DIGITAL JUSTICE “MODEL OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES”

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ABSTRACT

Objectives: The research aims to study the concept of digital justice and explore the requirements for transforming the justice system, shifting from traditional and paper-based justice to a generally intelligent digital justice. The study also delves into the experience of the United Arab Emirates in this regard.

Methodology: The research employed descriptive and analytical approaches in examining legal texts, jurisprudential opinions, and related articles. It was divided into three main sections: firstly, defining the nature of digital justice; secondly, addressing the requisites of digital transformation in the justice system in general; and thirdly, analyzing the experience of the United Arab Emirates in this transformation.

Results: Digital justice has become an imperative necessity for advancing the judicial system globally. It is no longer feasible to discuss comprehensive justice within a society without digitizing judicial procedures, wholly or partially, and facilitating access to legal and judicial information for those concerned. Achieving comprehensive digital justice necessitates robust and suitable legislative and material infrastructures, a pursuit that the United Arab Emirates has undertaken and continues to develop across its legal, judicial, and administrative entities involved in this matter.

Conclusion: The research advocates the ongoing development of digital justice in the United Arab Emirates and other countries, urging the continual adaptation of emerging digital technologies to serve justice. Time will not stand still or revert backwards, and digital transformation has become an essential imposition across various aspects of life.

Keywords: digital justice, digital litigation, United Arab Emirates (UAE) experience, legislative infrastructure, legal framework, digital transformation, judicial procedures, efficiency in justice, remote judicial sessions.

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JUSTIÇA DIGITAL "MODELO DOS EMIRADOS ÁRABES UNIDOS"

RESUMO

Objetivos: A pesquisa tem como objetivo estudar o conceito de justiça digital e explorar os requisitos para transformar o sistema de justiça, passando da justiça tradicional e baseada em

A pesquisa empregou abordagens descritivas e analíticas na análise de textos jurídicos, pareceres de jurisprudência e artigos relacionados. Ele foi dividido em três seções principais: em primeiro lugar, definir a natureza da justiça digital; em segundo lugar, abordar os requisitos da transformação digital no sistema de justiça em geral; e em terceiro lugar, analisar a experiência dos Emirados Árabes Unidos nesta transformação.

Resultados: A justiça digital tornou-se uma necessidade imperiosa para o avanço do sistema judicial global. Já não é possível discutir uma justiça abrangente numa sociedade sem digitalizar os procedimentos judiciais, no todo ou em parte, e sem facilitar o acesso das pessoas em causa à informação jurídica e judicial. Alcançar uma justiça digital abrangente requer uma infraestrutura legislativa e material robusta e adequada, uma busca que os Emirados Árabes Unidos empreenderam e continuam a desenvolver em todas as suas entidades jurídicas, judiciais e administrativas envolvidas nesta questão.


Palavras-chave: justiça digital, litígio digital, experiência dos Emirados Árabes Unidos, infraestrutura legislativa, quadro jurídico, transformação digital, procedimentos judiciais, eficiência na justiça, sessões judiciais remotas.

1 INTRODUCTION

Digital technology has profoundly altered the face of the world, transforming it into a small village, and breaking the barriers of space and time. It has facilitated communication among all peoples of the earth through various social media platforms, enabling the rapid dissemination and exchange of information, thereby enhancing efficiency and effectiveness in managing various facets of life.

The realm of justice has not been immune to this rapid evolution. Many governments and legal and judicial institutions are making significant efforts to harness the outputs of this technology, utilising it in the service of justice and law. Most have initiated the transition from traditional paper-based justice to intelligent digital justice, necessitating substantial costs, infrastructure, and qualified personnel.

The United Arab Emirates has been among the countries that have exerted significant efforts to keep pace with this technological advancement prevalent in our era.

1.1 RESEARCH PROBLEM

Any change or update within the realm of justice, whether in Arab countries or Western ones, typically raises concerns and apprehensions about the availability of
legislative and material infrastructure that allows such change or update to succeed. There is a consideration regarding the impact of this transformation on achieving efficient justice – that is, justice that ensures the rightful party obtains their rights through the most straightforward means and in the shortest possible time while adhering to established judicial principles in legal thinking, such as the transparency of trials and respect for the right to defense. Therefore, how successful is the experience of the United Arab Emirates in this regard?

