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The role of Mohsen Hussein in the founding of the Iraqi news agency

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Abstract---The research included the role of Mohsen Hussein in the most important development in the Iraqi media and press in issuing a republican decision to establish the Iraqi News Agency, which considers a great change and development in the press. Hussein played a prominent role in it, including in choosing the agency's symbol and his role in establishing the Union Agency for Arab Agencies.

Keywords---Iraqi news agency, Mohsen Hussein, important development.

Introduction

Abdul Mohsin Hussein Jawad Jadu' Al-Hamdani, his father married his cousin (Naima Kazem Jadu') and they had four sons. Al-Muhsin Hussain's education was limited to Al-Mishkhab in its early beginnings by Al-Katatib (2), as it was a simple education, so his father sent him to (Milah Zahra) to teach him the Qur'an and write on a newspaper from (Al-Tanak) and that was in 1941. When Abdul Mohsen Hussein became in At the age of nine, when he was a school age, his father sent him to his uncle (Jabbar Kazem) in Ghammas, in order to enroll in a Ghammas primary school in 1944-1945 (3). After that, he was transferred to Al-Faisaliah Primary School (4) in 1945-1948, where he spent four years from the third grade to the sixth grade (6). When Abdul Mohsen Hussein succeeded in primary school, there was no secondary or middle school in Al-Mishkhab, so his father sent him to someone His relatives are in Levant and he joined Al-Shamiya High School in 1948 and spent four years there. He practiced pole vaulting, and the highest jump was two meters, until one day he twisted his right foot while playing and left it, and he practiced football, as he was part of the school team in the competitions that She was among the schools, and he also practiced table tennis and achieved some victories, and when he moved to Baghdad in 1952, he belonged to the Al-Shabab Club at that time and entered the races for the 1953 Baghdad

Championship, but he failed in it (5). Abdul Mohsen moved to Baghdad and was seventeen years old at the time to enroll in the fifth grade, to complete his studies at (Central Preparatory) (6), but he left it because of his financial circumstances, but he submitted to the external exam and succeeded in it, 1958 and Abdul Mohsen Hussein did not complete his university studies, due to his preoccupation with journalistic work. . (7)

Abdul Mohsin Hussein began to correspond with newspapers and magazines since 1952. He used to write some simple thoughts and send them to the newspaper (Al-Akhbar Al-Iraqiya), some of which were published and some were not, due to the conditions in the country at the time (8). If we want to talk about Abdul Mohsen Hussein's first steps in the field of journalism and his career in it, we say it was from Al-Shaab newspaper (9). The story of his entry into the Iraqi journalism field may begin when he participated in a joke contest, but surprisingly, he sent his participation in the contest in a female name, Where the name was inspired by the names of two of his sisters, which is (Dreams of Al-Badri), and his participation was published in the main column of the Women's Corner page, and that was on June 27, and the title of the joke he sent was (Ideas and Ghosts), and he continued writing until he was summoned and worked in his name and in the name of Ahlam Al-Badri until the outbreak of a revolution July 14 and the start of work in Al-Jumhuriya newspaper (10). After his dismissal from the newspaper, he received a job offer in (Al-Bilad) newspaper (11) and he started working in October 1958. The newspaper was run by the sons of (Rafael Butti) (12), and he worked as an editor for the newspaper (13). In addition to this, he worked as a correspondent for a while for the (Egyptian Sabah Al-Khair) magazine. The decision to establish the Iraqi News Agency was issued in 1959, and Mohsen Hussein and two journalists, Hamid Rashid (14) and Ahmed Qattan (15), were chosen with him in establishing the agency's nucleus, and they did not find a better building than the radio (17) so Mohsen Hussein worked in the radio on March 16, 1959, until the establishment of the agency was completed. The work continued for nine months, and then he moved to the agency on November 9, 1959. He was dismissed from the agency twice, the first on February 28, 1963 and the second in 1971. (16)

Mohsen Hussein's role in establishing the Iraqi News Agency (INA)

(I.N.A) (Iraqi News Agency)

