed, which represents (98.5%) of the sample. The mean of this item is (1.71) and standard deviation is (0.488). Whereas images and graphics came in the second place in influencing the participants with (362) repetition (agree and strongly agree), which makes up (90.5%) of the population.

In contrast, for the written texts, the situation is different. This format of the contents had only a limited impact on the Facebook users, according to the findings. As it is displayed in the table, only a minority of the participants (92) repetition and (22.5%) approved (agree and strongly agree) that written texts' coverage of the war had an influence on them. The vast majority either disagreed or stayed neutral about the effects of this type of content format. The mean of this item is (3.10) with a standard deviation of (1.077), which means the impact of this format is limited.

Concerning whether the contents of the Iran-Israel war coverage on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook had an impact on the participants' perspective about the point and goals of the war, the overall response to this question was positive. A large proportion of the participants agreed with the idea that their perspectives were affected by exposure to the war coverage on Facebook. Of the 400 who responded to the questionnaire, 262 participants, which comprises (90.5%) of the study population, either agreed or strongly agreed to this idea. The mean score for this item was 1.72 and the standard deviation was (0.696). This in turn shows that the impact of the Kurdish accounts and pages on Facebook was significant on the users.

Speaking about the knowledge of the war technology, only 107 participants, which makes up (26.7%) of the study population, reported that they were affected by the Facebook coverage to get more knowledge. In contrast, the majority either reported that they did not get further knowledge about the war technology through their exposure to the coverage of the war on Facebook, or they stayed neutral. The score mean of this question is (3.01) and standard deviation (1.137), which indicates that the Kurdish accounts and pages on Facebook could not increase their knowledge about war technology (Look at table No.5).

Another item of the questionnaire, as shown in table (No.5), asked the participants whether the contents of the war coverage of the Kurdish accounts and pages had an impact to increase their pessimism about the future of the region or no, a large proportion of them (292) participants (73.1%) reported that it had no impact. The mean of the question was (2.06) and a standard deviation of (1.319), which indicates that the coverage of the war on Facebook did not have that effect on their pessimism about the situation of the region.

In response to the question if the coverage of the war influenced the participants to understand and know about the reasons of the war, (318) participants (79.6%), which is a significant majority, reported that the war coverage on Facebook helped them know about the reasons of the war. The score mean of this item

was (1.81) with a standard deviation (1.135), which means the effect is substantial. In addition to the reasons of the war, another item of the questionnaire asked the participants if their exposure to the war coverage of the Kurdish accounts and pages on Facebook affected their perspectives or not, a large proportion of them indicated that they were influenced to a great extent. Of 400 of those surveyed, (312) respondents, which constitutes (78%) of the study population, believed they knew better about the military capability of both countries through exposure to the coverage on Facebook Kurdish accounts and pages. This item has a score mean of 1.81 with a standard deviation of 1.126.

In terms of the risks that the Iran-Israel war could pose to the Kurdistan region's national security, (329) respondents (82.3%) believed that through the war contents of the Facebook they realized that there could be risks to the region because of the war. The mean score of this item is (1.74), and its standard deviation is (1.124). The participants were also asked whether the coverage of the war made them anxious or worried. In their responses, only a minority (96 participants with 24.1%) disagreed that the war coverage made them worried, while more than a half of the respondents (241 participants with 60.3%) agreed with this view and reported that the coverage of the war had an impact on them to become anxious. The score mean of this item is (3.38) with a standard deviation of (1.311).

The questionnaire also raised a question to investigate the impacts of Iran-Israel war coverage on the Kurdish Facebook accounts and pages, on the participants, to make them sympathetic with war victims and the damages of both countries. What is interesting is that the majority of those who were surveyed were sympathetic to the war victims and the damages of Iran more than that of Israel. When they were asked if they are sympathetic to Iran victims, (234) respondents with (58%), stated that the coverage of the war affected them to be sympathetic to Iranian victims and 138 (34.5%) preferred to stay neutral, whereas the war victims of Israel gained sympathy of only (182) participants, which make up (45%) of the study's population, and (151) participants (37.8%) were not affected to be sympathetic to Israel victims (Look at table no.5). This result shows that the participants were more sympathetic to the victims of Iran, either because there is a significant Kurdish population in this country or because of the common culture, norms and religion between Iraqi Kurdistan and Iranian people in general. It could also be due to the geographical proximity and mutual interests.