1.2 IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH

Arab legal jurisprudence rarely delves into studying the use of digital technology in legal proceedings within Arab countries, nor does it often elucidate the extent of success achieved in establishing what is termed as 'digital justice.' This lack of coverage prompted us to address this topic and examine the experience of the United Arab Emirates in this regard. The UAE stands as one of the significant experiments in the Arab region and globally, given its relentless pursuit of leveraging the advantages of this technology across various domains, particularly in the administration of justice facilities.

1.3 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

This research aims to elucidate the concept of digital justice and study the requisites for transforming justice facilities from traditional paper-based justice to intelligent digital justice in a general context. It also seeks to explore the experience of the United Arab Emirates in this regard, shedding light on the encountered obstacles and difficulties while highlighting the mechanisms employed to overcome them. This exploration is particularly relevant given the UAE’s dedication to staying abreast of all advancements in the realm of digital technology.
1.4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND PLAN

The research adopts both descriptive and analytical methods concerning the requisites of digital transformation in general and specifically regarding the transformation of justice facilities in the United Arab Emirates from traditional to digital. The research is divided into the following sections:

- First Section - The Concept of Digital Justice;
- Second Section - Requisites of Digital Transformation in Justice Facilities Generally; and
- Third Section - The Experience of the United Arab Emirates in Digital Transformation.

2 THE CONCEPT OF DIGITAL JUSTICE

2.1 DEFINING JUSTICE AND ITS IMPORTANCE

Legal scholars differentiate between justice and fairness. They perceive justice as absolute equality among all members of society, regardless of their circumstances. Fairness, on the other hand, entails equal treatment while considering the circumstances and conditions surrounding individuals. The latter may lead to differentiating treatment for those encompassed by certain aspects necessitating special consideration, such as distinguishing between a minor and an adult regarding criminal responsibility (Mansoor Ahmad, 2021).

In Islam, justice is one of the names and one of the attributes of Allah (SWT). Numerous verses in the Quran command and advocate for justice, such as Allah's statement: "Surely Allah enjoins justice, kindness and the doing of good to kith and kin,88 and forbids all that is shameful, evil and oppressive.89 He exhorts you so that you may be mindful." (Holy Quran, Surah An-Nahl, 16:90). Additionally, another verse emphasizes the importance of rendering justice in society: "Allah commands you to deliver trusts to those worthy of them; and when you judge between people, to judge with justice…” (Holy Quran, Surah An-Nisa, 4:58). It is said to administer justice between the disputants: that is, to be fair between them, avoid oppression and injustice, and give each rightful party their due (Mu'jam Al-Ma'ani Al-Jami': p.1, (almaany.com).

Aristotle deemed justice as one of the four virtues, along with wisdom, temperance, and courage (Abdulfatah, Ahmad Abdulhasib, 2018). Justinian defined it in
his renowned textbook as the soul's inclination to give each rightful party their due with firmness and stability (Al Zanoon, Hasan Ali, 1975).

The famous inquiry by former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill during World War II about the state of justice in the country was not a trivial matter. He was well aware that the measure of a nation's progress, despite its crises, lies in the state of its justice and its stability.

Article 94 of the Constitution of the United Arab Emirates issued in 1971 emphasizes that 'justice is the foundation of the state,' implying that justice is fundamental to the governance, stability, progress, and prosperity of the nation. Undoubtedly, modernizing the justice system and digitizing it can assist in reinforcing investors' confidence in the laws and courts of the state (Mehdi Al Loati, 2022).

2.2 JUSTICE IMAGE

2.2.1 Objective Justice and Procedural Justice

There is no doubt that the rules governing the lives, rights, and duties of individuals, whether social, economic, political, or criminal, are rules aimed primarily at achieving objective justice; that is, justice in determining the rights of all members of society, without increase or decrease. However, in practical terms, objective rules alone are not sufficient to achieve justice. There must also be procedural rules that ensure the protection of these rights, preserve them from infringement, and guarantee their recovery or compensation if they are violated. Rights without protection, especially by the judicial authorities in the state, do not give their holders any sense of security and stability (Hindi, Ahmad Awad, 2014).

Therefore, legislators in various countries aim to establish legal texts regulating the procedures for obtaining judicial protection, known as litigation procedures. These procedures illustrate and regulate the necessary measures before the courts and judicial authorities to ensure that everyone entitled to a right attains it through the easiest and quickest means while respecting the right of the litigants to defend themselves and their legitimate interests.

