



## **THE ROLE OF INTERNAL AUDIT IN ACTIVATING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE: EVIDENCE FROM IRAQ**

**Mustafa Hassan Malak <sup>1</sup> , Hayder J. Ahmed Al- Gburi <sup>2</sup> Nahla. u. Talal Alshammary <sup>3</sup>**

1 [mustafa.malk@atu.edu.iq](mailto:mustafa.malk@atu.edu.iq) , 2 [Haider86@atu.edu.iq](mailto:Haider86@atu.edu.iq), 3 [nahla.talal@atu.edu.iq](mailto:nahla.talal@atu.edu.iq)

1 23Karbala Technical Institute, AL-Furat Al-Awsat Technical University, Karbala- Iraq

\* Correspondence: [Haider86@atu.edu.iq](mailto:Haider86@atu.edu.iq)

<b>Article history:</b>	<b>Abstract:</b>
<b>Received:</b> 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Internal Auditing: Closed System Perspective ABSTRACT: The study seeks to show the importance and effectiveness of the internal audit that serve parties in corporate governance, including the audit committee, external auditors, as well as the board of directors. Consequently, all internal audit the Institute of Internal Auditors standards have grown to be one of the best weapons to ensure the quality of audit procedures and thus making value to companies through services offered, such as regulatory consulting, assurance services, risk assessment, verification of procedures and tests of compliance with transparency and disclosure standards. All these are bounded by corporate governance. In order to satisfy the research objectives,A descriptive analysis of the suitability of such analyses/models for studies of this kind and the principle of gathering data at the source. Data collection was carried out using a prepared questionnaire by sending out 85 electronic questionnaires to a sample that enabled statistical analyses,The given sentence has been broken into multiple sentences for readability Iraqi Commercial Banks a random of employees Once analysis was done with the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS-23), the results of the practical research showed a statistically significant positive effect at the significance level of 0.05 for all variables. The research concluded that internal audit has a significant impact on the application of governance principles in Iraqi commercial banks. The internal control systems in these banks contribute to monitoring the operations of the banks through continuous disclosure of risks. It is also essential to support the independence of internal audit in Iraqi commercial banks to provide more credible results, along with continuous supervision of the importance of supporting internal audit systems through seminars and training courses to keep pace with modern technological developments and enable all auditors to keep up with modern international standards.
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### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The collapses and financial crises witnessed by large companies and the scandals that shook giant companies in Western economies in general and the American economy in particular, and the subsequent bankruptcies and collapse had a great impact on the economy and business at the beginning of the current (21st) century. Companies in a dangerous precedent such as Enron (which was followed by the dissolution of the Arthur & Anderson auditing office, and serious embezzlement was revealed in World Telecom and other European companies, and some attributed these collapses to a weakness in accounting policies that were exploited by manipulators who caused the collapses and the consequences The explosions of accounting scandals at big companies came to during which they are held: best practices and procedures in supervision in joint stock companies management, organization, control

and effective all to guarantee the realization of objective aims and respect for internal and that is, corporate governance or the external regulation of firms, which was the reason behind the genesis of corporate governance, and that internal audit functions the board of directors or other parties that have an oversight and governance function, the audit committee and external audit therefor enhancing and supporting the mechanisms of the corporate governance. [1] confirm on the position of internal audit and financial statements and the purpose and importance of ethical codes of conduct. [2] there is undoubtedly a role for the audit committee in improving corporate governance through the committee's efforts to improve the efficiency of the internal auditor with the http://www.bnbgp.com; external auditor and at all costs help the board of directors in carrying out the tasks assigned to the audit committee). [3] there is a direct

interrelationship of international auditing standards with professional ethics and corporate governance, and there is a trend of adopting the idea of internal auditing, the rationale of which is maximizing the value of business companies and minimizing least financial and operational risks [4] They concluded that there is a direct relationship between corporate governance and the procedures of the audit committee and combating all negative phenomena that spread in companies.

