
Accounting Judiciary and Its Role in Mitigating Cash Damage in Iraq

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Abstract: Across the world, financial and commercial conflicts provide a significant legal burden for many nations, particularly emerging ones. This can be attributed to a significant lack of enforcement of rules and laws, as well as insufficient service delivery and unfavorable economic and social conditions relative to more developed countries. Every sector and economic entity, both public and private, has financial problems, fraud, manipulation, and conflicts at different levels and hierarchies, including top leadership, political organizations, different administrative levels, such as upper, middle, and lower levels, and even among individuals.

Key words: accounting, Iraq, cash damage, economic entity

INTRODUCTION

Financial and commercial disputes are a major legal challenge for many countries globally, especially in developing nations. This is a result of a notable deficiency in the implementation of regulations and laws, exacerbated by inadequate service provision and economic and social circumstances in comparison to more developed nations. Financial issues, fraud, manipulation, and conflicts exist in all sectors and economic entities, both public and private, at different levels and hierarchies, including top leadership, political entities, and various administrative levels such as upper, middle, and lower levels, and even among individuals.

Accounting must evolve to meet different financial and legal changes and challenges as it serves as the language of money and business. It should actively express financial opinions and frequently act as a neutral party in financial and commercial disputes. Forensic accounting combines art and science to research, investigate, and assist in uncovering facts and resolving financial and commercial conflicts among global parties.

This study seeks to investigate forensic accounting and its impact on mitigating cash losses in Iraq. The research tools, such as electronic questionnaire forms, gather data using simple random sampling. The study included 80 individuals, and a high level of post-audit application was observed. Forensic accounting has made a significant impact in Iraq, requiring a high level of qualifications and skills for forensic accountants in the country. Nevertheless, this obstacle has

impeded the implementation of forensic accounting in Iraq, confirming the validity of the study's third hypothesis.

Forensic accounting coverage directly and significantly reduces financial corruption in Iraq. The accuracy of the study's initial hypothesis on forensic accounting coverage is the reason for this. Implementing interactive auditing as a component of judicial accountability in Iraq has been shown to reduce cash damage, supporting the validity of the hypothesis.

We assess requests as part of legal responsibility to minimize local financial harm. This validates the second hypothesis of the study. The researcher has suggested various recommendations that could enhance expectations regarding the efficacy of judicial responsibility in decreasing cash damage in Iraq. It is important to enhance their skills and knowledge, and to educate society about the importance of their existence.

Chapter One: General Introduction

Chapter Two: Presentation of the Topic

The swift and prominent technological progress in business organizations has resulted in broadening the range of activities, a rise in the quantity of companies, and the magnitude of transactions. Administrations have had to quickly adapt and develop methods in accordance with these advancements. Although these advancements have had positive effects in different aspects, they have also played a role in causing various issues. The growth and intricacy of transaction networks have caused a rise in errors, manipulation, and fraud, leading to the downfall of numerous large global corporations.

Business organizations are adapting in the knowledge economy era. Currently, there are frequent financial losses and legal actions arising from illegal gains and extensive fraud in the modern world. Accounting and auditing firms, like Arthur Andersen, have worsened the issue by participating in financial scandals and concealing these incidents. This has resulted in a diminished confidence in financial statements and external auditors' assessments. Furthermore, numerous financial collapses in different companies globally starting from 2002 were succeeded by the downfall of several banks in the 2007 global financial crisis, leading to a rise in financial and accounting problems.

The international community encountered substantial challenges as a result of consecutive financial crises. The crises adversely affected the economies of countries specializing in accounting and auditing. Developing countries encountered significant challenges, leading to a negative impact on the nation's overall economy.

The Importance of Study

The importance of this study can be viewed from both scientific and practical perspectives as follows:

Scientific Importance of the Study:

Precise and objective judgments are necessary when dealing with the significant subject matter that involves a judicial aspect. The accounting aspect offers vital information for resolving disputes, requiring a high level of sensitivity and responsibility. It requires expertise and skills in revealing concealed details, as well as in analysis and extracting results.