Thus, the rules that establish objective justice are of no value without rules that ensure the achievement of procedural justice. These latter rules are the fence that protects and guarantees the rights of individuals.
2.2.2 Achieving Justice

Means the completion of lawsuits, grievances, and requests presented before the courts and various judicial bodies in accordance with the provisions of the law and its spirit within a reasonable time. There is no convincing justice if it is pronounced after a long time of presenting the case to the judiciary. Effective justice never simply means speeding up dispute resolution without respecting the guarantees of achieving justice, such as respecting the right of individuals to defend themselves and their legitimate interests, as well as respecting the principle of confrontation and other fundamental constitutional and legal principles upon which judicial regulation in the state is based. Effective justice lies in obtaining a fair judgment and executing it within a reasonable time while respecting all trial guarantees (Al Kattan, Mhd Samer, 2024).

2.3 DEFINITION OF DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

"Technology" is a word of Greek origin, composed of two parts, the first part is "Techno" meaning craft, skill, or art, and the second part is "Logy" meaning science or study (Mohammed, Al Alfi, 2007).

"Digitization" is the conversion of data and information from a physical format to a digital format, making it easier to distribute, exchange, handle, and reuse via computers and other smart devices, such as converting a paper document into an electronic file that is easily accessible when needed. Digitization differs from "automation" in that the former aims to convert manual procedures into digital ones, leading to increased productivity and efficiency while reducing costs. Automation means utilizing digital technologies and digital data in managing procedures by evaluating data and making pre-structured decisions. Automation presupposes digitization (Al Sahbi, Ahmad, 2023).

The term 'digital technology' is, according to some, the process by which data or information is transferred from one place to another in the form of electronic shipments, unaffected by time or location. It is capable of carrying various forms of written texts, images, illustrations, audio, and video clips. It possesses the ability to overcome obstacles or interference and is non-intersecting with waves from different sources ('Digital Technology and Its Features' (jeninmix.com), 2022).

Others argue that digital technology isn't just about transferring, processing, storing, and providing access to information for individuals and institutions. It also encompasses the continuous differentiation between those who generate information.
(innovation) and possess the ability to utilize it (skills) on one hand and those who consume it with ordinary or limited skills on the other (Aomaha Aisha, Mustafa Boadi, 2019).

The Emirati legislator, in Article 1 of the Electronic Transactions and Commerce Law issued by Federal Law No. 1 of 2006, provided several definitions related to some technical terms, among the most important:

- The 'Electronic Information System' is a collection of programs and devices designed for processing and managing data and information, to create, extract, send, receive, store, or display messages electronically or otherwise.
- 'Electronic' refers to anything related to modern technology, possessing electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, automated, optical, or similar capabilities.
- 'Electronic Information' refers to information and data with electronic characteristics presented in the form of texts, codes, voices, drawings, images, computer programs, or others.

Consequently, the Emirati legislator issued the Electronic Transactions and Trust Services Law by Federal Decree-Law No. 46 of 2021, which replaced the aforementioned Electronic Transactions and Commerce Law. In its first article, the law provided multiple definitions for technical terms similar to or closely resembling those in the previous law.

On the other hand, the Emirati legislator dedicated a specific section to the use of remote communication technology in civil procedures (Articles 328 to 338) in the Civil Procedures Law issued by Federal Decree-Law No. 42 of 2022 (The sixth chapter of the third book, and this chapter was first included by the legislator in the Civil Procedures Law, pursuant to Federal Decree-Law No. (10) of 2017).

According to this, the legislator clarified that it refers to the use of visual and auditory communication methods between two or more parties to achieve remote presence, exchange documents, as well as the registration of claims, announcement procedures, trials, and execution conducted through the use of such technology (Article 328 of the UAE Civil Procedures Law) (Al Kattan, Mhd Samer, 2023: pp. 19-49, 'The Use of Remote Communication Technology in Civil Cases - An Analytical Study in Light of UAE Law,' Al Fikr Al Sharti, vol. 32, no. 124, UAE).

In essence, digital technology can be defined as electronic tools, systems, devices, and resources that generate, store, or process data. This encompasses, for instance, social
media, multimedia, and mobile phones (Concept of Digital Technology, mawdoo3.com, 2022).