### 2.1 Conceptual Introduction Internal Audit

Internal auditing's purview has grown to include monitoring task execution and examining and assessing the efficacy of the control mechanisms used. It also helps the management by delivering the facts and information which reflects the consequences of administrative actions and the outcome of actions taken by the responsibility centers. These are adopted by senior management to make new decisions, correct situations, or implement new policies. Therefore, the role of internal auditing has become important and is now referred to as administrative auditing, as its services include accounting, financial, and operational activities within the economic unit. The American Institute of Internal Auditors defines internal auditing as the independent evaluative activity established within the economic unit to audit operations as a service to management. It is therefore a control tool that measures and evaluates other control tools [5] , [6] . Internal auditing has been defined by the French Institute of Internal Auditors and Controllers (IFACI) as the periodic examination of the objective means at the disposal of the directorate to monitor and manage the economic unit. This activity is carried out by a department affiliated with the economic unit and is independent from the other departments, or it is an independent and objective activity that aims to provide guarantees to the economic unit about the degree of its control over the process it carries out, while providing advice for improvement and contributing to creating added value for the economic unit [7] . Over the past few years, Internal Audit has experienced several structural changes. Numerous changes have been brought about by the economic crisis, the adoption of new internal auditing rules and regulations, the development of new technologies, and the need for businesses to conduct more thorough and ongoing audits. The job of internal auditors, the total scope of internal audit, and the internal auditing process have all been impacted by these changes [8] .

#### 2.1.1 Internal audit objectives

Internal auditing aims to assist management in achieving the following: [9] Evaluating and improving the effectiveness of risk management, improving and evaluating the effectiveness of control, evaluating and improving the effectiveness of institutional control, verifying compliance with internal control policies and procedures, and verifying the extent and efficiency of performance within the departments and divisions of the economic unit. To achieve the above objectives, the internal auditor must do the following: [10] : A. Review and evaluate the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control methods within the economic unit. , Verify the protection of the economic unit's assets and property

and account for them. and Evaluate performance at the level of responsibility centers within the economic unit.

#### 2.1.2 Affecting the quality of auditing

Some administrations employ a set of steps aimed at presenting financial reports that do not reflect the actual financial position of the economic unit. These reports are intended to manipulate the financial statements. These reports are inaccurate and exploit gaps in accounting principles, policies, and financial reporting standards. Therefore, it is necessary to apply the standards accompanying modern technological developments and implement them properly, as these standards represent the ethical aspect. Applying governance principles and improving audit quality contribute to preventing administrations from manipulating financial reports to their advantage [11] . There are factors that affect audit quality, including the following: The auditor's fees and wages: The fees they receive, as extremely low wages will threaten personal interests and essential professional competence. [12] The auditor's qualifications: Academic and practical qualifications, i.e., professional qualifications, as well as the independence they enjoy, such that they are free from any motives, pressures, or interests when expressing their neutral and independent opinion. [13] Professionalism: This refers to performing auditing tasks with diligence, adhering to technical auditing standards, and maintaining established professional competence when providing professional services. [14] . Experience: Experience is an important factor in ensuring that audited financial reports are free of material errors and of high quality [15] .

### 2.2 Conceptual Introduction to corporate governance

Berle and Means, who first addressed the problem of separating ownership from management in 1932, are credited with establishing corporate governance. The gap that may arise between a company's owners and managers as a result of bad actions that could hurt the economy is filled by corporate governance systems [16] . The term "corporate governance" was first used in the early 1990s and has gained popularity in recent years, particularly among experts working in international, regional, and local organizations [17] . Based on global experiences with corporate governance, it is noted that America entered this field with the NYSE proposing measures requiring companies to appoint independent directors to the board of directors and the National Association of Corporate Directors establishing a special committee to monitor corporate risks to support independent directors and periodic review of potential risks as the field's pioneer. In Japan, the Tokyo Stock Exchange announced the creation of a guide to good corporate governance practices for Japanese institutions to follow in setting standards consistent with Japanese [18] . Many definitions of governance have been provided, the most important of which is "the system through which institutions are managed, directed, organized, and controlled, or the procedures that direct and manage companies and monitor their performance in a way that ensures the achievement of their mission and established objectives." That is, it safeguards the interests of all parties, including

