

# Systematic review and meta-analysis of scientific articles in Persian language in the field of political awareness

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## Abstract

In the theoretical dimension, the current article focuses on the analytical function of the concept of political awareness in domestic scientific articles and reflects the ways of using this concept in the theoretical models of previous studies. In the experimental dimension, the article sought to discover the generalizable experimental dimensions of political awareness in Iranian society and to draw a scatter map of the study of components connected with this phenomenon in order to know the points of emptiness and accumulation. With this description, two questions have been raised: "What are the methods of conceptualization and theoretical explanation of the phenomenon of political awareness in Persian language scientific articles?" and "To what extent is there synergy between empirical findings on various aspects of political awareness in Iranian society?" 21 articles (quantitative and qualitative) were selected for a systematic review of the analytical features of articles in the field of political awareness, of which only 16 quantitative articles were present in the process of collecting experimental data and meta-analysis studies. The findings of the article show that the trend of political awareness studies in Persian articles is towards the theoretical analysis of this concept as a dependent variable. The most synergy between the empirical results of the studies in this field refers to the confirmation of the effect of the "media" variable on increasing political awareness, and the confirmation of the effect of "demographic characteristics" and the rejection of the effect of "social class" on political awareness is in the next rank.

Keywords: political awareness, meta-analysis, media, demographic characteristics, social class  
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## 1 Introduction

Introduction Democratic theories at the normative level assume "informed and active citizenship" as the main condition for the formation and continuation of democratic governance [10]. In the democratic political literature, informed and active citizenship is defined as the "political awareness" of citizens and the involvement of citizens in political processes based on their tastes and preferences [38]. Although the normative theory considers political awareness as one of the necessary civic qualifications for building vibrant democracies, and the level of this qualification among the citizens of some democratic societies has been evaluated by some authors and researchers as optimal [8], but many empirical studies can be found that report the low level of political awareness of citizens in a number of societies, including developed industrialized countries [15]. Political awareness is a multidimensional phenomenon and

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a dynamic concept that, like many other concepts in the field of social sciences, lacks a comprehensive definition and barrier. The lack of consensus on the definition of political awareness means that researchers need to extract self-made indicators to measure the level of political awareness of citizens, the difference in which can lead to a change in the result of this assessment. Part of the reasons for the lack of a definition or at least the existence of comprehensive indicators for the evaluation of political awareness also come back to different perceptions of this concept and its manifestations in society, which vary according to time and place, as well as the statistical population and the research group can be different in this situation, the researcher's understanding and level of expectations about the state of political awareness of the target community is considered one of the main intervening variables in determining the level of political awareness in that community, which seriously doubts the validity of the findings and results. Although political awareness is one of the concerns of normative theorizing in the field of politics, and scientific research about it is rooted in liberal democratic ideas, it is important for all political systems, regardless of their nature and form. It is important and can be investigated, and it is only possible that the reasons for its importance and the method of its evaluation are different. Political awareness, especially in the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, where the feature of democracy is associated with religion, is considered a key concept and a basic component for the continuation of the travelled path and continuous progress. One of the basic prerequisites for formulating a comprehensive model for understanding, measuring and promoting political awareness among different strata of society is the systematic categorization and review of researches related to the topic of political awareness with the aim of obtaining clear theoretical and empirical tendencies and it is hidden from them, but so far no attempt has been made to collect and examine experimental results in relation to their political awareness and theoretical analysis in the Persian language. In this situation, the present article, in the theoretical dimension, pays attention to the analytical function of the concept of political awareness in the literature of this field and reflects how Persian language scientific articles use the concept of political awareness in their patterns. At this level, related researches are separated from each other according to whether the analytical function (special task or function) of the concept of political awareness is understood in them as an independent, dependent, mediator or measurement variable.

In addition to the analytical function of articles in the field of political awareness in creating theoretical relationships between this concept and other concepts and variables in the field of political science and related fields (including political sociology), most of the articles in this field focus on the empirical role of political awareness. and the experimental results of this concept have been subjected to different types of investigation in various articles, which have been categorized and analyzed in this article to discover the empirical relationship between them. The mentioned experimental results have been considered only for the articles in which the analytical function of the concept of political awareness has been measured quantitatively. With this description, the purpose of this article is to identify and categorize the theoretical use of political awareness in scientific studies in the Persian language (both quantitative and qualitative) by creating a deep insight into the way authors use the concept of political awareness in creating Theoretical relations and on the other hand, further development of knowledge about the empirical dimensions of political awareness in (various strata of) society by evaluating and summarizing the empirical results presented in these studies. In fact, the current article is based on these two closely connected questions: "Which theoretical trends does the phenomenon of political awareness follow in Persian language scientific articles and in what way is it conceptualized?" Is?" and "to what extent are the knowledge and empirical findings about the various dimensions of political awareness in Iranian society continuous and consistent?" Therefore, the present article aims to contribute to the theoretical and empirical development of this important research field in the country by analyzing the scientific literature of political awareness in domestic journals. Conceptualization of political awareness based on the understanding of awareness At the beginning, it is necessary to mention that, like many other political and social concepts, there is no clear and consensus-accepted definition of consciousness, and the combination of existing definitions of consciousness presents an almost confusing picture. Also, since many authors who have dealt with the combined concepts of consciousness, including political consciousness, health consciousness, psychological consciousness, situational consciousness and self-awareness, have started their research with the definition of consciousness, the volume and variety of scientific definitions of consciousness are many and from different specialized perspectives, it is diverse and sometimes somewhat inconsistent. Therefore, the definitions of awareness here are mainly based on research related to political awareness or aligned with it. Abonu et al. [1] define awareness as the sum total of a person's understanding, knowledge and evaluation of things. Based on this definition, awareness actually grows and develops with the growth and evolution of a person's life, and as a result, it comes from various cultural factors that affect a person. Fromm [12] and Vaneechoutte [36] often use the term consciousness instead of awareness, and Bittle et al. [9] consider the concept of psychological subjectivity as a suitable alternative.