### 3 THE REQUIREMENTS OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE JUSTICE SECTOR IN GENERAL

#### 3.1 FOUNDATIONS OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE JUSTICE SECTOR:

To achieve the ambitious goal of establishing comprehensive digital justice within any society, certain prerequisites must be met. These can be summarized as follows:

- Establishing the necessary legislative framework to institute a secure and integrated system enabling digital justice. This includes enacting provisions governing digital trials, recognizing electronic evidence, and regulating their procedures, as well as addressing cybersecurity concerns. Cybersecurity, referred to as “أمن تكنولوجيا المعلومات” in Arabic, aims to safeguard systems, networks, computers, and data from electronic threats. (What is Cyber Security? Definition & Best Practices, itgovernance.co.uk)
- Providing essential physical infrastructure for digital transformation across all judicial entities. This involves ensuring uninterrupted power supply, robust internet access, computers, and other smart devices to ensure proper digital accessibility for judicial transactions and procedures.
- Ensuring secure and robust servers for storing legal and judicial information, along with sophisticated information systems capable of processing, transferring, and securely exchanging this data among legal entities. This includes safeguarding, maintaining integrity, and ensuring privacy and confidentiality.
- Promoting information literacy and proficiency in digital technology among all justice stakeholders, such as judges, lawyers, staff, and litigants. This enables them to efficiently carry out legal procedures within specified timelines (Al Baghdadi, Mohammed, 2020: p. 1-25, References and Mechanisms for Activating the Strategic Plan for Digital Transformation in the Justice System between 2021 and 2025 in Morocco, Business Disputes Journal, Issue 57).

That passage emphasizes the importance of ensuring access to technical support for all involved in legal proceedings. It suggests having a sufficient number of specialized staff available for continuous technical support, enabling anyone facing obstacles to directly communicate with and receive guidance from these experts remotely. This
support aims to assist individuals encountering difficulties accessing legal procedures, like court sessions, due to technical issues such as faulty meeting links. Direct contact with technical support via toll-free phone or dedicated email is proposed to mitigate such obstacles, preventing unnecessary consequences like missing court appearances that could harm an individual’s interests without any fault on their part.

3.2 OUTLINING THE OBJECTIVES OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION WITHIN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

Given the significant advancements in digital technology, it became essential for the judicial system to leverage the immense potential offered by this technology to achieve efficient digital justice. Hence, among the primary objectives of digital transformation in the justice system are the following:

- **Creating a digital legal and judicial database**, aims to enable legislators, judges, their associates (including lawyers, experts, and staff), litigants, and researchers to access, around the clock (24/7), all prevailing laws (such as legislations and regulations), legal precedents, and judicial rulings, along with any updates in this domain. This system also empowers litigants and their representatives to submit their requests to the relevant judicial authority, or any of its branches or bodies as applicable, and to track and access these requests remotely at any time, using computers and other internet-connected smart devices.

- **Achieving comprehensive electronic justice that respects the rights of defense and ensures fair trial guarantees through effective digital means that are faster and more convenient for both litigants and those working in the field of justice than traditional justice.**

- Facilitating communication between various entities and actors in the legal and judicial fields.

- Speeding up the procedures for registering lawsuits, petitions, and requests with the relevant authorities, and expediting their resolution.

- Facilitating the payment of various judicial fees through electronic means.

- Digitally authenticating pleadings, applications, submissions, memoranda, and judicial appeals as formulated by the litigants themselves, without any interference from the court or its clerk, by means of compression, deletion, or
modification, positively impacting the trial's credibility and the expeditious resolution of cases (Jamal, Abdullah, 2018).

4 THE EXPERIENCE OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES IN DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

4.1 DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF STATE FACILITIES IN GENERAL

Digital transformation and the adoption of smart applications began early across various economic sectors, societal domains, and aspects of daily life in the United Arab Emirates. In 2000, the announcement of the 'E-Government' program laid the cornerstone for all subsequent digital transformation initiatives at the national level. This positioned the UAE as a pioneer in the region in this regard. In 2013, a new initiative was launched, ushering the country into a new phase termed the 'Smart Government.' Consequently, the UAE witnessed a qualitative leap from e-government to smart government, culminating in the digital government era (emaratalyoum.com, 2023).