managers, employees, suppliers, customers, auditors, stakeholders, shareholders, and society [19]. It has also been defined as a set of laws, regulations, and decisions aimed at achieving quality and excellence in performance by selecting appropriate and effective methods to achieve the organization's plans and objectives [20], [21]. believe that governance is the efficient and effective management of resources, and this is important for the company, as it requires the responsible delegation of powers to boards of directors and executive directors of companies in order to address the interests of all stakeholders. The Institute of Internal Auditors defined governance as "the processes that stakeholders oversee through procedures taken to provide oversight and control over the management and response to risks facing the company and to ensure the adequacy of controls and instructions to achieve its objectives and maintain the company's value using good governance" [22].

### **2.2.1 The importance of corporate governance**

Nowadays, corporate governance is a significant key component of economic development, legal immunity and social welfare for the people. This severity began following the 1997–1998 Asian financial crisis, which revealed that corporate governance was failing and businesses were collapsing in large numbers globally. Winkler, strongly stressed on the important role of corporate governance in order to achieve economic development and not to fall in the trap of financial crises. This happens through the creation of multiple performance standards, that help to shore up the economic underpinnings of markets, and revealing instances of manipulation, corruption, bribery, and mismanagement. Hence, confidence of those in these markets can be accessed to stabilize it and prevent extreme shifts, leading to further economic growth by achieving the targeted goal

1. Ensuring the integrity, impartiality, and honesty of all company employees, from the board of directors and executive directors to the lowest level of employees.
2. Optimization of accounting and internal control systems utilization, achieving efficiency of expenditure, ensuring spending is related to production.
3. Getting a proper level of disclosure and transparency in the financial statement.
4. Ensuring that the external auditor is as effective as possible and ensuring that he is as independent as possible, without any pressure from the board of directors or executive directors.

### **2.2.1 Corporate Governance Objectives**

Corporate governance is crucial to accomplishing a number of goals that can be summed up as follows [25]:

First, protecting shareholders' rights is accomplished by keeping records that confirm their ownership of shares, delivering information in a timely manner, and being transparent about it.

Second: Making justice: The inclusion of all rights is such an important thing and must be done in a way that all shareholders should be treated in an equal manner, and this should be applied whether the shareholders are internal or external.

Third: Preserving the interests of the different parties involved in the business: People who interact with the organization, especially its employees, should be encouraged to acknowledge their devotion and sense of belonging.

Fourth: Providing information and supporting the integrity of communication channels: Providing useful, factual and accurate information to all stakeholders in the company's operations reflects the soundness and integrity of the company's institutional control as well as the integrity of its internal and external control systems. [26].

Fifth: Corporate strategy: Businesses use a variety of tactics to stay competitive and get an edge over rivals by enhancing the market or industry they serve. By using the strategic analysis technique, it identifies the company's efficacy, weaknesses, and strengths as well as environmental opportunities and risks [27].

## **2. MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### **Study Tool Description**

In the applied aspect of the research, a questionnaire was designed to test the research hypothesis. This questionnaire consisted of two main axes and included 32 questions that assessed the role of the internal auditor in enhancing corporate governance in Iraqi commercial banks. The five-point Likert scale was utilized to represent the five-dimensional statements, with measurements ranging from one point, indicating complete disagreement, to five points, indicating complete agreement. Additionally, the reliability of the scale was confirmed through the calculation of Cronbach's alpha coefficients.

### **3.2 Study of Aims**

It is important to pay attention to the serious effects of financial and administrative corruption in companies and the significant impact it has on the national economy and society, especially since this research focuses on a crucial sector: Iraqi commercial banks. It was necessary to identify mechanisms that mitigate these effects and highlight strategies for enhancing internal auditing as a governance tool to safeguard the rights of all stakeholders and diminish the prevalence of financial and administrative corruption.

