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The role of accounting information systems in the decision-, making process for medium and large economic enterprises in Iraq

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Abstract:

An accounting information system consists of the people, records, and methods used to gather financial information about business events, record it, process it into a useful form, and communicate the information to end users and decision makers. In other words, an accounting system is everything and everyone involved in collecting, recording, and organizing financial transactions for the company. An accounting information system (AIS) involves the collection, storage, and processing of financial and accounting data used by internal users to report information to investors, creditors, and tax authorities. It is generally a computer-based method for tracking accounting activity in conjunction with information technology resources. An AIS combines traditional accounting practices, such as the use of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), with modern information technology resources.

Keywords; Medium, Large enterprises, Accounting, Decision Making

1. Introduction

An accounting information system (AIS) is a structure that a business uses to collect, store, manage, process, retrieve, and report its financial data so it can be used by accountants, consultants, business analysts, managers, chief financial officers (CFOs), auditors, regulators, and tax agencies. Specially trained accountants work in-depth with AIS to ensure the highest level of accuracy in a company's financial transactions and record-keeping, as well as make financial data easily available to those who legitimately need access to it all while keeping data intact and secure.

In essence, the goal of an accounting system is to record financial data and turn it into useful financial information. There are many different parts and components to any accounting information system, but they can typically be broken up into five main categories: source documents, input devices, information processors, information storage, and output devices. An accounting information system is typically comprised of several modules, each of which is designed to handle certain types of transactions. These modules include- Accounts payable, Accounts receivable, Inventory, Payroll, General ledger and reporting.

An accounting information system contains various elements important in the accounting cycle. Although the information contained in a system varies among industries and business sizes, a typical AIS includes data relating to revenue, expenses, customer information, employee information, and tax22 information. Specific data includes sales orders and analysis reports, purchase requisitions, invoices, check registers, inventory, payroll, ledger, trial balance, and financial statement information. An accounting information system must have a database structure to store information. This database structure is typically programmed with query language that allows for table and data manipulation. An AIS has numerous fields to input data as well as to edit previously stored data. In addition, accounting information systems are often highly secured platforms with preventative measures taken against viruses, hackers, and other external sources attempting to collect information. Cybersecurity is increasingly important as more and more companies store their data electronically. The various outputs of an accounting information system exemplify the versatility of its data manipulation capabilities. An AIS produces reports including accounts receivable aging reports based on customer information, depreciation schedules for fixed assets, and trial balances for financial reporting. Customer lists, taxation calculations, and inventory levels may also be reproduced. However, correspondences, memos, or presentations are not23 included in the AIS because these items are not directly related to a company's financial reporting or bookkeeping.

2. Real World Examples of Accounting Information Systems.

Well-designed AIS allows a business to run smoothly on a day-to-day basis while a poorly designed AIS can hinder its operation. The third use for AIS is that, when a business is in trouble, the data in its AIS can be used to uncover the story of what went wrong. The cases of WorldCom and Lehman Brothers provide two examples.

WorldCom.

In 2002, WorldCom's internal auditors Eugene Morse and Cynthia Cooper used the company's AIS to uncover nearly $4 billion in fraudulent expense allocations and other accounting entries.10Their investigation led to the termination of CFO Scott Sullivan, as well as new legislation—section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, which regulates companies' internal financial controls and procedures.

Lehman Brothers

When investigating the causes of Lehman's collapse, a review of its AIS and other data systems was a key component, along with document collection and review, plus witness interviews. The search for the causes of the company's failure "required an extensive investigation and review of Lehman's operating, trading, valuation, financial, accounting, and other data systems," according to the 2,200-page, nine-volume examiner's report.

Lehman's systems provide an example of how AIS should not be structured. Examiner Anton R. Valukas' report states, "At the time of its bankruptcy filing, Lehman maintained a patchwork of over 2,600 software systems and applications... Many of Lehman's systems were arcane, outdated or non-standard.

The examiner decided to focus his efforts on the 96 systems that appeared most relevant. This examination required training, study, and trial and error just to learn how to use the systems.

Valukas' report also noted, "Lehman's systems were highly interdependent, but their relationships were difficult to decipher and not well-documented. It took extraordinary effort to untangle these systems to obtain the necessary information.

The Bottom Line

The six components of an AIS all work together to help key employees collect, store, manage, process, retrieve, and report their financial data. Having a well-developed and maintained accounting information system that is efficient and accurate is an indispensable component of a successful business.

3. Decision Making on the Basis of Accounting Information System

Business information system, as a very complex system can be divided into three subsystems: executive subsystem, information subsystem and management subsystem. Information subsystem acts as a liaison between executive and management subsystem, and its task is to provide timely information to executive and management subsystem for the purpose of decision-making. Information subsystem, according to the accounting role and task, are divided into accounting and non-accounting information subsystems. It is important to note that these subsystems do not exist as a49 separate units, but often are integrated in the overlapping responsibility areas.