There are several definitions of news agencies, and the most prominent of these definitions is that it is an institution that supplies newspapers, radio and television stations, and other parties with news. The media on these agencies (17). It can be defined as a service media institution, characterized by a special character, as its mission is to collect and process the various elements of knowledge, in preparation for its dissemination, through certain techniques, to the mass media, which in turn intends to disseminate it, Optionally, on a mass scale. Therefore, it can be said that the news agency is the nerve and center of the media process, as it is not possible to imagine the media without news agencies, because the agency is the engine that operates the media machine and controls the speed of its cycles, the size of its products, and how it manufactures media material. (18) The media are in the first row in the important means that transmit

news, and despite the development of the media at the present time, including newspapers, magazines, radio, television, etc., but it is considered the important media institution is (the news agency), as it is the main and important source and that Because it has taken upon itself to feed other media agencies with local and international information and news in a diligent and continuous manner. Thus, the reader of the newspaper, the radio listener, or the television viewer will have the ability to be a reader, listener and viewer at the same time at the present time. (19) In addition to the fact that Iraq's need at that period was an urgent need to establish a national news agency, even if it was on a local scale. Iraqis have known the press for decades, as well as radio and television. (20)

In line with the many changes that took place in the world, especially in Iraq, after the success of the July 14 revolution, and that was the regime's keenness and the goal of its establishment at that time to convey its voice to public opinion at home and abroad. Therefore, one of the decisions issued after the revolution was the establishment of the Iraqi News Agency. That was on November 9, 1959, and this is not considered a date for the establishment of the agency, as many of those who work in the agency remember this date. 158) 1959 The law was issued on September 28, 1959, that is, fourteen months after the declaration of the establishment of the republic. It is not the date of its implementation because the date of implementation is the date of publishing the law in the official newspaper, which is on October 6, 1959, not until the date of the appointment of its first general manager, but on this day The first news bulletin was issued printed on paper bearing the name of the Iraqi News Agency. (21) Mohsen Hussein Jawad mentions in this regard that the beginning of the nine-month period preceding his birth, specifically in the first days of March 1959, when he was summoned and at that time was working in (Al-Bilad) newspaper for five months, he and his colleague (Hamid Rashid), to meet the director of the radio station It was at that time (Salim Fakhri). He informed them that the Iraqi government had decided to establish an official news agency, similar to the Egyptian Middle East News Agency (M.E.N.A.) (Midde East News Agencg). (22)

As their choice was to establish the nucleus of this agency, and this nucleus was linked to the radio until the completion of the legal procedures necessary for the establishment of the agency. 23) Dr. (Faisal Al-Samer) (24) at that time had a personal knowledge of them and was credited with ending the official and legal procedures that preceded the establishment and then follow-up in the first period (25), and the second article of the law stipulated (to open offices inside and outside Iraq by a decision from the Board of Directors and the approval of the Minister). (26) It shows us that there are motives and justifications for the Iraqi government to issue a decision to establish an agency, as it is considered a great achievement for the Iraqi media specialized in news and information, because it cannot be expressed as just an individual desire or a governmental whim. Some researchers mention that there are some of the many factors that helped To establish the Iraqi News Agency, including:

1. The idea of establishing an agency came after the fall of the monarchy and the announcement of the establishment of the republic in Iraq, which made the new leadership realize at the time the necessity and importance of establishing the mighty agency.

2. There were political coincidences that were summed up in the local and foreign public opinion being informed of the reality of what was happening inside the country, and that was by presenting the achievements and activities, and this led to a prelude to gaining it.
3. The idea of establishing the agency came as a result of the lack of a specialist and capable person in controlling the news of international agencies and refining the mistakes or strange ideas that they contain that try to shut down the masses and keep them away from their basic interests.
4. The government's desire to have a single official source to promote important and sensitive news in a way that the government supports, at a time when Iraqi newspapers were contradicting trends.