Determine the governance role of internal audit in controlling the risks that organizations face, as well as the relationship between internal audit and the implementation of corporate governance procedures in the research sample.

### **3.3 Problem and hypotheses of the study**

The phenomenon of corruption has become widespread throughout the world, including the Arab world and Iraq, to a degree that cannot be overlooked. Therefore, it has become imperative for researchers and responsible authorities to find ways to combat this dangerous phenomenon, including activating the role of internal audit in implementing corporate governance procedures. The research problem can be formulated with the following questions:

- Can internal auditing contribute to activating the role of corporate governance? And how?
- Is there a relationship between corporate governance and the procedures performed by the internal auditor?

The present investigation will examine the following hypothesis in light of the aforementioned queries.

H0: There is no significant impact relationship regarding the role of internal audit in enhancing corporate governance in Iraqi commercial banks.

H1: There is a significant influence relationship concerning the role of internal audit in strengthening corporate governance in Iraqi commercial banks.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Measuring Study Variables

The practical aspect revolves around three fundamental components. The first component pertains to the examination and testing of the research measurement tool. The second component concerns the statistical description of the research variables and their dimensions. The third component involves testing the research hypothesis, as follows:

**Table 1.** Demographic questions analysis

No.	Variables	Target group	repetitions	%
1	gender	females	30	%36
		males	53	%64
Total			83	%100
2	Age	Less than 30 year	4	%5
		30 -39	12	%14
		40 -49	35	%42
		50 - 59	24	%29
		More than 60	8	%10
		Total	83	%100
3	Educational Qualification	PhD	1	%1
		Master's	1	%1
		Higher Diploma	8	%10
		Bachelor's	58	%70
		Diploma	15	%18
		Total	83	%100
4	Academic specialization	Accounting	33	%40
		Management	12	%14
		Information Technology	15	%18
		Engineering	11	%13
		Economics	8	%10
		Humanities	4	%5
		Total	83	%100
5	experience	Less than 5 years	3	4%

		5 -9	13	%16
		10 -14	11	%13
		15 -19	25	%30
		More than 20	31	%37
		Total	83	%100
6	Job title	Manager	8	%10
		Head of Department	15	%18
		Unit Manager	30	%36
		Division Manager	10	%12
		External Auditor	20	%24
		Total	83	%100

**Table 2.** Cronbach's Alpha and Split-half reliability for test scale stability

Axes	Cronbach's Alpha	Split-half reliability : Guttman or Spearman-Brown
The First Axis: The Reality of Internal Auditing in Iraqi Commercial Banks	%85	3. 73 %
The Second Axis: The Reality of Applying Governance Principles in Iraqi Commercial Banks"	%92.4	.591 %
	% 88.7	4.82 %

The table above shows a high reliability coefficient for all dimensions of the questionnaire, with the reliability coefficient for all axes exceeding 70%. Additionally, the internal consistency between each dimension of the questionnaire axes and the questions comprising them was measured using Pearson correlation. The results, according to the SPSS program, are as follows:

**Table 3. Internal consistency of the scale items for the first axis**

Correlations																Pearson Correlation	Dim
q16	q15	q14	q13	q12	q11	q10	q9	q8	q7	q6	q5	q4	q3	q2	q1		
0.00	.602**	.456**	.634**	.572**	.453**	.598**	.688**	.666**	.622**	.544**	.559**	.529**	.564**	.427**	.415**	.474**	
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Sig. (2-tailed)

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

It can be observed from the table 3 that all correlation coefficients between the axis and the questions comprising it were high and statistically significant, as all Sig. (2-tailed) values were less than 0.05."