Digital technologies have undeniably become an integral part of life in the present time within the United Arab Emirates, influencing various economic, social, educational, and other domains. The digital government has emerged as the prevailing model in overall governmental operations. This digital transformation was not fortuitous; rather, it was the outcome of concerted efforts, ongoing monitoring, challenges, and collaborative initiatives between the public and private sectors. Among the most notable milestones witnessed by the country on its digital transformation roadmap include:

- 1982: Establishment of the General Information Authority;
- 1985: Implementation of modern integrated fiber optic services;
- 1995: Introduction of the Internet to the United Arab Emirates;
- 1999: Establishment of Dubai Internet City;
- 2000: Creation of Dubai e-Government;
- 2001: Launch of the first electronic payment gateway (e-dirham);
- 2003: Establishment of the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA) and the e-Government;
- 2009: Tasking the Telecommunications Regulatory Authority and the e-Government with digital transformation;
- 2010: Launch of the official portal for the government of the UAE;
- 2011: Launch of the Mohammed bin Rashid Smart Learning Program;
4.2 DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM IN THE UAE

The digital transformation of the UAE government has had a significant impact on all aspects and sectors, particularly on the justice system. This is evident in the state's provision of the necessary legislative and technological infrastructure for this transformation:

4.2.1 Providing the necessary legislative framework for digitizing the justice system:

The UAE has issued a series of consecutive laws, both substantive and procedural, aimed at establishing an integrated legislative and legal structure. This structure enables the use of digital technologies in conducting various legal transactions and procedures. Among the most important of these laws was:

- Federal Law No. 1 of 2006 concerning Electronic Transactions and Commerce: Its primary objectives include safeguarding the rights of electronic users, promoting electronic transactions and communications, removing any obstacles that might hinder electronic commerce and other electronic transactions, facilitating the transfer of electronic documents between governmental and non-governmental entities, enhancing trust in the safety and validity of electronic transactions, communications, and records, and fostering the development of e-commerce locally and globally through the use of electronic signatures (Article 3).

- Federal Law No. 36 of 2006 amending certain provisions of the Law of Evidence in Civil and Commercial Transactions issued by Federal Law No. 10 of 1992: This law stipulated provisions regarding electronic signatures, writing,
editorials, records, and electronic documents. These provisions were recently incorporated into Federal Decree-Law No. 35 of 2022 concerning the Law of Evidence in Civil and Commercial Transactions.

- Federal Law No. 10 of 2014 amending certain provisions of the old Civil Procedures Law No. 11 of 1992: This law authorized the judicial notification through email or any other means of modern technology specified by a decision from the Minister of Justice. These provisions have been incorporated, in essence, into Federal Decree-Law No. 42 of 2022 concerning the new Civil Procedures Law.

- Federal Law No. 5 of 2017 amending certain provisions of the old Criminal Procedures Law: One of the key aspects of this law was granting competent authorities the right to utilize remote communication technologies in criminal procedures. These provisions have been essentially incorporated into Federal Decree-Law No. 38 of 2022 concerning the newly amended Criminal Procedures Law.

- The Federal Decree-Law No. 10 of 2017, amending certain provisions of the Civil Procedures Law, notably introduced specific provisions regarding the utilization of remote communication technology within the old Federal Civil Procedures Law No. 11 of 1992. These provisions have been incorporated in the final legislation of the new Federal Civil Procedures Law issued by Federal Decree-Law No. 42 of 2022.

- The Federal Decree-Law No. 34 of 2021 concerning combatting rumors and electronic crimes replaced the previous federal law on the same subject. Its primary objectives include establishing a comprehensive legal framework to enhance societal protection against electronic crimes committed through internet networks and technologies. Additionally, it aims to safeguard electronic platforms and government databases in the UAE, combat the proliferation of rumors and fake news, address electronic fraud, and uphold privacy rights and personal freedoms.

- The Federal Decree-Law No. 46 of 2021 concerning electronic transactions and trusted services aims to bolster trust, encourage and facilitate various forms of electronic transactions, safeguard the rights of participants, and keep pace with technological advancements to enhance electronic transactions
Local Law No. (9) of 2022 regarding regulating the provision of digital services in the Emirate of Dubai aims, among other objectives, to support Dubai's strategic plans for digital transformation. It seeks to reinforce the overarching directives and implementation of governmental policies towards digitalizing life in Dubai. Additionally, the law aims to enhance trust in various digital services within the emirate, keeping abreast of technological advancements to improve the quality of digital services and simplify access procedures from anywhere and at any time, while encouraging both public and private sectors to execute ambitious plans, programs, and initiatives aimed at digitizing life in the emirate (Media Office, 2023).