TABLE 5: THE EFFECTS OF EXPOSURE TO THE IRAN-ISRAEL WAR COVERAGE ON THE KURDISH FACEBOOK PAGES/ACCOUNTS

No.		Agree N (%)	Strongly Agree N (%)	Neutral N (%)	Disagree N (%)	Strongly Disagree N (%)	Mean N (%)	Standard deviation N (%)
1	I always followed the coverage of Iran-Israel war on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook	251(62.7%)	144(36%)	5(1.3%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	1.39	0.512
2	In Iran-Israel war coverage on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, I did not trust any of their news, information or contents	8(2%)	5(1.3%)	129(32.3%)	258(64.5%)	0(0%)	3.59	0.622
3	During the coverage of Iran-Israel war on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, I was influenced by the video contents	124(31%)	270(57.5%)	6(1.5%)	0(0%)	0(0%)	1.71	0.488
4	During the coverage of Iran-Israel war on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, I was influenced by the images/ graphics	161 (40.3%)	201 (50.2%)	29 (7.2%)	9 (2.3%)	0(0)	1.72	0.696

5	During the coverage of Iran-Israel war on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, I was influenced by written texts	42(10.5%)	50(12.5%)	170(42.5%)	101(25.3%)	37(9.3%)	3.10	1.077
6	The contents of the Iran-Israel war coverage on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, had impacts on my perspective about the point and goals of the war	161(40.3%)	201(50.2%)	29(7.2%)	9(2.3%)	0(0)	1.72	.0696
7	The Kurdish contents of the Iran-Israel war coverage, had no impacts on me and did not offered further knowledge about the development of war technology	57(14.2%)	50(12.5%)	160(40%)	98(24.5%)	35(8.8%)	3.01	1.137
8	The contents of the Iran-Israel war coverage on Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook had no impacts on me to be pessimistic about the situation of the region	197(49.3%)	95(23.8%)	23(5.8%)	58(14.5%)	27(6.8%)	2.06	1.319
9	The Kurdish contents of the Iran-Israel war coverage, affected me to know the reasons of the war	221(55.3%)	97(24.3%)	37(9.3%)	27(6.8%)	18(4.5%)	1.81	1.135
10	Through the coverage of the Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, I knew about the military capability of both countries	203(50.7%)	109(27.3%)	44(11%)	26(6.5%)	18(4.5%)	1.87	1.126
11	Through the coverage of the Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, I realized that the war has made risk on the Kurdistan region	239(59.8%)	90(22.5%)	27(6.8%)	26(6.5%)	18(4.5%)	1.74	1.124
12	The coverage of the Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook, did not make me worried or anxious any time	65(16.3%)	31(7.8%)	63(15.8%)	171(42.8%)	70(17.5%)	3.38	1.311
13	The coverage of Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish Facebook pages/accounts made me to be sympathetic to the victims and damages of Iran	126(31.%)	108(27%)	138(34.5%)	28(7%)	0(0%)	2.17	0.956
14	The coverage of Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish Facebook pages/accounts made me to be sympathetic to the victims and damages of Israel	113(28.2%)	69(17.3%)	67(16.8%)	130(32.5%)	21(5.3%)	2.69	1.322

7- Conclusions and suggestions

1- 7: Conclusion

The findings of this study show that during the Iran-Israel war (the 12-days war), which lasted from 13-24 June 2025, Kurdish Facebook users followed the developments of the war through this platform. In general, they relied on the contents that were published on this platform from different sources, including analysis of local and international experts of the conflict, official statements and information of both sides of the conflict, personal opinion, and contents of websites posted on this platform. According to the findings, the vast majority of the participants were active while they were exposed to this war coverage. In other words, they reacted to the contents about the war that were posted on the Kurdish accounts/pages of Facebook, such as leaving an Emoji, commenting, sharing them, reposting the contents, and posting their own contents. This shows that Kurdish Facebook users were engaged to a good extent with coverage and the events related to the war. In terms of the effects of the contents of the Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish Facebook/pages on the users' perspectives, the statistical results show that exposure to such contents had an influence on their perspectives to a great extent in many ways. The vast majority of the study's sample also agreed that they were influenced by the video content about the war much more than texts and images. Moreover, their perspectives about the points and goals were also influenced by the war coverage. To conclude, the coverage of the Iran-Israel war in 2025 on the Kurdish accounts/pages on Facebook had a significant impact on the users. This reveals several facts, first, the Kurdistan region is located in the heart of the Middle East and neighboring Iran, and is affected by such war economically, politically, and in terms of national security also. Thereby, people of Kurdistan region were interested to know about the developments of the war, and they were keen to be up to date with the latest news. In such a case, they certainly will be exposed to the coverage of the war and their perspectives will be influenced, as the findings of this study discovered.