**Table 4. Internal consistency of the scale items for the second axis**

Correlations																Pearson Correlation	Dim
q16	q15	q14	q13	q12	q11	q10	q9	q8	q7	q6	q5	q4	q3	q2	q1		
.713*	.812*	.729*	.602*	.674*	.616*	.657*	.710*	.625*	.685*	.744*	.720*	.662*	.720*	.592*	.643*		
0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	Sig. (2-tailed)	

\*\*. \*\* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

It can be observed from the table 4 that all correlation coefficients between the axis and the questions comprising it were high and statistically significant, as all Sig. (2-tailed) values were less than 0.05.

The scale was distributed after being validated in a sample of 83 employees of Iraqi commercial banks. Descriptive Statistical Analysis of Survey Sample Responses Shadow of dark context The first axis: The reality of internal auditing in Iraqi commercial banks.

**Table 5. Response of the questionnaire sample members to the paragraphs of the first axis**

It is evident that the weighted mean for the first axis is 3.97, which is higher than the hypothetical mean of the scale, which is 3. With a very low standard deviation of 0.44, the coefficient of variation reached 0.11, and the relative importance of this axis was 79%. This indicates the reality of internal auditing in Iraqi commercial banks. At a detailed level for this axis, it is clear that all items of this axis had calculated means greater than the hypothetical mean of the scale. The item represented by question three ('The internal auditor exercises the necessary professional care during the performance of auditing tasks in Iraqi commercial banks') achieved the highest mean in this axis, which was 4.20, with a relative importance of 84%, a standard deviation of 0.68, and a coefficient of variation of 0.16. On the other hand, the item represented by question nine ('The internal auditor submits his report and indicates the extent to which Iraqi commercial banks adhere to the application of accounting principles and their consistency from year to year') achieved the lowest mean in this dimension, which was 3.82, with a relative importance of 76%, a standard deviation of 0.86, and a coefficient of variation of 0.23.

The Second Axis: The Reality of Applying Governance Principles in Iraqi Commercial Banks

**Table 6. Response of the questionnaire sample members to the paragraphs of the second axis**

Question s	Strongly agree		Agree		Neutral		Disagree		Strongly disagree		Mean	Standard Deviation	Relative Importance	Coefficient of Variation
	Rep	%	Rep	%	Rep	%	Rep	%	Rep.	%				
Q1	17	20 %	36	43%	21	25 %	6	7%	3	4%	3.7	1.0055	0.74	0.27
Q2	15	18 %	46	55%	20	24 %	2	2%	0	0%	3.89	0.7138	0.78	0.18

Q3	22	27 %	46	55%	12	14 %	3	4%	0	0%	4.05	0.7491	0.81	0.19
Q4	10	12 %	40	48%	25	30 %	6	7%	2	2%	3.6	0.8784	0.72	0.24
Q5	12	14 %	50	60%	12	14 %	6	7%	2	2%	3.78	0.8855	0.76	0.23
Q6	14	17 %	39	47%	22	27 %	6	7%	2	2%	3.69	0.922	0.74	0.25
Q7	17	20 %	44	53%	19	23 %	2	2%	1	1%	3.89	0.8062	0.78	0.21
Q8	16	19 %	42	51%	22	27 %	2	2%	1	1%	3.84	0.8133	0.77	0.21
Q9	19	23 %	44	53%	17	20 %	2	2%	1	1%	3.94	0.8028	0.79	0.2
Q10	22	27 %	37	45%	19	23 %	5	6%	0	0%	3.92	0.8603	0.78	0.22
Q11	15	18 %	51	61%	13	16 %	4	5%	0	0%	3.93	0.7379	0.79	0.19
Q12	19	23 %	48	58%	12	14 %	4	5%	0	0%	3.99	0.7579	0.8	0.19
Q13	17	20 %	42	51%	20	24 %	3	4%	1	1%	3.86	0.8383	0.77	0.22
Q14	17	20 %	43	52%	17	20 %	5	6%	1	1%	3.84	0.8726	0.77	0.23
Q15	19	23 %	43	52%	14	17 %	3	4%	3	4%	3.88	0.9291	0.78	0.24
Q16	19	23 %	36	43%	23	28 %	3	4%	2	2%	3.81	0.9181	0.76	0.24
Mean , Standard Deviation, Relative Importance, Coefficient of Variation										3.85	0.5778	0.77	0.15	

"It is evident that the weighted mean for the second axis is 3.85, which is higher than the hypothetical mean of the scale, which is 3. With a very low standard deviation of 0.5778, the coefficient of variation reached 0.15, and the relative importance of this axis was 77%. This indicates the reality of applying governance principles in Iraqi commercial banks.