All of this, in addition to numerous objective and procedural texts related to certain legal and judicial transactions or procedures carried out through digital means. Such texts are outlined in the Commercial Transactions Law issued in Federal Decree-Law No. 50 of 2022 (which replaced the previous Commercial Transactions Law issued in Federal Law No. 18 of 1993). Likewise, they are present in certain regulations and decisions, such as Ministerial Decision No. 260 of 2019 concerning the procedural guide for regulating litigation using electronic means and remote communication in civil procedures. The provisions of this decision have been incorporated into Federal Decree-Law No. 42 of 2022 concerning the Civil Procedures Law (Amended).

4.2.2 Providing the necessary systems and applications for digitizing justice

The Ministry of Justice in the UAE has been digitizing its services since 2006, including judicial procedures across various courts in the country. Currently, it has reached a rate of conducting 93% of judicial sessions remotely. The ministry has managed to reduce the average case processing time to approximately 65 days. It looks forward to utilizing Meta-verse solutions and "Chat GPT" in developing the next generation of future government services. Among the notable digital applications provided by the ministry on its website are:

**Electronic Lawsuit Filing System:** This system allows for the registration of lawsuits, payment of judicial fees, and attendance at court sessions, remote pleading, and the issuance of judgments. The ministry has provided a guide for accessing the Electronic
Sessions Portal on its website (WAM, n.d.) (Ministry of Justice UAE, 2023). The ministry also provided the "Case Inquiry" service, enabling users to request access to public case data and check its current status electronically (Ministry of Justice UAE, n.d.). "Electronic Notary Clerk" is a system designed to process notary transactions, including remote and visual power of attorney arrangements, eliminating the need for personal presence for individuals within or outside the country. Once the necessary verification process is completed, the transaction is digitally received (Ministry of Justice, UAE, 2023).

The Smart Lawyer: This is an integrated program specifically designed to manage law firms online in a flexible, easy, and quick manner, allowing access at any time and from anywhere (Ministry of Justice, UAE, 2023). Electronic Marriage Contracts System: This integrated intelligent electronic system operates on computers, tablets, and smart devices. It has been implemented across all federal Sharia courts in the country, facilitating the entire process of marriage contracts. Users can electronically submit marriage contract applications, schedule appointments, reserve officiants, and make electronic payments. Moreover, it enables officiants to officiate marriages using smart tablet devices, eliminating the need for paper transactions or records. The system provides all the necessary information for users to access the service (Ministry of Justice - United Arab Emirates, 2023).

These are some of the digital systems and applications provided by the Ministry of Justice in the United Arab Emirates, facilitating access to efficient digital justice.

5 CONCLUSION

5.1 RESULTS

Due to the widespread influence of digital transformations across all aspects of life, digital justice has become an essential necessity for developing the judicial system everywhere. It's no longer feasible to discuss a competent justice system in a society without digitizing judicial procedures, whether entirely or partially, and facilitating access to legal and judicial information for those concerned.

Achieving comprehensive digital justice requires robust legislative and material infrastructure, something that the UAE has been and continues to focus on providing across its various legal, judicial, and administrative entities involved in this domain. Embracing every new aspect of digital technology remains a continuous goal sought after by different legal and judicial entities in the country. This pursuit aims for faster justice,
streamlined procedures, and reduced expenses and efforts compared to traditional justice systems.

In short, it can be said that the judicial system in the UAE, both at the federal and local levels, has largely embraced digitalization, notwithstanding some procedures remain traditional.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend continuous development in digitizing the judicial system in the country, keeping abreast of technological advancements in the digital realm and adapting them to serve justice. Time won't stop or reverse itself, and digital transformation has become a necessity across various aspects of life.

Some people may find it challenging to adapt to digital judicial procedures at present, yet future generations won't face any issue in this regard. They are born, raised, and educated in this environment; learning in their early years becomes as indelible as carving on stone.

Even until that time, continuous efforts are necessary to provide judicial, administrative, and technical personnel, and the necessary technological resources for the sustainability and advancement of digital justice. Offering technical support and assistance to anyone in need to take legal and judicial actions digitally remains crucial.

Continuous efforts are essential to enhance the quality of digital legal and judicial services, updating them promptly, facilitating access, and ensuring further guarantees of integrity, transparency, and respect for the right to defense within these services.

We also recommend educating the public about the necessary electronic links to attend electronic court sessions, widely disseminating these links to ensure optimal access, in pursuit of the principle of judicial transparency and furthering integrity.
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