Here, we find that the establishment of the agency came due to the ruling of the circumstances that the country was going through at that time. Therefore, it was necessary to establish a specialized apparatus in transmitting news and information, and showing the achievements and activities of the government, as well as correcting news and information that were wrong about the government at the time, and the agency is the place where it is in line with the political line that the government wants in those stages that Iraq has gone through, as it has made attempts since the establishment of the agency to be the only source of news in government agencies. (27) Bada' Muhsin Hussein Jawad worked with his colleagues in one room on the right side of the radio entrance in Salhiya (liaison department) (28) under the name (liaison office) and this department was the nucleus of the agency (29), and it contained three sections, namely The internal news, the external news department, and the listening department, and we belong to them (Hisham Al-Qadi), who was an employee in the radio and head of the office without having any connection to obtaining or editing news, and they were preparing for the local news bulletin without being linked to the listening and external news sections on the radio, and they distributed the news bulletin. Which they prepare on newspapers (30) through a distributor and the news is broadcast in a special bulletin at five in the evening, but the important news they prepare is broadcast in radio bulletins (31), and he joined them for a period of time (Ismail Al-Rubaie), who was at the beginning of his journalistic work and (Mofeed Al-Jazaery). (32)

Mohsen Hussein mentions during his work in establishing the agency and how they obtained news and information. They used to make daily tours and cover various activities that take place inside Iraq. Their tours were to ministries, organizations and government departments, as well as listening to ministerial statements broadcast on foreign radios and what he is doing Officials are required to make official statements as well as statements by the Cabinet, and then return to the radio at noon to edit, print and reproduce the news into two or three pages and hand it over to the radio to broadcast the news and the end to the local newspapers in order to publish it the next day. (33) The matter developed, as the agency had a network of correspondents or delegates affiliated with it, divided into sections, in order to obtain sources and information and gather news. The news is via the regular phone, wireless phone or telex, and a group of editors in the department writes it down or edits it and then transfers it to the editor-in-chief for review and then shows the validity of publishing the news. . (34) Ahmed Qattan was appointed Director General of the Iraqi News Agency in October 1959,

following the issuance of the Agency Law. And its regulation in the official newspaper on the sixth of that month, and a dispute arose between Al-Qattan and Al-Rasheed, the result of which led to (Hamid Rashid) leaving the job, and he immediately returned to this journalistic work before the first news bulletin was issued in the name of the agency. (35)

Mohsen Hussein mentions that the work on exporting the newsletter from (the Liaison Office) continued for nine months, and he played a major role in this. Agency office When (the liaison office) was closed, the agency moved to a building near the radio station in Salhiya, and the external listening and news departments moved with it, and took its headquarters. (36) The Iraqi newspapers, radio and television received the first news bulletin in the name of (the Iraqi News Agency) on November 9, 1959 instead of (the Liaison Office), and the news included internal news, and on the next day the newspapers appeared carrying news attributed to the agency for the first time. (37) In the early years, Hamid Yusef Hammadi (38), (Muhammad Saeed Al-Sahhaf) and (Farid Ayyar) (39) worked in the agency. Mohsen Hussein mentions, during the work in the agency, that the founders of the agency faced several problems at the beginning of their work. Among them was that they did not have any insight into how news agencies would work, and how to choose journalists who were going to work as delegates and editors. Or the second one appoints young people and the agency trains them. The second option was the one that was chosen, in order not to convey to the agency the problems of the journalistic community at that time, and it was necessary in order to establish the traditions of correct modern journalistic work among the employees of the Iraqi news agency instead of the old customs and traditions of work which was prevalent in the press at the time. (40) The founders of the agency stressed the observance of professional specifications in appointing employees, and applicants were subject to interviews and tests, and the lecture was about editing and photographing the journalist, Arabic language, society, journalistic writing, public relations and others, and (Mohsen Hussein Jawad) personally supervised these tests with the aim of justice. the full and the best interest of the agency. (41) The journalist Mohsen Hussain Jawad also had a role in following up the students of the Media Department (formerly the Press Department) in the College of Arts, which had opened in 1964 and the first session graduated in 1968. Fourth and last in the Iraqi News Agency. (42)

As the founders of the agency faced a problem, they issued a decision (centralization of news), which was issued by the Council of Ministers. Which was a reflection on the various media institutions, and one of the first of these institutions was radio and television. Most importantly, the wording of the agency is completely different from the wording of news on radio, television and newspaper news, but the decision to centralize the news led to the unification of the wording of the news that the agency is publishing. (43) The private newspapers were interested in profit and reducing expenses, but when the agency started working, it began to receive news for free, so it no longer needed as many delegates as it was, and that the news published by the agency was official news, so it did not need the approval of the censor to publish it, and there are no longer any Competition between newspapers for the sake of the press, distinction or the singling out of a newspaper in a news story over another newspaper, so newspapers became one version and one copy in the news.(44) At that time, the

agency's work began to focus on publishing news and internal events, which led to its monopoly over 90% of these news and is due The reason for this is:

1. The desire of leaders and officials when giving a statement or news about them to the representative of the agency because it is the official institution, in addition to ensuring its publication in many newspapers.
2. Weakness of the cadres working in newspapers during that period.
3. The press owners' fear of the responsibility of publishing private news, which led to the emergence of a negative phenomenon in the development of journalistic work in the agency, due to the loss of competition among them.