At a detailed level for this axis, it is clear that all items of this axis had calculated meanings greater than the hypothetical mean of the scale. The item represented by question three ('Principles of fairness and equality are applied to all employees in Iraqi commercial banks without bias's) achieved the highest mean in this axis, which was 4.05, with a relative importance of 81%, a standard deviation of 0.7491, and a coefficient of variation of 0.19. On the other hand, the item represented by question four ('Financial statements of Iraqi commercial banks are disclosed to all stakeholders') achieved the lowest mean in this dimension, which was 3.6, with a relative importance of 72%, a standard deviation of 0.8784, and a coefficient of variation 0.24".

#### 4.2 Results and Testing of Study Hypotheses

Next, the one-sample T-test statistical analysis will be applied in order to test the research hypotheses. This test aims to find out whether the meaning of the population that the sample derives from is significantly different from a constant value. Moreover, it helps to calculate the confidence interval for the population mean. So, the test value for the T-test

will be taken as 3, which is the arithmetic mean (expected value) of the five-point Likert scale. Results were as straight using the use statistical sock for the social (£ 0– in the use):

**Table 7. Results of the Hypothesis Test**

One-Sample Statistics					
N	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean		
83	3.9614	.41607	.04567		
Test Value = 3					
T	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
				Lower	Upper
21.051	82	.000	.96145	.8706	1.0523

As seen in the table 7, the calculated value of T was 21.051, which is far greater than its tabulated value at their degree of freedom 82 (n-1), which is 1.2912. Average standard deviation of the estimation error (Std. The Mean Absolute Error (MAE) was 0.04567, an extremely low value, and the lower this type of error, the better. The table additionally shows that the significance level of the test (Sig. (2-tailed)) was also, very high, an equal to 0.00 which already falls below the retained error margin in social sciences, which used to be 0.05. This means we accept the research hypothesis, the significant impact relationship of internal auditing to activate the corporate governance in Iraqi commercial banks.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

The internal auditing has a significant impact on the application of governance principles in Iraqi commercial banks. The internal control systems in Iraqi commercial banks are distinguished by their contribution to monitoring the operations of the banks through continuous disclosure of risks. The work of internal auditing helps increase the reassurance of shareholders and enhance trust in Iraqi commercial banks. The internal control systems contribute to preventing errors, manipulation, and fraud. It is essential to support the independence of internal auditing in Iraqi commercial banks to provide more credible results. Continuous oversight of the importance of supporting internal audit systems through seminars and training courses is necessary to keep up with modern technological developments and enable all auditors to stay updated with the latest international standards. Additionally, strengthening the partnership between shareholders and internal auditors is crucial to increasing mutual trust and reducing the occurrence of risks. There should be continuous encouragement for all Iraqi commercial banks to adhere to governance principles.

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Ladies and gentlemen,  
Greetings and respect,

I present to you the questionnaire prepared for conducting research in accounting: "The Role of Internal Audit in Activating Corporate Governance – An Analytical Study." I kindly ask you to read the following notes and respond based on your expertise and knowledge of the reality of Iraqi commercial banks:

Your answers will only be used for scientific research purposes, so there is no need to mention your name, please. You will find five options in front of each item ranging from (Strongly Disagree, Disagree, Neutral, Agree, Strongly Agree). We kindly ask you to mark (✓) under one of them that reflects your opinion.

The researcher is fully prepared to answer any inquiries regarding the statements in the questionnaire, noting that the main variables are defined in the questionnaire forms and within each of its sections.

With our sincere thanks and appreciation for your cooperation, wishing you continued success and prosperity.