Strategic management often needs diverse and concise information in the process of decision making. The decisions brought by strategic management are often future-oriented and therefore those decisions carry high level of risk in relation to the final outcomes. Tactical level of management requires more detailed information than strategically management, and for shorter period of time. Operational level of management usually requires analytical data for information that are made on a daily basis. For the purpose of conducting business operations, company's management is dependent on the accounting information systems. A number of financial reports containing different information are necessary to the managers on all levels. These financial reports can be presented in different time periods, in different ways and for different management and decision-making phases.

In order to adequately respond on management's requests, AIS must be organized as an active and creative system. With its pro-active solutions, the accounting manager should need to review, direct and improve the50 information requests of management. In that way, the strength

of AIS will be improved and the adoption of business and financial decision will be easily facilitated.

The specific relation between supply function, as a business function of executive subsystem, with the AIS is demonstrated through its communication necessity. For example, the supply function receives information from financial, analytical and management accounting, and in the same time gives information to the AIS, which the system processes and makes available to the interested parties. If there is a high degree of communication and connection, the company will be able to adequately face challenges and accomplish desired objectives (Knežević, Stanković, & Tepavac, 2012).

4. Literature Review

Benefits of Accounting Information Systems

Interdepartmental Interfacing.

An accounting information system strives to interface across multiple departments. Within the system, the sales department can upload the sales budget. This information is used by the inventory management team to conduct inventory counts and purchase materials. Upon the purchase of inventory, the system can notify the accounts payable department of the new invoice. An AIS can also share information about a new order so that the manufacturing, shipping, and customer service departments are aware of the sale.

Internal Controls

An integral part of accounting information systems relates to internal controls. Policies and procedures can be placed within the system to ensure that sensitive customer, vendor, and business information is maintained within a company. Through the use of physical access approvals, login requirements, access logs, authorizations, and segregation of duties, users can26 be limited to only the relevant information necessary to perform their business function.

5. Advantages of Accounting Information System (AIS)

Below are the advantages of Accounting Information System (AIS):

1. Cost effectiveness – In the era of digitalization and artificial intelligence, each organization is moving towards cost cutting with the use of artificial intelligence. AIS has helped to reduce manual efforts and can perform the same operation more cost-effectively.

2. Time effectiveness – AIS has assisted business organizations to reduce the amount of time involved in recording, classifying, reporting any financial information. A large quantum of manual work can be completed by AIS with much fewer efforts and time involved.

3. Easy access (Portability) – Data stored in AIS can be retrieved via information system connected with internet anywhere and at any time. Where manually prepared books of accounts cannot be carried easily, AIS data can be.

4. Accuracy – With the involvement of AIS, the reliability of data is increased. As we had discussed earlier in this article that an AIS follows a predefined set of instructions, therefore chances of error-prone information are less and therefore AIS have an added advantage of accurate data.

6. Disadvantages of Accounting Information System (AIS)

The main disadvantages of Accounting Information System (AIS) are:

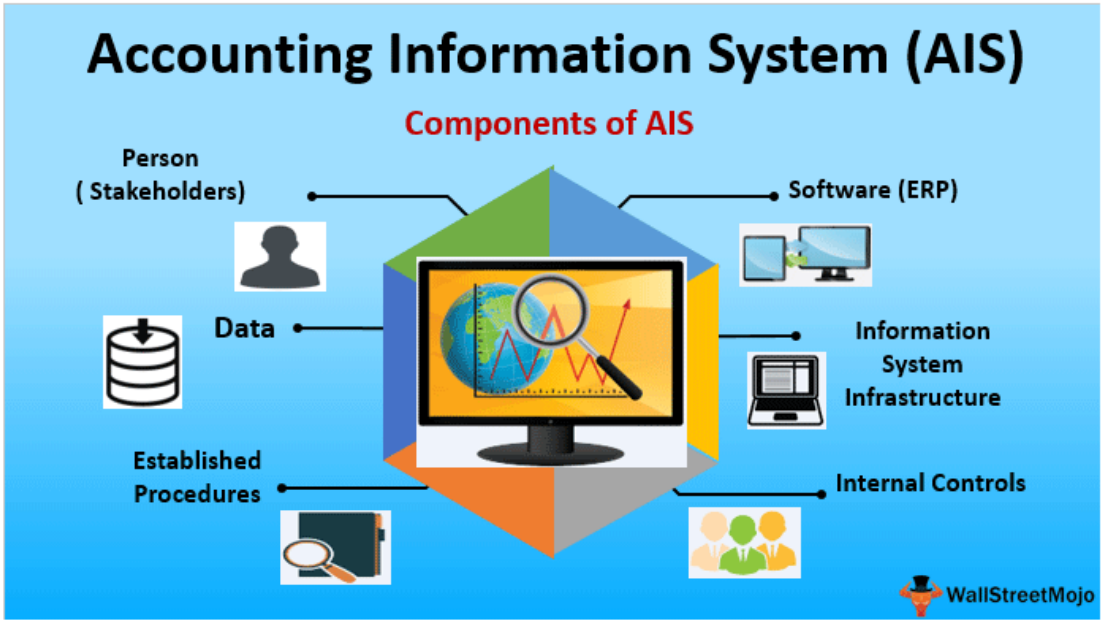
1. Initial Cost of Instalment and training – While we discussed that an AIS is cost-effective, the same may not be true in the case of small business enterprises. Cost of initial setup may be high and may not actually generate value to the organization.