The agency, like any other startup, started with simple and ill-considered steps, an adequate study in line with the great tasks it was based on. At the beginning of its work, it did not have the appropriate place for the nature of the work, as it was in one of the rooms on the radio, in addition to the lack of specialized staff to work in the agency. . As the confused and unstable political situation in Iraq during that period had a significant and clear impact on the agency's institutions, due to the sensitivity of the work and its direct relations with the authority and the masses, and because of the improvised political changes, the lack of scientific planning and ignorance of the foundations on which the agency runs, as well as the organization, financing and goals in the style of the agency's work This was the big obstacle in the lack of development of the agency, as the leaders of the authorities were led by various theories and opinions, as well as a change in procedures in senior positions in the media services. This led to the lack of development of the agency. (45)

This shows us when the revolution of February 8, 1963, which was led by (Abdul Salam Aref) and which led to the overthrow of (Abdul Karim Qassem), was succeeded. (Shathel Taqa) (46) in his place as Director General of the Agency. (47) Mohsen Hussein mentions that during that period he was surprised, on February 28, that he received the order of his dismissal and was at that time director of internal news in the Iraqi Agency. He entered the agency only after the dismissal of Mohsen Hussein, as he was told that Mohsin Hussein was the one who wrote the letters of Prime Minister Abdul Karim Qassem, but this was not the case. in newspapers. (48) However, Mohsen Hussein was able to return to his journalistic work at the agency, and that was after four months of the dismissal order. He contacted the Minister of Interior (Hazem Jawad) (49) and met him and told him about the matter of his dismissal, so the Minister of Interior contacted the Minister of Information (Ali Saleh Al-Saeedi) (50) And he said to him, "Go to him now and you will find a decision to return you to the job." Indeed, Mohsen Hussein went to the Minister of Information and gave him a decision to return him to the job immediately. be wrong about that." Years passed on those days and they worked together and became friends. (51) 1970 is considered the date in which the great transformation in the agency or the qualitative leap that it had was due to:

1. The agency's budget until 1970 did not allow it to provide the requirements needed by modern work in the press during that period.
2. The agency moved on June 15, 1970. The Minister of Culture and Information at that time opened a new headquarters for the (Iraqi News

Agency) in Abu Nawas Street, and that was an increase in movement and activity in the agency's departments, as well as benefiting from the capacity within the modern and advanced communication devices that contributed to raising the level of work and developing The press staff is very large.

3. It has a symbol appointed in all media to publish and distribute the news without interruption, quickly and accurately. This had an impact on the development and improvement of journalistic work, and that was through the provision of advanced wired and wireless means of communication, as well as the employment and provision of the financial capacity that provides them with what they need.
4. It also did not include only the external development in equipment and equipment, but also in the increase in the number of press personalities, including correspondents, editors, photographers, translators and others. (52)

It also sent the agency's employees abroad to see the work of news agencies abroad. (53) In addition to the development that happened to the Agency over the course of several years, its work and achievements have also developed and expanded in its news activities to include:

1. Follow up and document the activities of the President of the Republic and Iraqi officials.
2. Monitoring Arab and foreign agencies.
3. 3 Monitoring Arab and international radio stations and employing their news and reports according to the central media orientation, or submitting them to information that is useful in the union of political decision-making.
4. 4 Follow-up to the Arab and international echoes of the events and the Iraqi approval.
5. The Iraqi media outlets broadcast local and international news throughout the day.
6. Issuing two bulletins for subscribers in the Arab and international media, one in Arabic and the other in English.
7. Issuing daily and periodic bulletins, including: (The Monitor is issued in the morning and evening, daily listening, the military bulletin, the economic bulletin, international reports).
8. Issuing encyclopedias that document local, Arab and international media positions.
9. Issuing research, studies and reports assigned to it on qualitative topics at a rate of four studies per month. The organizational structure of the Iraqi News Agency. (54)