The accountant acts as a consultant and financial expert at an advanced level, capable of conducting thorough examinations and investigations more extensively than external auditing. The study presents a comprehensive framework for the collaboration of accounting and law, enabling more thorough examinations and a closer link to legal assertions.

It helps users and beneficiaries of financial and accounting information feel more confident by helping them detect and prevent financial fraud.

The current study highlights the relevance of the job of forensic accountants in a specific sector and aims to regulate and enhance this position. These are deals that have the potential to generate future profits.

The Practical Significance of the Study

This study will help establish forensic accounting as a new profession in the field of accounting in Iraq. Adhering to certain standards and qualifications in this field ensures that organizations' financial reporting are more accurate and credible.

This research aims to address the issue of cash damage in economies worldwide, with a special focus on reducing its occurrence in Iraqi firms, which currently results in significant financial losses. This highlights the need of enforcing forensic accounting standards. This is essential due to the extensive prevalence of financial damage.

The research recommends that Iraqi courts utilize professional accountants who possess expertise in legal and judicial aspects of financial conflicts, in addition to their proficiency in accounting principles.

This study is anticipated to help judges, investors, lenders, and other stakeholders by trying to lower the overall incidence of financial crimes, offer assistance in legal procedures, and limit the occurrence of cash-related illicit activities on local and global scales.

Study Problem:

The study focuses on the proliferation of the issue of financial corruption, which has become a cause for concern for many economies, especially those in the developing world, due to its significant impact on the processes of construction and economic development.

Purpose of the Study:

The purpose of this study is to elucidate the importance and role of forensic accounting as a contemporary concept in accounting thinking, aiming to uncover the methods employed by corrupt financial institutions. The research topic can be formulated by posing several questions:

1. If there is an allegation of financial misconduct, what skills and characteristics should a forensic accountant possess to uncover financial violations?
2. Is there a relationship between the efficiency of a forensic accountant and the reduction of financial violations?
3. Is there a correlation between the use of interactive auditing as a method of forensic accounting and the reduction of embezzled funds through fraudulent means?
4. Does forensic accounting play an effective role in reducing financial corruption when implementing operational and practical mechanisms?

Study Objectives:

The main goal is to understand the current state of forensic accounting, in addition to its importance and role in activating accounting mechanisms aimed at addressing concerns related to cash damage. The following sub-objectives can be presented as part of this primary purpose:

1. Provide a general overview of the nature of forensic accounting and its fundamental concepts, highlighting areas of application, methodologies, and discussions related to the interest and growth in these fields.
2. Understand the concept of financial damage in contemporary reality and innovative methods, identifying the changes contributing to various types of financial damage, their prevalence, and impact.

3. Recognize the role played by forensic accountants in assisting the public prosecution, acting as expert witnesses in legal proceedings to reduce the control of financial corruption.
4. Examine the impact of implementing forensic accounting processes on reducing financial corruption.
5. Explore the role of continuous auditing transactions and subsequent auditing transactions in reducing practices of financial damage using forensic accounting procedures.

Study Methodology:

The research use descriptive approaches to explain the phenomena under study, together with the accompanying ideas and words. The research also utilizes analytical tools to analyze the collected data. This is accomplished through the use of research instruments such as electronically generated surveys, employing diverse statistical methodologies and procedures to meet research goals.

Study Hypotheses:

To achieve the study objectives, the following hypotheses will be assumed:

First Hypothesis: There is a statistically significant relationship between the implementation of forensic accounting and the reduction of financial corruption in Iraq.

First Sub-Hypothesis: There is a statistically significant relationship between interactive auditing and the reduction of financial corruption in Iraq.

Second Sub-Hypothesis: There is a correlation between post-audit review and the reduction of financial corruption in Iraq.