Personal Information:

<b>gender</b>	females				males	
<b>Age</b>	Less than 30 year	30 -39	40 -49	50 - 59	More than 60	
<b>Educational Qualification</b>	PhD	Master's	Higher Diploma	Bachelor's	Diploma	
<b>Academic specialization</b>	Accounting	Management	Information Technology	Engineering	Economics	Humanities
<b>experience</b>	Less than 5 years	5 -9	10 -14	15 -19	More than 20	
<b>Job title</b>	Manager	Head of Department	Unit Manager	Division Manager	External Auditor	

**The first axis: The reality of internal auditing in Iraqi commercial banks**

Paragraphs	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The internal auditor can make decisions without pressure from decision-makers within Iraqi commercial banks					
The internal audit in Iraqi commercial banks enjoys the independence that enables it to carry out all tasks objectively.					
The internal auditor exerts the necessary professional diligence while performing audit tasks in Iraqi commercial banks.					
The scientific and practical qualification of the auditor facilitates the performance of audit tasks and the making of sound decisions in favor of senior management in Iraqi commercial banks.					
The internal auditor carries out the planning process in all its stages and supervises the performance of all tasks within Iraqi commercial banks.					
A comprehensive examination of the internal control system is conducted by the audit team formed within Iraqi commercial banks.					
The auditor collects sufficient evidence and indicators that support their work in providing an impartial opinion.					

The internal auditor is capable of detecting fraud, manipulation, and significant risks, and ensuring the effectiveness of the internal control system in Iraqi commercial banks.					
The internal auditor presents their report and indicates the extent to which Iraqi commercial banks comply with accounting principles and the consistency of these principles from year to year.					
After the completion of the audit process, the auditor presents a report expressing their impartial opinion on the results of the audit operations within Iraqi commercial banks.					
The internal auditor clarifies in their report whether the financial statements include adequate disclosures.					
Internal auditing is used as a tool to examine and evaluate the effectiveness of control methods in Iraqi commercial banks.					
Internal auditing assists management by providing facts and information that reflect the impact of administrative decisions in Iraqi commercial banks.					
The internal audit aims to provide assurances to Iraqi commercial banks regarding their level of control over their operations, while also offering recommendations for improvement and contributing to the creation of added value.					
The internal audit activities include correcting situations and implementing policies within Iraqi commercial banks.					
Internal auditing is considered an independent evaluative activity and a control mechanism for assessing other control measures within Iraqi commercial banks.					
<b>The Second Axis: The Reality of Applying Governance Principles in Iraqi Commercial Banks</b>					
Paragraphs	Strongly agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly disagree
All employees in Iraqi commercial banks are treated fairly concerning their rights and obligations.					
Equal opportunities are provided to employees in Iraqi commercial banks to participate in making certain decisions.					
The principles of fairness and equality are applied to all employees in Iraqi commercial banks without bias.					

The financial statements of Iraqi commercial banks are disclosed to all stakeholders.					
Irqi commercial banks are committed to disclosing the financial status of all their branches with full transparency.					
Risks and threats that may affect stakeholders are disclosed in a timely manner and without delay.					
Employees in Iraqi commercial banks have the right to express their opinions in decision-making, in alignment with the public interest.					
Employees in Iraqi commercial banks contribute to the implementation of certain control methods.					
Employees in Iraqi commercial banks have the right to hold senior management accountable in the event of significant risks.					
Stakeholders in Iraqi commercial banks have the right to contact the board of directors to express concerns and report illegal actions to protect their rights.					
The governance system in Iraqi commercial banks is characterized by effectiveness.					
The governance system in Iraqi commercial banks is updated periodically.					
Governance systems in Iraqi commercial banks work to develop the structure of public financial policies.					
"Governance systems in Iraqi commercial banks work to combat internal financial corruption.					
Governance systems contribute to increasing investor confidence.					
Governance systems in Iraqi commercial banks contribute to the reform of their internal control systems.					