2. Manual Intervention – Although we discussed that AIS reduces manual intervention but the same cannot be completely eliminated. AIS needs manual intervention at a certain point of time which may bring inefficiency in the system.

3. Error cannot be Completely Eliminated – We discussed, AIS reduces chances of error but there are chances of wrong coding in software which may lead to error-prone results, also manual intervention is still present here which can also generate an error.

4. Confidentiality – Although we discussed portability of AIS data the same can also be disastrous for an organization if such information is hacked i.e. stolen. An intruder may amend the information or he can disclose sensitive financial information.

5. Virus Attack – Any data stored on AIS can be infected with a virus, which may lead to disruption, modification of financial information stored on AIS.



7. Accounting Information System (AIS).

1 – Person (Stakeholders)

The starting and ending of every accounting aspect. There is a stakeholder, who feeds information into the system, collects, analyses, reports, etc., and there is another person (stakeholder) who needs information. For example, an accountant records various financial data and presents them for the use of multiple stakeholders like an owner, shareholders, creditors, government, etc.

2 – Data

Now, what do AIS records, reports? It is all about various accounting transactions, events, and other monetary items. AIS will not record any information which does not have a monetary base. Data can be anything like sales ledger, customer account, vendor‘s ledgers, financial reports like P&L and Balance sheet, cash flow statement, etc.

3 – Established Procedures.

To perform various functions, as stated in the definition, AIS follows predefined steps, procedures. To ensure consistency, this is one of the most basic needs of an AIS. AIS may perform an action either with manual intervention or automatically. This action needs to be instructed to the person processing data or coded in the system in case of automatic systems.

4 – Software (ERP).

A software or, in broader terms, ERP is a computer-based program that performs the stated functions. ERP can be described as a database software package system that supports business processes and operations, including

manufacturing, marketing, and financial, human resources, etc. It forms one of the main components of the Accounting Information System (AIS).

5 – Information System Infrastructure.

In simple terms, IT Infrastructure can be said a consortium of various IT & IS hardware, tools, accessories. Example, computers, printers, scanners, etc

6 – Internal Controls

Internal controls are the basic need of every business organization. These are tools, checks, procedures, systems adopted by an organization to ensure the integrity of financial information, prevention of frauds, errors, safeguarding of assets, etc.

8. Research Methodology

An attempt is made in this chapter to describe the various aspects of research methodology employed in the present study. To study and understand the account adoption in small and medium business enterprises in Iraq, the following research methodology is adopted:

8.1. Statement of the problem;

The importance of SMEs in economic development is a topic that has received much attention in the literature. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) play a vital role as they contribute greatly in terms of employment and income distribution in many countries and India is no exception to this. Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) play an important role in the growth of the Iraqi economy. Small and medium businesses provide many job opportunities and are believed to alleviate poverty. Small and medium enterprises as tools for the growth and development of a nation require attention and policies to facilitate the growth of these companies. As the55 business expanded, so did the number of financial transactions. A number of new tax regulations and regulations have taken effect. Cash transactions are exchanged using credit/debit cards, bank transfers, and mobile payments. For long time banking institutions have adopted computing and automation (so a document such as a transaction statement can be viewed online, received by e-mail, and can be imported into an accounting system) and they also discourage any use of paper.

8.2. Need of the study

Studies conducted in the field of accounting behaviour need to be updated from time to time according to the changing business environment and technological progression. Therefore, the current study is an extension of current research on accounting and related issues. In India, studies on accounting, use, extent, influencing factors, level of style and practices, and performance among SMEs have received scant attention compared to large and multinational industries. The current study is an attempt to understand and study (1) SMEs' perceptions about the accounting system and the computerized accounting system (2) the extent of accredited56 accounting based on different dimensions.