Second Hypothesis: There is a statistically significant impact of the skills and qualifications of forensic accountants on reducing financial corruption in Iraq.

Third Hypothesis: The level of factors reducing the effectiveness of forensic accounting implementation is high in Iraq.

Study Scope and Limitations:

Objective: Activating the role of forensic accounting in reducing financial losses.

Location: Iraq

Timeframe: Year 2023

Chapter Two

Study Results

Introduction:

In this chapter, we assess the validity and reliability of the questionnaires, analyze the survey data to identify the characteristics of the survey sample, examine the survey axes, test the survey hypotheses, and interpret the survey results. This is done to achieve the research objectives and outcomes, followed by recommendations.

4.1 Qualitative Results and Analysis

Study Tool Validity:

The effectiveness of the statements in the questionnaire was calculated by determining the level of internal consistency of the survey tool. This was achieved by calculating the Pearson correlation coefficient between each statement and the overall score for the dimension to which the statement belongs. The results are as follows:

Axis One: Accounting Jurisdiction

Table (4.1) Correlation Coefficients for Axis One Statements

S	"The Phrase"	"Correlation Coefficient"	"Significance Level"
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"Interactive Auditing"			
1	"Interactive auditing defines the authorities, responsibilities, and desired objectives."	0.562**	0.000
2	"The interactive auditing system is continuously and periodically reviewed."	0.528**	0.000
3	"The interactive auditing system establishes the definition, professional conduct rules, and professional practice standards."	0.631**	0.000
4	"Interactive auditing avoids conflicts of interest, maintaining a neutral and unbiased stance."	0.601**	0.000
5	"Interactive auditing adheres to legal provisions when examining financial statement data."	0.617**	0.000
6	"Interactive auditing reviews programs and processes to ensure alignment of results with established objectives and purposes."	0.670**	0.000
7	"Interactive auditing reports serve as a crucial document validating the accuracy and quality of financial information, enhancing the utility and value of the fundamental financial statements."	0.593**	0.000
8	"The interactive auditing system prioritizes transparency in all its transactions."	0.801**	0.000
9	"Accounting jurisdiction methods and procedures contribute to enhancing the efficiency of interactive auditing processes."	0.625**	0.000
10	"Accounting jurisdiction contributes to reducing the trust and credibility gap in financial reports through interactive auditing."	0.579**	0.000
المراجعة البعدية			
11	"Post-audit review contributes to increasing confidence in the independence level of the audit	**0.695	0.000

	management."		
12	"Post-audit review contributes to enhancing the ability of the company's senior management to make informed decisions."	**0.691	0.000
13	"Post-audit review contributes to increasing confidence in the accuracy and quality of financial information."	**0.741	0.000
14	"Post-audit review contributes to increasing the rate of transparency and credibility."	**0.589	0.000
15	"Post-audit review contributes to providing accurate and comprehensive financial reports."	**0.718	0.000
16	"Post-audit review contributes to combating corruption and financial irregularities within the company."	**0.724	0.000
17	"Post-audit review reports serve as a crucial document proving the accuracy and quality of financial information."	**0.748	0.000
18	"Post-audit review is committed to applying laws and regulations in carrying out its duties."	**0.671	0.000
19	"The information provided by post-audit review is comprehensive, effective, efficient, and reliable."	**0.699	0.000
20	"Accounting jurisdiction methods and procedures contribute to enhancing the efficiency of post-audit review."	**0.566	0.000
21	"Accounting jurisdiction contributes to increasing levels of disclosure transparency through post-audit review."	**0.632	0.000

"At a significance level of 0.01

as evident from the above Table (1), all Pearson correlation coefficient values between each score of the Axis One statement and the total score of the dimension they belong to are at a significance level of 0.01, achieving the study's purpose."