Hermosa [16] is of the opinion that consciousness is conventionally defined as a person's perception of himself and his surroundings, and therefore reduces the concept of consciousness to self-awareness. Al-Khaza'leh and Lahiani [3] link the root of the word awareness in the Arabic language to the inclusion or gathering of things through imagining,

understanding and cultivating them. Based on this definition, consciousness includes a person's perception of himself and his mental and physical functions, his perception of the characteristics of the outside world, and his understanding of himself as a member of society. Consciousness literature can be organized in a general category around three main concepts. First, psychological awareness [28], which emphasizes the individual's understanding of his own perception and thinking, where awareness is defined as the capacity to obtain a detailed and deep understanding of himself and his surroundings. The second perspective argues that consciousness is multi-level [12] and considers levels from conscious to unconscious individuals. The final stage of consciousness in this argument comes from processing everything that happens in the body and mind of the individual [36]. The third conceptualization considers awareness in relation to recognizing the emotions of others [7] to consider the individual's influence on others. Considering the focus on the subject area of political awareness, this article has adopted a hybrid perspective and while addressing the concept of awareness in the realm of psychological awareness, it has depicted awareness as a multi-layered phenomenon that should include the recognition of other people's feelings and the individual's influence on others. In fact, this hybrid view of consciousness, which has the closest alignment with its adopted status, in the hybrid concept of "political consciousness" is also well in line with various scientific and public perceptions of it. Academic literature in the conceptualization of political awareness has mostly cited Zaller's [39] definition, which defines this phenomenon as "a person's level of attention to politics and understanding of what he has encountered". The importance of political awareness is enough that many authors consider it a vital part of citizens' democratic and civil competence, a competence that forms the foundation of democracy [31]. Political awareness plays a significant role in the political orientation of social agents. Political awareness is not only focused on elections and political parties, but also includes a wide range of political aspects, and in today's political landscape, it increasingly includes complex social issues such as reliability, resilience, climate change, and health issues. expands Social networks as well as widespread civil opposition against some government policies, especially in relation to immigration, interest rates, clean energy, environment, fossil fuels, health restrictions, etc. to complicate.

Social and economic phenomena lead them to the field of political issues, which means that it is necessary to pay more attention to the promotion of political knowledge and awareness of citizens. Since political science lacks developed tools to conceptualize, identify, and qualify people's political awareness, conceptual development of this phenomenon in a manner consistent with the educational, social, and political needs of each society is considered very important. In other words, the lack of consensus on a specific definition of political awareness and the determination of its limits and recognition of its extent among social actors can and should be done with descriptions as close as possible to reality and logical analyzes by referring to existing definitions covered in the meantime, understanding the background of the given definitions of political awareness has a decisive effect on choosing the most suitable definition according to the purpose of the research. Of course, this recommendation is more aimed at field researches to measure political awareness, which adjust their questionnaire items and questions based on the definitions and delimitation of this concept. In database research, the clarification of these definitions will help the researcher in the stage of open coding and better allocation of codes, concepts and categories. Most authors have referred to concepts close to it to define and explain political awareness. For example, according to Abonu et al. [1], the better a person's political culture is, the higher his political awareness will be. Almond and Verba [4] also included political awareness as one of the aspects of political culture in their classic study, but John Zaller with his book called *The Nature and Origin of Public Opinion* [39] had the greatest impact on the research. has had about political awareness. In an attempt to understand this fundamental issue in political science, "how people form their political attitudes", Zaller integrates ideas from basic studies with various research fields in his work. To understand the formation of political attitudes in people, he places political awareness in the central part of his theory, which provides theoretical inspiration and guidelines for subsequent works. In his book, Zaller provides a definition of political awareness, which has been very important for further studies in this field. As mentioned, according to Zahler, political awareness refers to "the degree to which a person pays attention to politics and understands what he is faced with". This definition distinguishes two dimensions of political awareness from each other. The first dimension focuses on politics, which is related to receiving political information. For example, people get political information by reading newspapers, watching news, or talking to their peers. Although this dimension is necessary for political awareness, Zaller emphasizes that paying attention to political information is not enough for political awareness. According to Zaler, the most important part of political awareness is the second dimension, which he calls political understanding. This means that political awareness requires that people keep the political information they care about in their memory or as part of attract their cognitive orientations. In general, political awareness is related to the cognitive processes about "receiving and understanding the communication from the political environment". Zaller's definition is based on the idea that people receive political information through communication in the surrounding environment. People pay attention to this information and understand it in different degrees. Through these two dimensions, political awareness is related to cognitive participation in politics among people.