First / his role in choosing the agency code

Since the establishment of the Iraqi News Agency from 1959-1963 in issuing its first news bulletins in its full name, and this remained the case for four years. The agency is completely under the news it publishes, but what was preventing them is that there is a British agency called (Arab News Agency) (55) that publishes its news in the name of (conscious). The symbol is (conscious) but this news has nothing to do with the Iraqi News Agency, the Arab News Agency was a branch of the British Reuters news agency (REUTE) (56), like (Near East Radio),

which was broadcasting its programs from Nicosia, a branch of the British Broadcasting Corporation (57)

Throughout the four years, agency officials were contacting British agency officials, explaining to officials their right to this symbol. The Director General of the Iraqi News Agency (Shazil Taqa), Mohsen Hussein Jawad, was able to realize the agency's dream and obtain the agency's symbol, when the Director General of the Arab News Agency visited Baghdad. (58) Tom (Little 1963), and discussions began with him at the agency's headquarters in Salhia in (Ambassador Hotel) on Abi Nawas Street, and there they informed them that they were ready to give up their agency on the symbol (conscious) and they also informed them that their agency would change its name accordingly from And since then, the Arab News Agency has adopted a symbol for itself, which is (regional) instead of (conscious), and the Iraqi News Agency began using the symbol (conscious). The process of obtaining the symbol for the Iraqi News Agency, after the process of persuading Tom Little to give up the symbol, and his trademark became registered in the name of the Iraqi News Agency.

Secondly/ his role in establishing the Federation of Arab News Agencies (Fana) (Federation of Arab News Agencies) (E.A.N.A))

The idea of cooperation between Arab agencies was launched from the Iraqi News Agency, specifically in 1963 when (Shathel Taqa) was director general of the agency. Arab countries (60). Calling for the adoption of this cooperation (61) and on this basis the idea of establishing the Union of Arab News Agencies emerged. After that, the Arab Information Ministers who met in Cairo March 7-10, 1964, and in implementation of the decision of the Council of Arab Kings and Presidents held in Cairo on January 13, 1964, decided to encourage the establishment of a union For Iraqi news agencies. (62) The Arab Ministers of Information decided to attend for the establishment of the Union and to call for a symposium organized by the directors of Arab news agencies operating in the member states of the Arab League. In October 1964, a number of directors working for Arab news agencies met at the invitation of the Media Department of the League of Arab States. . In this meeting, the issue of cooperation between Arab news agencies was discussed, working to increase the spread of news in the Arab world, finding ways to deliver and promoting it abroad, and carrying out tasks, including strengthening professional ties with the rest of the unions and other international organizations, and securing the widest areas for the distribution of news inside and outside the Arab world and working on upgrade it. The meeting was attended by its founding body to establish a federation and on July 24, 1965 the federation held its first conference in Amman, in which the statute and the internal system of the federation were discussed. Unified obtains and distributes news and has offices like other news agencies. Certainly, such an agency, if it were to come to light, would raise many problems in matters of publishing and funding. (70) The project was studied again at the end of 1969 in the Iraqi News Agency, due to the necessity of reviving the union on new foundations. Mohsen Hussein presented a memorandum in this regard suggesting that Iraq should initiate contact with the major Arab agencies such as (the Egyptian Middle East News Agency) (A.E.S.) A.), and the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) (A.N.A.S.) (Syrian Arab News Agency) (63), and that the union's work in the first phase is limited to media and technical

cooperation between agencies and not the establishment of a unified news agency. The proposal was submitted to (Bahja Shaker, Director General of the Iraqi News Agency at the time, supported the proposal and adopted it. (64)

Some of the agency's employees, including Mohsen Hussein, were sent to Syria and then to Egypt in the late 1970s. They met with the general managers of the Syrian and Egyptian agencies, and it was agreed to re-establish a union in light of the Iraqi proposal submitted by Mohsen Hussein on behalf of the Iraqi News Agency. Presenting the proposal to the Arab League in the name of (the Iraqi News Agency). The Iraqi delegation, including Mohsen Hussein, attended the Arab Ministers of Information Conference 1970, in which it was approved to re-establish the union again and on the bases proposed by the delegation from the Iraqi News Agency. (65)

