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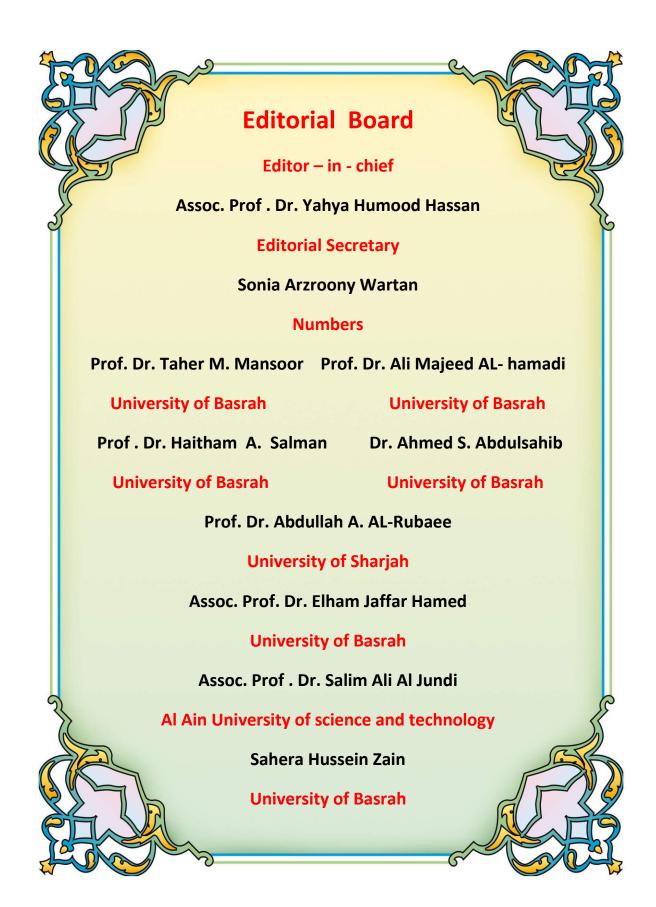
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Editorial

The Arab Gulf is considered as a main sea gate for Iraq, where seven

seaports situated in Basra city which could be categorized into two parts: four commercial seaports — Al-Maaqal port as the oldest port in Iraq which established in 1916 as a military port for British forces in Shatt-al-Arab district. Umm Qasr port as a biggest port close to Iraq — Kuwaiti borders, and Abu-Flus port as a smallest port in Iraq and Khur-Alzubair port as a commercial-industrial port. Recently, it was planned to establish the Grand Faw port in Al-Faw peninsula south Basra governorate. The cornerstone was laid in April 2010, where it will be as one of the largest Iraqi ports in future. In addition, there are three oil ports, namely: Khor al-Amaya, Basra port and Faw warehouse.

However, establishing a good neighborly relations with Kuwait and Iran in particular would be reflected positively on the economic and trade ties. Lately, a political escalation about Khur-Abdullah - a narrow waterway located in Kuwaiti north border with Iraq- has been raised between Iraq and Kuwait, after the consent of Iraq for enforcing an agreement regarding organizing the marine navigation between both countries. This action is a complementary part of an international agreement signed in 2012, and approved in Baghdad in 2013 due to the Security Council decision numbered 833 in 1993. It was signed for demarcation land boundaries and part of maritime borders between Iraq and Kuwait. Also, this agreement has mentioned that Kur-Abdullah is equally shared between the said countries. As a result, many accusations and threats have been escalated between parliamentarians and politicians from both countries. Accordingly, it was interpreted in Iraq as a "waiver" to Kuwait. In contrast, Kuwait has asserted its right in Khur-Abdullah based on the international law and agreements that confirm that this channel is a Kuwaiti area and the process of demarcation of the maritime borders that have become in the custody of the U. N.

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