## 2 Review method

In the present research, the meta-analysis method was used for the systematic review of scientific articles on political consciousness. Meta-analysis and meta-study are usually used in researches that focus on the evolution and criticism of ideas and the development and display of knowledge in a specific field. The word "metaanalysis" which was invented by G.V. Glass [14] in the meaning of "analysis of analyses" in combination with the word "qualitative" was used for the first time by Stern and Harris [35], which entered social science studies under the title of "meta-study" by Paterson et al. [29]. Meta-analysis or meta-study includes the analysis of a set of analyzes that have been done at different times and is done with the aim of systematic review, comparison and formal integration of the results of completed research studies. In the same way, qualitative meta-analysis can also be defined as "overlapping of findings" with the aim of developing intermediate theories [40]. A systematic review in the qualitative meta-analysis method includes the processes of setting questions, searching the research literature, selecting eligible researches, extracting data and evaluating their quality and validity, combining, interpreting and interpreting the research results report. For this purpose, after formulating two interrelated research questions, eligible articles were selected by following a step-by-step approach as follows. First, by searching the Persian keywords "political awareness", "political knowledge" and "political literacy" in the reference database of the Islamic world sciences, the scientific information database of academic jihad, the information bank of the country's publications (Magiran) and Civilica regardless of the publication time limit, the number 25 articles were obtained, and after studying the text of this number of documents and checking their relationship with the topic of this article, 21 articles were selected for review and preparation of the report. All these 21 articles were involved in the process of evaluating the theoretical use of political awareness in Persian articles, but only 16 articles were selected for the classification of experimental data and meta-analysis of the results of studies in this field, because the other 5 articles were Qualitatively, they deal with the issue of political awareness and lack measurable empirical data. The reason for choosing the conference papers in this study, along with the articles published in scientific journals, on the one hand, is the low number of articles related to the issue of political awareness in Persian language in the country's scientific quarterly journals, and on the other hand, it is possible to build Broader generalizations have been made when drawing conclusions by increasing the scope of the literature. The sources used in the definition of awareness and the conceptualization of political awareness have also far exceeded this range, but the data required for the analysis related to the questions of the article is only from a collection of 20 articles in Persian language have been selected to calculate the sum of the squared error.

$$\sum (y_i - (\hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i))^2$$

The derivative of the sum of squared errors according to the parameter  $\hat{\beta}_0$

$$\sum (-y_i + \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i)$$

Equal to setting the derivative with zero in order to find the minimum points

$$\sum (-y_i + \hat{\beta}_0 + \hat{\beta}_1 x_i) = 0$$

Find the root for the resulting equation in terms of

$$\hat{\beta}_0 \hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{x}$$

The derivative of the sum of squared errors in terms of the parameter  $\hat{\beta}_1$

$$\sum (-2x_i y_i + 2\hat{\beta}_0 x_i + 2\hat{\beta}_1 x_i^2)$$

Placing  $\hat{\beta}_0$  and finding the root for the resulting equation in terms of  $\hat{\beta}_1$

$$\sum (x_i y_i + (\bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1 \bar{x}) \sum x_i + \hat{\beta}_1 \sum x_i^2) = 0$$

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

In this way, the parameters of the linear model will be estimated as follows.

$$\hat{\beta}_1 = \frac{\sum(x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum(x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\beta}_1\bar{x}$$

where  $\bar{x}$  and  $\bar{y}$  are the average of  $x$  and  $y$ .

Research findings Following Gortz [15], who has conducted a similar meta-analysis of scientific articles in English in the field of political awareness, two strategies have been used in this research to review and analyze the literature collected in Persian. In the first step, a mapping approach for four-way classification and coding (independent/dependent/modifying/measuring) how to theoretically use the collection of articles collected from the concept of political awareness (determining the analytical features of the article) along with descriptive statistics have been used to count the frequencies and describe the findings. In the second stage, quantitative meta-analysis and two-way coding (confirmation/rejection) have been used to combine the results of the studies and estimate the empirical relationship around the various dimensions of political awareness in the articles of this field.

### 2.1 Analytical functions

The articles studied in this article are classified according to how their author/authors use the concept of political awareness. In better words, the present analysis carefully followed the explanations of each article and in the process of categorizing the articles (by separating the analytical tasks) the hypotheses (if any) and the text of the article were referred to. is to obtain the approach of the author/authors of each article from the use of political awareness in a theoretical relationship between variables. By closely following the description of political awareness in each study, a coding scheme was set up with four distinct task categories including independent variable, dependent variable, intervening variable and measurement variable. Based on this plan, if political awareness is used in the hypotheses or elsewhere in the text to explain or create a phenomenon, a situation or a result and is not influenced by other variables of the experiment, the special analytical work of the article as a "Independent variable" is coded. In the articles where political awareness is considered as a concept or phenomenon that can be explained or described and influenced by other variables, the analytical task of political awareness is coded as a "dependent variable". If political consciousness is expected to condition and change the causal relationship between constructs, it is coded as a "moderating variable" that indicates when and under what conditions an effect is expected (this type of variable is measurable and measurable). and the researcher also seeks to measure and include it in his research plan or theoretical model. In the absence of these two conditions, the mediating variable is called the control or intervention variable, but since none of The few articles reviewed in this article have not adopted this analytical function, the exact distinction between them is irrelevant). In a situation where only the level of political awareness has been measured and no link has been established between this concept and other concepts, the special analytical task of the article is coded under the title of "measurement variable" (although political awareness is here in terms of theoretical function It is considered a type of dependent variable, but since it is not observed and measured to understand the effect of a specific independent variable, and it does not have a relational hypothesis, it is classified separately). The criteria for classifying articles according to their specific analytical tasks are listed in Table No. 1. Descriptive statistics have also been used to highlight the repetitions of each function, the results of which are shown in Table 2.

Table 1: Types of analytical functions in the coding plan

function type (special task)	Criterion
Independent	If political awareness is considered or described as a phenomenon that affects an outcome.
Dependent	If political consciousness is considered or described as a phenomenon under the influence of another phenomenon or concept.
mediator	If political awareness is considered or described as a phenomenon that adjusts the effect of one phenomenon on another phenomenon.
measurement (numerical)	If only the rate of political awareness is measured in general or around a subject/phenomenon and no other variable is involved.