This aspect of small and medium enterprises in Iraq remained unaddressed. The majority of studies are done across borders (globalized studies) and the literature review shows that the majority of local studies fail to monitor accountability in SMEs in Iraq. Therefore, to fill some of the research gaps in the current studies, the current study is necessary, and then it is being conducted.

8.3. Objectives of the study

Formulating appropriate objectives for the research study is essential because the entire study depends on them. The objectives give speed in the investigation process as well as the correct direction for the researcher in the research. Therefore, the main objectives of this study by the researcher are as follows

1- Study and evaluation of the owning and organizational characteristics of small and medium enterprises

2- Study and evaluate businessmen's perception of patterns of preservation and maintenance of accounting systems in small and medium business enterprises.

3- To know and understand the highest and lowest accounting accreditation index within the dimension.

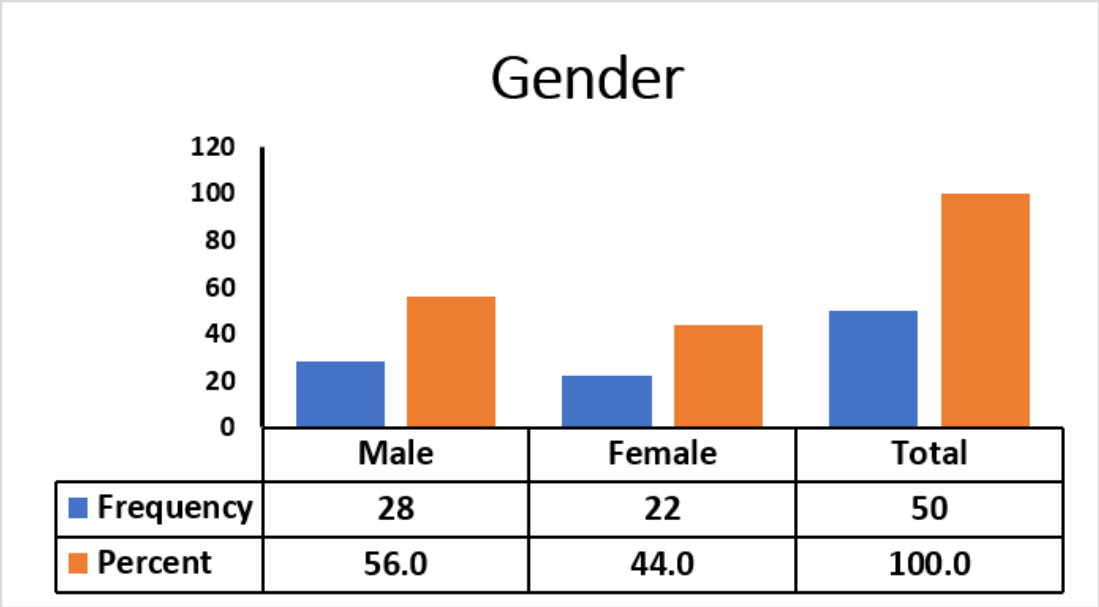
4- To measuring and determining the extent of computerization of the accounting system adoption in small and medium businesses.

8.4. Research design.

The study is descriptive to the extent that it clarifies the social and economic characteristics of the owners and their perception towards the adoption of accounting in small and medium enterprises.32. It is also analytical to the extent that it measures and determines the extent of accreditation in SMEs. Hence, research is a large systematic and scientific endeavour. Hence the following search design is used.