Conclusion

It can be said from the foregoing that when Mohsen Hussein and his colleagues were chosen to establish the Iraqi News Agency, he had no knowledge of how to establish the agency, in addition to not providing the necessary tools for establishing the agency. Especially when he was making his efforts to obtain news information and do not forget that he kept it in the agency and later he trained the journalist and media generation who worked in the agency, and not only was his role in establishing the agency but also in developing it, especially his role in choosing the symbol for the agency. The credit goes to Mohsen Hussein and his efforts to re-establish the Fana Agency, which was initially refused to be established. Arab countries.

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 47. Prime Minister Abdul Karim Qassem himself used to write letters, but some of them understood that the one who writes his letters in the newspapers is the one who writes them to the Prime Minister, but this was the work of any

- journalist doing, so Shazal had some doubts about that on the part of Mohsen Hussein Interview with Mohsen Hussein, December 18, 2020, 10 am, phone call.
48. Hazem Jawad: He was born in Nasiriyah, 1936. He was one of the participants in the February 8 coup. He assumed the position of Minister of State for Presidential Affairs. He was dismissed from his position on November 16, 1963 and placed under house arrest. Then he left Iraq in 1979 and moved to London and stayed there. Hassan Latif Kazem Al-Zubaidi. Previous source, p. 204.
 49. Ali Saleh al-Saadi: He was born in Baghdad in 1928, was a member of the Independence Party, fled to Syria after the assassination attempt on Abdul Karim Qassem 1959, and after the success of the February 8, 1963 coup, he became Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, arrested on November 11, 1963, and exiled to Madrid on a military plane, and in 1964 he formed his own group called (the Arab Revolutionary Socialist Party), and he died in Baghdad 1977, Abdel Wahab Al-Kayyali, the previous source, vol. 4, p. 186.
 50. Article in Alif Baa Magazine, Issue 20, March 2018.
 51. Shaaban Hassan Hamadeh, News Politics of the Iraqi News Agency 1997-2003, a doctoral thesis (unpublished), University of Baghdad - College of Information, 2005, p. 153.
 52. Ali Akram Ali, the previous source, pp. 17-19.
 53. Jaafar Hassan Jassim Al-Tai, previous source, pg. 49.
 54. Ali Akram Ali, previous source, p. 15.
 55. Reuters: The largest and most important agency was established in 1851 by the German-born (Paul Julius Reuter), and the aim of its establishment was to obtain news of the stock market, finance and trade, which led to competition between it and newspapers in this field, as it was distributing news to newspapers. Free, and it had no competitor at that time except the newspaper (The Times of London). Farid Ayar, News Brokers, A Study on International News Agencies and Areas of Influence, Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), Kuwait, 2002, pp. 57-286.
 56. Article in Al-Mashriq newspaper, Issue 4785, March 9, 2021.
 57. Mohsen Hussein, From Papers, pp. 165-167.
 58. Ahmed Fares Abdel Moneim, League of Arab States 1945-1985, a historical and political study, Center for Arab Unity Studies, Lebanon, May 1986, pp. 12-17.
 59. Mohsen Hussein, From Papers..., p. 184.
 60. Muhammad Farid Ezzat, the previous source, pp. 155-156; Muhammad Sahib Sultan, Media and Communication, A Study in Origin and Development, Dar Al-Masra for Publishing and Distribution, Amman, 2012, p. 171.
 61. Ahmed Yaqoub Yusuf Muhammad, the previous source, p. 127.
 62. The main center of the agency was in Damascus and the agency had an independent budget, Muhammad Farid Mahmoud Ezzat, previous source, pp. 101-105.
 63. Article in Al-Mashreq newspaper, No. 4785, March 9, 2021.
 64. Ahmed Yaqoub Youssef Muhammad, the previous source, pp. 128-130.
 65. Suwija, N., Suarta, M., Suparsa, N., Alit Geria, A.A.G., Suryasa, W. (2019). Balinese speech system towards speaker social behavior. *Humanities & Social Sciences Reviews*, 7(5), 32-40. <https://doi.org/10.18510/hssr.2019.754>

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