Empirical communication After identifying, separating and counting the frequency of various ways of theoretical use of political awareness in Persian language scientific articles, the empirical role of political awareness in those articles



Table 2: Repetition of analytical functions of political awareness in the collection of scientific articles in Persian language (**Note:** The total percentage is more than 100 because most of the articles contain more than one different function.)

Function	repetition (percentage)	Number
Dependent measurement (numerical)	90.5%	19
Independent mediator	57.1%	12
	38.1%	8
Total	9.5%	2
	195.2%	41

that quantitatively study the various dimensions of this concept The data were analyzed using the meta-analysis method. By using this method, the empirical results of each case study are combined with the results of other studies in an accumulated level so that a larger and more comprehensive picture of the state of political awareness in the society emerges. Since the statistical population of all researches in Persian in the field of political awareness are made up of strata and groups within the country, this bigger picture actually represents the state of political awareness of (a part of) Iranian society. Although meta-analysis is still less used in political science literature, it is widely used in psychology and medicine and is a way to logically and continuously combine the results of previously published studies on a topic. Meta-analysis evaluates the effect size of different studies and then combines all studies into a single analysis. Different studies on the same topic may include studies that support certain hypotheses while others do not, or may even move in the direction of confirming opposing hypotheses. In this situation, by putting together and systematically combining such studies and using statistical methods to combine their findings, we will reach better results about that issue. In relation to the topic of this article, the results related to the various dimensions of political awareness in (various strata of) Iranian society may be very diverse and sometimes contradictory, but by applying meta-analysis to combine the results of these studies, it is possible to achieve a more accurate assessment of This situation will be more. There are various frameworks and models for applying the meta-analysis method, and the selection of the best and most compatible ones depends on the purpose and subject of the study. A meta-analysis relates effect sizes to different studies and then combines all studies into a single analysis. The "vote counting" method to determine the effect size is the most common type of meta-analysis used in scientific research, which includes the counting of statistically significant and positive results. The current article, like Gortz [15], has followed the method used by Geys [13] to evaluate the experimental results related to political awareness in Persian studies. The mentioned method focuses on the coefficient estimates reported in previous studies. Each unique coefficient estimate is considered as a test and each article as a study. This distinction is important because a study usually includes several hypotheses or one hypothesis with several tests and therefore more than one coefficient estimate of the political awareness variable. Here it is assumed that counting the number of tests and studies provides vital prerequisites for estimating the results related to political awareness and as a result an important approximation of the empirical relationship around this phenomenon in Persian language scientific articles. In a simple coding scheme, Geys [13] divides the results of all tests of a certain hypothesis into three categories: "success", "failure" or "abnormality". Success is achieved when the relationship is statistically significant and in line with the predicted direction of the hypothesis. Failure is when the observed relationship is not statistically significant. Abnormality is when the test is significant, but contrary to the stated hypothesis. Since the direction of all hypotheses in all studies may not be the same, and the concepts of success and failure can also be misleading for labeling the results of hypothesis testing according to their direction, so from the adjusted form of the previous criterion Said has been used for coding tests. With this description, if the result of a test is meaningful and positive (in the direction of confirming the effect of various components or the increase, importance, existence, necessity, etc. of political awareness) as a "confirmation" and if in terms of A non-significant or significant, but negative statistic (rejecting the influence of various variables or reduction, unimportance, non-existence, lack of political awareness, etc.) is recorded as a "rejection". In the meantime, the tests that measured the level of political awareness or its influence and influence only in a comparative manner, have not been taken into consideration, because in general, information about the dimensions of existence or influence/influence They do not provide political awareness. It is also obvious that only the tests related to various dimensions of political awareness were included, not all the tests that exist in the studied articles. Based on this method, first, all the tests of all the studied articles were coded using coding labels, and then the approval rate of each study was obtained by dividing the number of "confirmations" by the number of tests performed in each article. In fact, the approval criteria of each study is measured according to the number of approvals of the tests of the same study, so that if at least half of the tests have been approved according to the aforementioned criteria, the study is It is considered as a "confirmation" and otherwise as a "rejection". It is obvious that the words "confirmation" and "rejection" here do not refer to the article in question, but to the empirical findings of that article regarding the various dimensions of the variable of political

awareness (also in connection with the hypothesis(es) presented in the same article) and therefore has nothing to do with confirming or rejecting the value and importance of the studied article. "Studies approval rate" is an estimate of the total number of approved articles after combining the results of all analyzed studies. This calculation is the result of dividing the number of approved studies by the total number of studies. As can be seen, the validation rate of studies gives the same weight to all studies regardless of the number of tests reported, and thus if the distribution of the number of tests varies significantly among studies (which it does), may mean bias in favor of studies with more tests. Therefore, in order to avoid such potential bias, in the present article, the density criterion of "tests' approval rate" has also been used. Instead of giving equal weight to each study, this criterion gives equal weight to each test. This calculation is the result of dividing the number of approved tests in all studies by the total number of tests. It is obvious that the two criteria "verification rate of studies" and "verification rate of tests" in case of equal distribution of analytical functions (independent/dependent/adjusting/measurement) or any of the variables in the articles containing that type of function or variable will be the same. The empirical relationship of the analytical functions of political awareness in quantitative articles in Persian language is shown in Table No. 3. Table No. 4 shows this relationship around independent variables and Table No. 5 about dependent variables. As it is clear from the data in Table No. 3, few studies in Persian language in the field of political awareness have not conceptualized this phenomenon empirically from the perspective of the moderating analytical function.