9. Data Analysis.

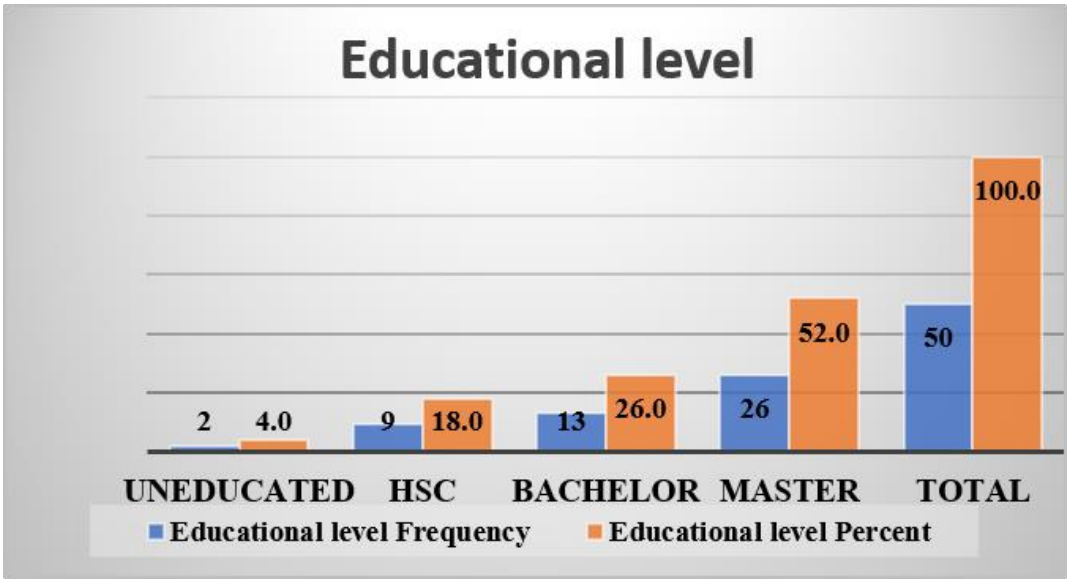
1- Gender



	Male	Female	Total
Frequency	28	22	50
Percent	56.0	44.0	100.0

Out of the total no. of respondent, 56% respondents are male and 44% respondents are female.

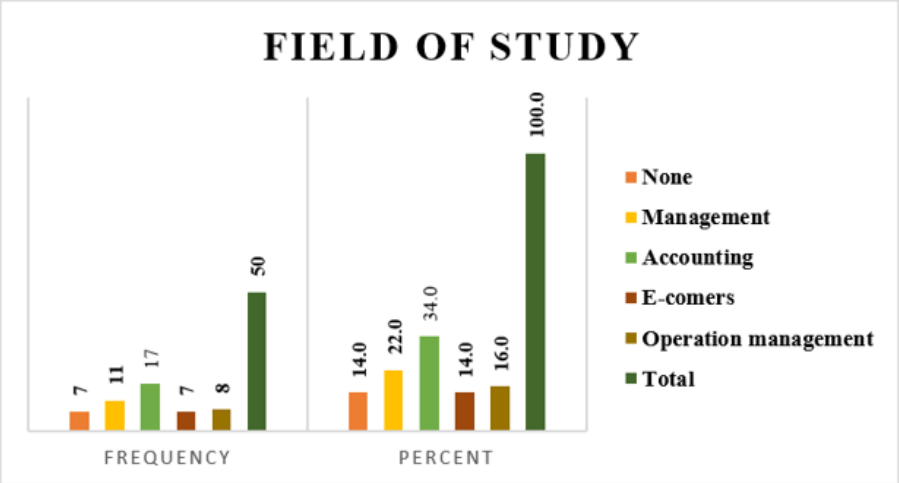
2- Educational level



Educational level		
	Frequency	Percent
Uneducated	2	4.0
HSC	9	18.0
Bachelor	13	26.0
Master	26	52.0
Total	50	100.0

Out of the total respondents, most of the respondents are have master degree which is 26%, education level of bachelor degree is the average with percentage 13%, high school certificate and uneducated is the low average with percentage 9%,2%, respectively.

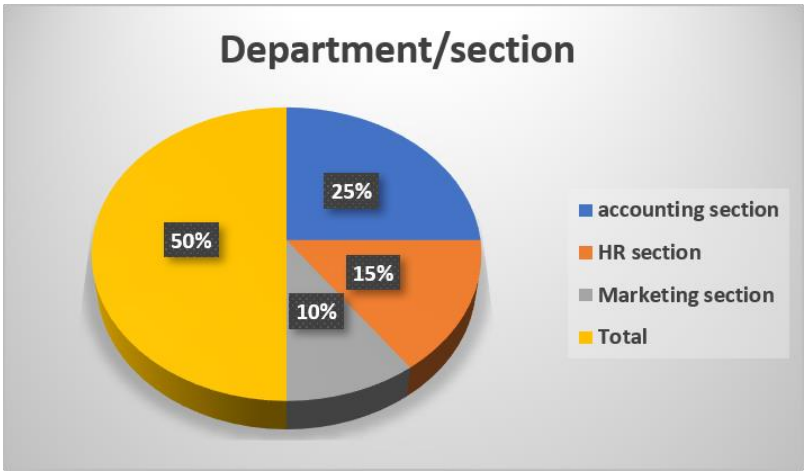
3.Field of study.



Field of study		
	Frequency	Percent
None	7	14.0
Management	11	22.0
Accounting	17	34.0
E-comers	7	14.0
Operation management	8	16.0
Total	50	100.0

Out of the total respondents, most of the respondents are graduated from account filed 34% followed by Graduated from management filed with percentage 22%, operation management and E-comers with percentage 16%,14% respectively, and non any filed 14%.