1- 7: Suggestion for future studies

This study focused on the effects of exposure to Facebook coverage of the Iran-Israel war on the Kurdish users' perspectives, for future academic work, the researchers suggest the following studies be conducted:

- 1- Investigate the impacts of other social media platforms' war coverage on the users' perspectives.
- 2- As there are other wars ongoing in the world, it is important to conduct similar studies to find out the effects of Facebook coverage on the users' perspectives in other parts of the world.

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کاریگه‌ری به‌رکه‌وتن به روومالی جه‌نگی ئیران-ئیسرائیل له‌فهی‌سبوك له‌سهر تیروانیی به‌کاره‌ینه‌رانی کورد

پوخته:

ئهم توێژینه‌وه‌یه، که ناو‌نیشانه‌که‌ی بریتیه له " کاریگه‌ری به‌رکه‌وتن به روومالی جه‌نگی ئیران-ئیسرائیل له‌فهی‌سبوك له‌سهر تیروانیی به‌کاره‌ینه‌رانی کورد"، ئامانجیه‌تی لیکۆلینه‌وه‌ بکات له‌و کاریگه‌رییانه‌ی که به‌رکه‌وتن به روومالی هه‌ژمار و لاپه‌ره کوردیه‌یه کانی فه‌یسبوك له‌باره‌ی جه‌نگی ئیران-ئیسرائیل له (13-24 ی حوزه‌یرانی 2025) له‌سهر تیروانیی به‌کاره‌ینه‌رانی کورد دروستی کردووه. بۆ‌گه‌یشتن به‌و ئامانجه‌ش، توێژینه‌وه‌که په‌نای بردۆته به‌ر میتۆدی روپۆی و به‌کاره‌ینانی ئامرازی فۆرمی راپۆی بۆ‌کۆکردنه‌وه‌ی داتا له‌ سامپلی توێژینه‌وه‌که، که سامپلی (Convenience sample) یه‌و له (400) به‌شداربوو و به‌کاره‌ینه‌ری فه‌یسبوك پیکهاتوو، به‌مه‌ستی لیتوێژینه‌وه‌و لیکۆلینه‌وه‌ له‌ ئاراسته‌و تیروانییه‌کانیان له‌و باره‌یه‌وه. فۆرمی گۆگل له‌لایه‌ن توێژه‌رانه‌وه‌ بۆ رابرسیه‌که دیزاین و دروستکرا و له‌ نیو سامپله‌که‌دا دابه‌شکرا و چوار سه‌د فۆرم پیکرایه‌وه. توێژه‌ران په‌نایان برده‌ به‌ر ریبازی وه‌سفی بۆ شروقه‌کردنی ئه‌نجام و داتاگان و به‌رنامه‌ی (SPSS) بۆ ریکخستن و شیکردنه‌وه‌و لیکدانه‌وه‌ی داتاگان. ئه‌نجامه‌کانی ئهم توێژینه‌وه‌یه ئه‌وه ده‌رده‌خه‌ن که به‌رکه‌وتن به روومالی جه‌نگی ئیران-ئیسرائیل له هه‌ژمارو لاپه‌ره کوردیه‌یه کانی فه‌یسبوك کاریگه‌ری هه‌بووه له‌سهر تیروانیی به‌کاره‌ینه‌رانی کورد به‌رامبه‌ر به جه‌نگه‌که له‌لایه‌ک و ئه‌و ده‌رهاو‌یشتانه‌ی له جه‌نگه‌که ده‌که‌وتیه‌وه له‌ ناسه‌قامگیری، دله‌راوی و هۆکاره‌کانی جه‌نگه‌که‌و توانای سه‌ربازی هه‌ردوولا و هاوسۆزی بۆ زیانه‌مادی و گیانیه‌کانی هه‌ردوولا.

وشه‌ سه‌ره‌کییه‌کان: فه‌یسبوك، روومالی هه‌واڵ و زانیاری، جه‌نگی ئیران-ئیسرائیل، تیروانیی به‌کاره‌ینه‌رانی سۆشیال میدیا