Table 3: Empirical correlation of analytical functions of political awareness in quantitative articles in Persian language

Variable type	Number of studies	Number of approved studies	Rate of approved studies (percentage)	The number of tests	The number of approved tests	Approved test rate (percentage)
measurement (numerical)	12	11	91.7%	12	11	91.7%
Independent	7	6	85.7%	9	8	88.9%
Dependent	15	15	100%	64	53	82.8%
Independent	16	16	100%	85	72	84.7%

Table 4: Empirical correlation of independent variables of political awareness in quantitative articles in Persian language

test (with more criteria)	Number of studies	Number of approved studies	The number of tests	The number of approved tests	The number of approved tests
Awareness of citizenship rights	1	1	100%	1	100%
Political legitimacy	1	1	100%	1	100%
(Types) of political participation	5	4	80%	7	85.7%
Total	7	6	85.7%	9	88.9%

Table 5: Empirical correlation of dependent variables of political awareness in quantitative articles in Persian language

Approved test rate (percentage)	The number of approved tests	The number of tests	Rate of approved studies (percentage)	Number of approved studies	Number of studies	subset	Collection
100%	30	30	100%	10	10		
88.9%	8	9	88.9%	8	9		
100%	5	5	100%	5	5	media (mostly used)	
100%	1	1	100%	1	1	Gender, age (above married)	connections
66.67%	4	6	66.67%	4	6	(married) GPA/Education	Demographic
50%	2	4	50%	2	4	(more) field/university	characteristics
50%	3	6	50%	3	6	(various) floor (higher)	Educational
0	0	2	0	0	2	Residence (Urban) Place of education (witness schools)	features Social characteristics
0	0	1	0	0	1		
15	15	100%	64	53	82.8%	Total	

## 2.2 Systematic review

The statistical population of scientific research related to the issue of political awareness in Persian language (or the target population in qualitative research) has largely focused on scientific and educational institutes and institutions. 15 studies out of the 21 reviewed articles (equivalent to 71.4% of the total studies) have dealt with universities (11 cases of students and 1 case of professors) and schools (2 cases of students and 1 case of teachers).

Geographically, the city of Isfahan has the highest concentration of political awareness studies with a rate of 28.6%, of which 4 cases (equivalent to 19% of all studies) are related to the University of Isfahan. "Tehran city women" is the only statistical population outside the institution of university and education that has been quantitatively investigated in the field of political awareness studies. The target population of the 5 qualitative articles studied is often large and includes the entire Iranian society [19], Iranian women [33], Shiites [21] and citizens of Khuzestan province [2] and it is only Pourali [30] who has studied political awareness at the individual level (Sahib Urwa). The theoretical tendencies towards political awareness could be identified in all the articles examined during the current study, and no article was identified without specific theoretical analysis for the analysis of this concept. This is despite the fact that Gortz [15] has considered the existence of a clear analytical function for only 67 out of 78 articles in English in the field of political awareness. Also, based on the findings of the present study, 41 analytical functions for political awareness were identified in 21 reviewed articles, and if we remove the type of measurement variable, 29 analytical functions remain (as mentioned in the analytical functions section), the measurement function is considered as a dependent variable in terms of theoretical function). In this way, an average of 1.38 functions can be identified per article, which rate was only 0.87 in Gortz's [15] study of political consciousness literature in English. Political awareness in the literature of this field in Persian includes all four categories of independent, dependent, moderating and measuring analytical functions, but the moderating analytical function (or any other type of mediating variable) is not included in any. Which of the quantitative articles has not been used? It is also obvious that the analytical functions used in qualitative research cannot be of the type of measurement variable. The trend of political awareness literature in Persian articles is towards the theoretical analysis of this concept as a dependent variable, so that this analytical trend is not seen in only 2 articles out of 21 reviewed articles. The theoretical processing rate of political awareness as an independent variable is 38.1% (equivalent to 8 articles) and only 2 articles (9.5%) have analyzed this concept in the framework of the moderating variable. These findings are contrary to the experience of Highton [18], who blames political consciousness researchers for focusing too much on the theoretical and empirical analysis of this concept/phenomenon of the independent variable or moderating variable.

Based on the data in Table 2, political awareness has been used as a dependent variable in 19 articles (90.5% of all studies). Most of these articles have shown interest in the relationship of more than one independent variable with the dependent variable of political awareness. Although several factors have been investigated in these 19 articles as potential explanations for the emergence and promotion of political awareness, the analysis carried out in this article highlights two key factors in this regard. First, the mentioned studies are mostly focused on the relationship between "media" and political awareness, so that 12 articles (equivalent to 63.16% of all articles) that studied political awareness as a dependent variable and) have addressed the media as an independent variable. The second factor is "demographic characteristics" (age, gender and marital status), which 52.63% (10 articles) of this category of studies have addressed. "Science" in general or "basic education" in particular is in the third place with a share of 36.8% (7 articles) and the effect of "difference in the field of study" on the formation of political awareness is considered in 5 articles (26.3%). has been "Social characteristics" (class, place of residence, occupation, income and education of parents) have been investigated in 21% of articles (4 out of 19). "Social structure" (citizens of Khuzestan province, Shiites and women) was also qualitatively selected as a dependent variable in three qualitative articles, and the variable "place of education" (witness or non-witness schools) also appeared in only one article. As the data in Table No. 2 shows, 8 articles (equivalent to 38.1% of the total studied articles) have also placed political awareness as an independent variable, none of which has a relationship of more than A dependent variable and independent variable of political awareness have not been considered. "Political participation" is placed as an independent variable in half of these articles (50%) and "awareness of citizenship rights", "media literacy", "political legitimacy" and "personal characteristics" (Imam Reza (A)) with a share of 12.5%, the dependent variable was each of the other four articles, the last of which was conducted qualitatively. The special analytical task of moderating or mediating political awareness has also been identified in only two qualitative articles. Alipour Khodadadi et al. [2] consider political awareness to be simultaneously influenced by "education" and "political stratification" and effective on "political participation" and they believe that stratification, political awareness and political participation in Khuzestan province They interact with each other and influence each other. Shabani and Yazdakhshi [33] also attributed the low level of women's political awareness, which was formed under the influence of "political socialization and gender stereotypes accepted by women themselves", to the weak "political participation" of women and their passive presence in political arenas.