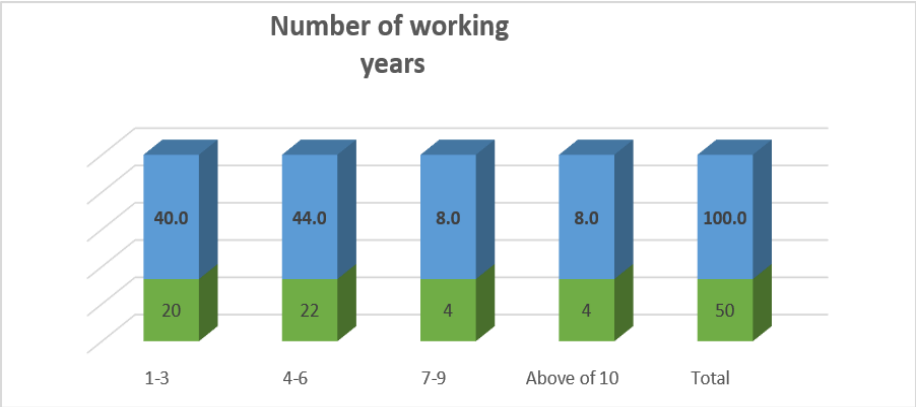
4.Department/ section



Department/section		
	Frequency	**Percent**
accounting section	**25**	**50.0**
HR section	**15**	**30.0**
Marketing section	**10**	**20.0**
Total	**50**	**100.0**

The frequency in the table and graph above shows that majority of respondent they are working in accounting section with percentage 50%. The remaining are working in human resources and marketing sections with percentage 30%,20% consecutively.

Number of working years



Number of working years		
	Frequency	Percent
1-3	20	40.0
4-6	22	44.0
7-9	4	8.0
Above of 10	4	8.0
Total	50	100.0

The above of the information's showing in the graph and table that 40% of respondents have work experience from 1-3 years. And 44 % have work experience from 4-6 years, remaining are different, 7-9 8%, above of 10 years 8%, respectively.

If you believe that accounting has little important decision making in your company the reason for this are		SD	D	N	A	SA
The poor quality for accounting information	frequency	0	1	15	23	11
	percent	0	2%	30%	46%	22%
Lack awareness of the importance and how to use information in decision making	frequency	0	1	16	17	16
	percent	0	2%	32%	34%	32%
Inadequate information	frequency	2	0	24	13	11
	percent	4%	0	48%	26%	22%
Irrelevant for accounting information system	frequency	3	6	15	12	14
	percent	6%	12%	30%	24%	28%
Government policy that do not required accounting information to be used	frequency	5	11	15	12	7
	percent	10%	22%	30%	24%	14%

In table above shows that the important decision making in the company for some reasons, poor quality for accounting information for most organizations in the study is relatively high with an average agreement as 83 percent, 11 percent of them are strongly agrees. While 30 percent of the respondents are neutral, 1 percent of the respondents disagree. In the Lack awareness of the importance and how to use information in decision, the table shows that 32 percent of the respondents are neutral, but 66 percent of the responses have gone to agree and strongly agree. As in the earlier item, very low answers disagree with overall percentage as 2 percent. For the Inadequate information, 96 presents are shows in the tale above positive respondents, 48 percent are natural, and agree, strongly agree with percentage 26%, 22% respectively. As shown in the percentages of the table above, the Irrelevant for accounting information system the percentage with the positive respondents are 82% and the remaining 12%, 6% disagree and strongly disagree, respectively. Most of respondents are agree that Government

policy that does not required accounting information to be used in the organizations with percentage 30% natural, 24% agree, and 14% strongly agree. 32% are responds disagree with this statement.

Factors that have obstructed the development of accounting practice in Iraq are:

A- Educational factors		SD	D	N	A	SA
Lack of relevant and effective accounting curricula	frequency	0	4	10	27	9
	percent	0%	8%	20%	54%	18%
Lack of sufficiently qualified instructors	frequency	0	0	17	21	12
	percent	0%	0%	34%	42%	24%
Lack of outdated accounting textbooks in the Arabic language	frequency	0	1	21	15	13
	percent	0%	2%	42%	30%	26%
Lack of training programs for managers	frequency	0	6	20	10	14
	percent	0%	12%	40%	20%	28%
Government policies that do not emphasize the importance of accounting information.	frequency	8	8	19	9	6
	percent	16%	16%	38%	18%	12%

The firms' beliefs that there are different factors that have obstructed the development of accounting practice in Iraq are: Firstly, Educational Factor, there are different statement have been asked to the respondents according to the education factors will explain bellow. As shoeing in the table above the 92 % they agree with this 72% of them are respondents agree and strongly agree, the remaining are neutral with 20%. And 8% disagree with this. The above table show full respondents are agree with the statement Lack of sufficiently qualified instructors, with percentage 34% neutral, 42% agree, and 24% strongly agree respectively. Lack of outdated accounting textbooks in the Arabic language, in this statement the information has been shown in the above table 2% disagree, and 42% neutral, 30% agree, and 26% strongly agree respectively. As per the study, the frequency, in response to the Lack of training programs for managers the result show in the table above disagrees with this statement with percentage 12%, and the remaining are responds with positive with percentage 88%. 40% of them are respondents with neutral, and 48% respondents agree with this statement.