evaluates effectively. The contribution of the repetition of the measurement variable in the articles in the fields of political awareness can be measured from two angles. In total, 12 quantitative articles have evaluated this variable, which is equivalent to 57.1% of the total of 21 studied articles or 75% of the total of 16 analyzed quantitative articles, which should be considered as a rule. Although some qualitative studies have also provided a general assessment of the level of political awareness of their target society, but since they cannot be measured like other types of variables used in this type of studies, only in the systematic review of political awareness studies have contributed and are not suitable for understanding the empirical relationship of political awareness in Persian articles in a meta-analytical way.

**Metaanalysis** The process of meta-analysis to discover the empirical relationship of the analytical functions of political awareness in quantitative essays in Persian language can be obtained from the "measurement" function in quantitative essays, which among all types of special tasks, has the highest approval rate for the test. (and not studies), started. Although the level of political awareness of the respondents in some studies about various issues (such as political awareness about international conventions in Bagheri's article [6]) or by separating various indicators of this phenomenon (such as concepts, decision institutions, history, events and political figures have been measured in Sakhamehr and Sedaghati Fard [32], Hersij et al. [17] The variable is included. In addition, except in the article by Sakhamehr and Sedaghati Fard [32] where the political awareness of the respondents about "political faces" was rejected in contrast to other indicators of this phenomenon as well as political awareness in general, the results of all indicators have been aligned in other studies. It is noteworthy that in both the articles of Sakhamer and Sadaghati Fard [32] and Masoudnia [23], the knowledge of "political concepts" is the highest and the knowledge of "political faces" is the lowest. In the article of Hersij et al. [17], although "investigating the level of political awareness and its dimensions among the respondents" is declared as one of the main goals of the research, but only the standard deviation of students' scores in each of the three indicators of awareness of concepts, Events and political history and political awareness are reported as a whole. In general, out of 12 articles that evaluated the level of political awareness of the respondents, this variable was not confirmed only in the scientific article (2017). He reported the level of political awareness of the statistical sample as 5.1 out of 20. Masoudnia et al.'s article [26] has achieved the highest level of political awareness by reporting a score of 21.11 on the political awareness of Isfahan University professors (in the range of 30-6). Also, the level of political awareness of Isfahan University students is relatively high in the article of Masoudnia et al. [26]. Although the other 9 articles show the existence of political awareness among the respondents, the level of this awareness is reported in 4 articles as average and in 5 other articles as above average. In total, the measurement function tests with a rate of 91.7% (11 out of 12) show the highest level of approval among the set of dependent, independent and measurement functions. With this description, the average level of political awareness in previous studies is evaluated as "above average". Among the 16 quantitative articles in the field of political awareness, 7 articles have studied this phenomenon in the position of "independent" variable, and the highest rate of verification of the post-tests of the measurement function is also the group of independent functions (with 88.9%) has been allocated to itself. However, the average of independent functions, like the measurement function, has not been confirmed in all studies. "Political participation" is the most prominent variable used in the literature of political awareness in Persian language to understand and influence this phenomenon. Political participation was tested 7 times in 5 articles to evaluate the effect of political awareness and confirmed in 6 cases. This variable has been tested in the article of Sakhamehr and Sedaghati Fard [32] by separating the three variables of "political participation", "political activity" and "participation in elections", all of which have been confirmed. Masoudnia et al. [26], Shahramnia and Melai [34] and Elmi [11] also confirmed the positive effect of political awareness on increasing participation. But Moulai [27] reported a negative relationship between students' political knowledge and their interest in political participation. In total, the relationship between political awareness and political participation in previous studies has been confirmed at a ratio of 7 to 6 or at least 4 to 5.

The effect of political awareness on "political legitimacy" which was tested in Masoudnia et al. The authors have reported that "the variable of political awareness is directly related to the rational and charismatic dimensions of political legitimacy based on Weber's theory in the studied society, but it has no significant relationship with its traditional dimension." In any case, the results of these three tests have been positive, and the rational and sometimes charismatic dimension of political legitimacy in today's societies is more important and influential compared to the traditional dimension of this phenomenon. The influence of political awareness on "awareness of citizenship rights" is also the last variable of the independent type that Malekshahinejad [22] has verified. Although the position of political awareness as an independent variable has been weak in previous studies, but the integration of their empirical results that confirms the important role of this phenomenon in increasing "political participation" can be a way forward. Regarding the two variables "political legitimacy" and "awareness of citizenship rights", although there is no data to combine, they provide ideas that are probably a good starting point for further research on them, especially It will be related to "political legitimacy". As mentioned earlier and can be seen in Tables No. 2 and 3, political awareness in Persian articles has been examined mostly in the variable position of "Dependent". 15 articles are included in

this category, and all these studies have been confirmed, which means that the results of the analysis tests of the dependence of political awareness (on various other independent variables) in each article have been confirmed. In any case, the total approval rate of this category of tests (regardless of their belonging to each study) was lower than other categories. However, out of 64 tests that include political awareness as a dependent variable, 53 tests have been confirmed, which shows a confirmation rate of 82.8%. As shown in table number 5, the tests related to the analytical tasks of political awareness in the position of the dependent variable in this research are classified under nine groups, which by combining the groups that are close to each other Four sets are reducible. Political awareness as a dependent variable in the literature of this field in Persian language has been studied mostly with the aim of evaluating the influence of "media" on this phenomenon, a variable that is categorized under the "communication" group alone. The "media" variable takes 30 tests (46.9% of the total tests of dependent functions) in 10 articles. It is worth pondering that all these tests have been confirmed without exception, which indicates the decisive influence of the media on political awareness. Meanwhile, the tests related to the effectiveness of political awareness of internet media have been more than other types of media (including print media (press) and broadcast media (radio, television and satellite)) and according to the report Kabiri et al. [20] Among the electronic media, the Internet has the greatest influence on political awareness, and radio, television, and satellite are in the following positions. Kabiri et al. [20] have also tested media on political awareness and have come to the conclusion that "the average political awareness has had a significant difference by separating the content of consumption of virtual networks, so that the students who read the news content and religious people use virtual networks, they are more aware than other groups".

Evaluation of the effect of the set of "demographic characteristics" including gender, age and marital status (as an independent variable) on the dependent variable of political awareness in terms of repetition in previous studies with 15 tests (and a confirmation rate of 93.3%) ranked second It is assumed that they are separated from each other in the present article, because they were not the same mode of attention of the authors and their test results do not match exactly. In the meantime, the variable "gender" individually is still ranked second in the set of dependent variables. The effect of this variable on political awareness has been tested in 9 studies, which has been confirmed in 8 cases. Among the 9 mentioned studies, only Kabiri et al. [20] have come to the conclusion that statistically, there is no significant difference between the level of awareness of men and women, and other studies all point to the higher level of awareness of men (boys). They have emphasized on women (girls). Regarding the effect of the "age" variable on political awareness, although the number of tests was less, more definitive results were reported. In such a way that this effect has been confirmed in all 5 studies that have examined this variable. Based on this, the level of political awareness increases with age. In relation to the maximum effective age on the growth of political awareness of people, no point of view has been presented, because the majority of the statistical population of researches in the field of political awareness are teenagers (students) and young people (students). In the meantime, since Shahramnia and Melai [34] discussed the issue of political awareness of teachers, they reported the highest level of political awareness in the middle-aged and older group, and Waqif and Rahmzadeh [37] also, although political awareness Women aged 20-65 were measured under the influence of national media news, they did not report on the relationship between age and political awareness. The effect of "marital" status on the level of political awareness has also been reported only in the article of Kabiri et al. [20], which shows a higher level of political awareness among married students compared to unmarried students. "Educational features" with 10 tests (and a 60% approval rate) ranks third among the most frequent tests in the dependent functions category. Out of these, 6 tests have been conducted on the variable "level of education and grade point average", 4 of which have been approved. Sakhamehr and Sadaghati Fard [32] and Masoudnia et al. [24, 25] have reported the effect of a higher university education level on increasing political awareness, and Masoudnia [23] also confirmed this effect in relation to high school education levels. Bagheri [5] has also evaluated the higher entrances in the undergraduate level as having higher political awareness. On the other hand, Shahramnia and Melai [34] did not confirm the relationship between studying in higher university levels and the level of political awareness of students, and Bagheri [6] also rejects the effect of a higher average on increasing political awareness. In this situation, the effect of increasing education and scientific knowledge on the growth of political awareness in previous studies has been evaluated as higher than average. The effect of "field of study" on political awareness is the second subcategory of "educational characteristics" with 4 tests in 4 separate studies, half of which have been validated. Bagheri [5] considers the students of humanities, technical-engineering, sciences, and agriculture faculties to have the highest level of political awareness, and in Bagheri's article [5] only the ranks of the two faculties of humanities and technical-engineering have been moved. Is. This difference has been reported as significant in the two aforementioned articles, but Moulai [27] shows almost the same order, but does not consider the difference in scores between different faculties to be significant. Masoudnia [23] also reported that the difference in the fields of high school education had no effect on the level of political awareness. With this description, although the level of political awareness is affected by the field of study, its effect is not significant.

"Social characteristics" with 9 tests (of which only a third of them have been verified), represents the last set of

variables affecting political awareness in the studies of this field. "Social class" is one of the subgroups of this group, which is confirmed by the effect of social class in the article of Shahramnia and Melai [34], the occupation of parents in the article of Bagheri [6] and the rejection of the effect of education of parents in the article of Bagheri [6], and the economic status of the family is faced in Bagheri's article [5]. Since half of the "social class" subcategory tests have been confirmed, the general result (according to the theoretical criteria compiled by the present article) can be considered confirmed, but the intensity of this confirmation is very weak. It is special that this variable has been tested in only three studies, and the authors of the two studies are the same, and the findings of this author are also related to the effect of one component of social class (i.e. parents' education) in contrast with the other component (i.e. occupation parents) is located. "Place of residence" and "place of education" have also been tested as two subsets of "social characteristics" in three separate studies, none of which have been confirmed. The effect of the place of residence on the separation of the city and the village has been tested in Bagheri's articles [5, 6], none of which have been confirmed. Masoudnia [23] also did not find a significant difference between the political awareness of students studying in witness and non-witness schools.