The last statement is the Government policies that do not emphasize the importance of accounting information, 32% are not agree with this statement, the neutral respondents with percentage 38%, and 30% are agree with the statement.

B- Professional factors		SD	D	N	A	SA
Inadequate public understanding of the role of accounting in decision-making	frequency	0	0	14	25	11
	percent	0%	0%	28%	50%	22%
Lack of active professional accounting societies	frequency	0	0	19	16	15
	percent	0%	0%	38%	32%	30%
Low status of professional ethics	frequency	2	3	20	14	11
	percent	4%	6%	40%	28%	22%
	frequency	1	6	19	13	11

Low status of present accounting publications	**percent**	**2%**	**12%**	**38%**	**26%**	**22%**
Poor image of the accounting profession	**frequency**	**0**	**6**	**20**	**17**	**7**
	percent	**0%**	**12%**	**40%**	**34%**	**14%**
Lack level of government support	**frequency**	**4**	**13**	**15**	**14**	**4**
	percent	**8%**	**26%**	**30%**	**28%**	**8%**
Social and culture influence	**frequency**	**3**	**10**	**20**	**12**	**5**
	percent	**6%**	**20%**	**40%**	**24%**	**10%**

There are different factors that have obstructed the development of accounting practice in Iraq are: secondly, Professional Factor, there are different statement have been asked to the respondents according to the professional factors will explain bellow. As the information declared in the table above, the statement of the understanding of the role of accounting in decision-making, get the majority of respondents are agree with percentage 72%, and 28% are responds with neutral. No one responds with disagree in this statement. Lack of active professional accounting societies, as a result that observe in the study disagree and strongly disagree are 0%, 38% responds with neutral, agree and strongly agree with percentage 32%, 30%, respectively. The third statement is about the professional ethic, the respondents disagree with percentage 10%, agree and strongly agree with percentage 28%, 22%, respectively, the remaining percent responds with neutral with percentage 40%. Low status of present accounting publications, in this statement, the highest respondents is show in the result is neutral with percentage 38%, and the lowest respondents are disagreeing and strongly disagree with percentage 12%, 2%. In the between average are agree and strongly agree with percentage 26%, 22% respectively. Poor image of the accounting profession, the result show in the study is the respondents are 88% agree with this statement 40% are answer with neutral, and remaining agree and strongly agree 34%, 14%. 12% responds with disagree in this statement. Lack level of government support, 28% are responds with agree, 8% strongly agree, the responds are disagreed are 34%, and the remaining are neutral with percentage 30%.

The final statement in this fator is, social and cultural influence, most respondents are agreeing with this statement it is affected the accounting system in the county, 47% are responds positively, 40% neutral, 245, 10%, agree and strongly agree, and the remaining are respondents 20% 6%, disagree and strongly disagree.

To whom you feel accountable?		**SD**	**D**	**N**	**A**	**SA**
My superiors	**frequency**	**0**	**2**	**11**	**26**	**11**
	percent	**0%**	**4%**	**22%**	**52%**	**22%**
The industry secretariat	**frequency**	**0**	**3**	**19**	**13**	**15**
	percent	**0%**	**6%**	**38%**	**26%**	**30%**
The community	**frequency**	**2**	**4**	**22**	**5**	**17**
	percent	**4%**	**8%**	**44%**	**10%**	**34%**
The public control office	**frequency**	**1**	**7**	**22**	**5**	**14**
	percent	**2%**	**14%**	**44%**	**10%**	**28%**
The customers	**frequency**	**2**	**8**	**25**	**10**	**5**
	percent	**4%**	**16%**	**50%**	**20%**	**10%**

As seen the results in the above table, talk about the employees who work in the company to whom who feel an accountable, 74% are responds agree to the superiors, the responds with 22% are neutral, and the 4% disagree. To The industry secretariat statement, the 38% are responds neutral, disagree with percentage 6%, and agree, strongly agree with percentage 26%, 30% respectively. The employees are feeling an accountable to the community, with different respondents, 12% are disagree, 44% respondents agree with the statement, and the remaining are responded neutral with 44%. As seen the information in the above table, most respondent's neutral with percentage 44%, 16% disagree, and 38% are responds agree with this statement.