### 3 Conclusion

The purpose of this article is to systematically review the existing researches in the Persian language in the field of political awareness in order to expand the boundaries of knowledge regarding a) methods of conceptualization and theoretical explanation of the phenomenon of political awareness in the scientific literature of the country and b) empirical connection. It was written among various aspects of political awareness in Iranian society. For this purpose, first, a collection of 21 articles was collected after going through the screening process, and then the method of their authors' theoretical encounter with political awareness under the four analytical tasks of "independent", "dependent", "adjusting" and "measuring" It was classified. In the following, the meta-analysis method and the vote counting operator were used to combine the reports and aggregate the empirical results of 16 previous qualitative studies in the field of political awareness. The analysis of the findings shows that political awareness studies have focused too much on formal educational institutes and institutions, and many strata and sections of society have no place in these studies. "Women of Tehran" is the only statistical community outside the university and education institution that has been quantitatively investigated in the field of political awareness studies. Therefore, although the collection of previous studies in the field of political awareness is a rich source for understanding this phenomenon in the country's official educational environments, its findings cannot be generalized to other strata and groups. Regarding how to conceptualize and theoretically explain the phenomenon of political awareness in Persian articles, the findings show that all the reviewed articles have specified their theoretical perspective to explain this phenomenon and All four categories of independent, dependent, modulating and measuring analytical tasks can be seen in the collection of collected articles. 41 analytical tasks for political awareness were identified in 21 reviewed articles, which include the use of 19 dependent functions, 12 measurement functions, 8 independent functions, and 2 moderating functions. By removing the measurement functions (which are theoretically considered dependent functions), 29 analytical functions remain, which is equivalent to 1.38 functions per article. The moderating analytical function (or any other type of mediating variable) has not been used in any of the quantitative articles. In fact, it is difficult to measure the impact The indirectness of the phenomenon of political awareness in a quantitative way has caused the special analytical task of mediating this phenomenon to be considered only in qualitative articles. It is also obvious that the analytical functions used in qualitative research cannot be of the type of measurement variable. With this description, the tendency of the literature of political awareness in Persian articles is towards the theoretical analysis of this concept as a dependent variable, in such a way that this analytical tendency is seen in only 2 of the 21 examined articles. does not eat In relation to the degree of synergy and continuity of the empirical results of previous studies on political awareness in Iranian society (or more precisely, the academic or educational society of the country), the findings of the article are presented on two levels. At the first level, three independent analytical tasks (64 tests), measurement (with 12 tests) and dependent (9 tests) are separated from each other, with the highest synergy with a rate of 91.7% (11 approved tests) Dedicated measurement functions. The average level of political awareness in previous studies is also evaluated as "above average". In the second level, the cumulative results of each of the subgroups of two independent and dependent analytical tasks are presented. "Political Participation", "Political Legitimacy" and "Awareness of Citizenship Rights" are the three variables of the independent analysis of political awareness, which have been studied in seven articles. "Political participation" has been tested 7 times in 5 articles to evaluate the effect of political awareness on it, which has been confirmed in 6 cases (from 4 articles), which shows a relatively high consistency between the results of previous studies regarding the acceptance of the influence of political awareness on It shows political participation. Although the effect of political awareness on "political legitimacy" has been tested in an article about three types of legitimacy and confirmed with a ratio of 2 to 3, but due to the lack of similar studies in this

field, its results can be summarized. is not. The effect of political awareness on "awareness of citizenship rights" has been tested and confirmed in only one article. The tests related to the analytical functions of political awareness in the position of the dependent variable are also categorized under four sets, and the "media" variable from the single variable set of "communications" with 30 tests (in 10 studies) has the largest number of tests. among all types of variables, and all these tests have been confirmed without exception, which indicates the decisive influence of the media on political awareness. "Media influence" can be introduced as the only variable that studies in the field of political awareness have reached a consensus on, because in addition to 100% confirmation, it has been tested in 10 studies (out of a total of 16 studies). The effect of "demographic characteristics" on political awareness is ranked second in terms of approval rate by studies in the field of political awareness. In this collection, although the effect of the "gender" variable is not a consensus, it has a high degree of correlation since it was tested in 9 studies and confirmed in 8 cases. The "age" variable, which was tested in all 5 studies, has been confirmed and has a relative consensus. The effect of "marriage" has also been tested and confirmed in only one article. "Educational characteristics" including "level of education and GPA" and "field of study" were tested 10 times in 4 articles, which was accompanied by a 60% approval rate. Since both the male rate is not high and the number of studies has been small, it is not possible to confirm the consistency between the empirical results of studies in the field of political awareness around this collection. The lowest rate of confirmation of the experimental results of studies in the field of political awareness is dedicated to the influence of "social characteristics" on the level of political awareness. In this series, the effect of the variable "social class" which represents parents' occupation, income and education for 6 times (in 3 articles) has been put to the test, which has been confirmed in 4 cases. However, the two variables "place of residence" and "type of school" which were tested in 2 and 1 study, respectively, were all rejected. With this description, there is almost a high synergy between the empirical results of previous studies that reject the influence of "social characteristics" on the level of political awareness. Based on the findings of the current research, it can be concluded that studies in the field of political awareness strongly need to pay attention to more diverse variables and adopt innovative methods to understand the causes, solutions, obstacles and areas that can be manipulated to improve awareness. They are political among different strata of society. Although the media is considered an undeniable variable and tool for increasing the level of political awareness, repeating the confirmation of this relationship in various studies does not help to increase political awareness. Repeated measurement of the influence of unmanipulated variables such as age and gender or less manipulable variables such as social class, field of study and level of education, which are mostly known in advance, do not play a significant role in improving the state of political awareness. For this purpose, it is necessary that studies in the field of political awareness go beyond the survey method based on a closed questionnaire and use various methodologies such as thematic analysis and database based on the analysis of texts, documents, laws and regulations and in-depth interviews with elites. Those in charge of political awareness and people who are the subject of this phenomenon should use it.

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