Responsibility for the accountant during using the policy of the company system		SD	D	N	A	SA
Accounting information system should be very important in each stage decision making in your company	frequency	0	1	11	25	13
	percent	0%	2%	22%	50%	26%
You see yourself responsible for using accounting information for implementing government programs and policies in relation to the industrial sector	frequency	0	2	24	13	11
	percent	0%	4%	48%	26%	22%
You see yourself responsible for using accounting information for implementing the company's programs and policies	frequency	0	5	26	11	8
	percent	0%	10%	52%	22%	16%

The information shows in the table above that the system of the accounting information important for decision making, the highest respondents are agreeing with percentage 98%, 26%of tem are strongly agreed, 22% neutral, and 50% are agree. The second statement is the responsibility for using accounting information for the government policy to the industrial sector, 4% of the responds are disagree, neutral, agree, and strongly agree with percentage 485, 26%, and 22% for each of them respectively. The last statement responsible for using accounting information for the company program policies, 52% are responds neutral, the disagree responds with percentage 10%, agree and strongly agree responds with percentages 22%, 16% respectively.

9.Implications for theory and practice.

This research offers multiple interesting theoretical and practical insights. First of all, it appears that firms that do not have a clear strategic vision can encounter problems during e-commerce implementation because it is not clear which milestones should be set and who is responsible and accountable for achieving the milestones. This finding is consistent with prior literature which emphasizes management commitment as crucial for e-commerce success. Another finding is that firms should be confident about the existence of a market for the product before committing valuable resources to e-commerce. In case there is not sufficient interest in the market for online procurement it makes less sense to prioritize e-commerce in the short-run. It has also been seen throughout the research that the management can perceive e-commerce as easy to implement, while in reality it is more complex. Although e-commerce is a low-cost solution in terms of finance, it should not be underestimated in terms of the time that has to be invested. Furthermore, having an e-commerce distribution channel is often a necessary but insufficient condition for success. Firms should consider having a traditional channel besides a virtual one. The model which is often most successful is a bricks-and-clicks model. Here, the online channel acts as a supplement to offline sales. This implies also that it is important to consider e-commerce best practices. Though, this must be done in

the light of contingent factors because it is unlikely that there is a one-size-fits-all e-commerce model. And finally, e-commerce can be a facilitator of the idea, and not an end goal in itself. The idea can be anything from collecting relevant customer data, or promoting the brand online. For example, e-commerce can be used as a sales support tool where customers can browse through a catalogue online in order to get an impression of the firms' offering. So, e-commerce can be a support tool for sales, and for internationalization. By analyzing website visits the firm can generate a database of prospects that can later be contacted with sales offers.

10. Limitations of studying

Study limitations are presented as follows:

A) The study was unable to show the complete scenario of all SMEs enterprises in Iraq. Because the sample is chosen from one region in Iraq. This is why results and analyzes differ slightly from organization to organization.

B) Some respondents did not understand the questionnaire.

C) Some respondents were not given sufficient focus to understand the importance of the analysis.

D) More samples can give better result E) There was insufficient time to collect data from the respondent.

11. Recommendations of the Study.

Here are the study recommendations:

A) There are some opportunities to increase the percentage of accounting information used in strategic decision making in the SMEs industries in Iraq. Therefore, SMEs industries must always use accounting information to increase the accuracy of their decisions.

B) SMEs enterprises should increase the proportion of the use of accounting information in setting accurate organizational goals.

C) The study also recommended the necessity for manufacturing organizations to increase the use of accounting information in marketing decisions to increase sales volume and adopt a better marketing strategy.

D) The study recommended the necessity for manufacturing establishments to increase the use of accounting information also in manufacturing decisions.

E) SMEs enterprises should increase the use of accounting information in decisions related to human resources to increase the accuracy and effectiveness of decisions.

12. Conclusion.

Accounting Information System (AIS) can be described as a boon to any organization as we studied both advantages and disadvantages, limitations of AIS. However, overall, it is very beneficial for an organization to migrate from manual accounting to AIS based accounting. For overcoming various disadvantages, limitations of AIS, there is software, which secures the organization's AIS from virus, hackers, and other attacks. The study revealed that accounting information plays a crucial role in management decisions and the organization's performance which has proven to be a major force in decision-making.

This is achieved by applying the best basic accounting concept that fits every company. The study also showed that accounting information plays a vital role in effective, accurate, and important strategic decision-making in manufacturing, human resources, long-term investment, and marketing-related factors. The study also tried to identify the problems of the accounting system facing the industrial organization in Iraq. The study obtained that the accounting information used by industrial organizations in Iraq to a large extent. The problem of using the accounting system is weak. It is really a satisfactory result for industrial organizations in Iraq.

This study provided an empirical investigation to assess the effectiveness of accounting information systems (AIS) in managerial decision-making in terms of different viewpoints: better economic decision-making by managers, effective accuracy, appropriate speed, high validity, and on-time concepts. Of the administrative decision-making processes are transactions.

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