Axis Two: Financial Corruption Reduction

Table (4.2) Correlation Coefficients between the Score of Each Statement and the Total Score of Axis Two

S	"The Statement"	"Correlation Coefficient"	"Significance Level"
1	"The proper implementation of accounting jurisdiction procedures and methods contributes to reducing financial harm."	**0.648	0.000
2	"The forensic accountant analyzing financial information and data for use in financial disputes contributes to reducing financial harm."	**0.723	0.000
3	"Presenting financial and accounting information to the judiciary aids in tracing corrupt transactions, thereby contributing to reducing financial harm."	**0.779	0.000
4	"Presenting financial and accounting information to the judiciary regarding the sources and uses of funds contributes to reducing financial harm."	**0.806	0.000
5	"Providing information to the judiciary about fraud, errors, and manipulation in financial statements contributes to reducing financial harm."	**0.677	0.005
6	"Forensic accounting contributes to enhancing the efficiency of regulatory bodies, thereby reducing financial harm."	**0.780	0.000
7	"Forensic accounting contributes to expediting the resolution and adjudication of financial lawsuits and disputes, thereby combating financial harm."	**0.782	0.000
8	"Forensic accounting provides information about the company's compliance with laws and regulations, contributing to the reduction of financial harm."	**0.782	0.000
9	"The forensic accountant's level of expertise in detecting and understanding various forms of fraud and deception in financial statements contributes to reducing financial harm."	**0.793	0.000

10	"The forensic accountant's professional skepticism helps in uncovering financial harm."	**0.671	0.000
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Significant at the 0.01 Level

As evident from Table (2), the Pearson correlation coefficients between each word's score on the second axis and the overall result on the second axis were statistically significant at the 0.01 significance level, achieving the research objectives.

The Third Axis: Forensic Accountant Skills and Qualifications

Table (4.3) Correlation Coefficients between the Score of Each Statement and the Total Score for the Third Axis.

S	The Phrase	Correlation Coefficient	Level of Significance
1	The forensic accountant must possess determination and perseverance.	**0.484	0.000
2	The forensic accountant must have effective communication skills.	**0.589	0.000
3	Observation and concentration are traits of a forensic accountant.	**0.560	0.000
4	The forensic accountant must possess research and investigative skills, as well as the ability to think creatively.	**0.613	0.000
5	The ability to debate, analyze, and evaluate is a characteristic of a forensic accountant.	**0.664	0.005
6	Forensic accountants should be committed to continuous learning and staying updated on new developments in their field.	**0.557	0.000
7	Forensic accountants should be well-versed in legal knowledge.	**0.662	0.000
8	"The forensic accountant must possess investigative skills."	**0.663	0.000
9	"One of the characteristics of a forensic accountant is a deep understanding of accounting processes."	**0.589	0.000
10	"The forensic accountant must have full knowledge of auditing and internal controls."	**0.706	0.000
11	"The forensic accountant must have the ability to manage risks and detect fraud and deception."	**0.724	0.000
12	"The forensic accountant should strive to attend courses and training programs that enhance their	**0.715	0.000

	capabilities and skills."		
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With a significance level of 0.01

from Table (3) above, it can be observed that the Pearson correlation coefficients between the score of each word on the third axis and the overall result on the third axis were all statistically significant (0.01). This achieves the purpose of the research.

Axis Four: Factors Limiting the Effectiveness of Forensic Accounting Implementation

Table (4.4) Correlation Coefficients between the Score of Each Phrase and the Overall Score of Axis Four

S	"The phrase"	"The correlation coefficient"	"Significance level"
1	"Universities not offering forensic accounting as part of their curriculum."	**0.719	0.000
2	"Absence of legislation and regulations governing forensic accounting practices."	**0.731	0.000
3	"Lack of sufficient attention from professional organizations to this field."	**0.583	0.000
4	"Neglect of adequate training and qualification for forensic accountants."	**0.687	0.000
5	"Shortage of qualified human resources both academically and practically for implementing forensic accounting."	**0.752	0.005
6	"Absence of professional certifications for conducting fraud and deception investigations."	**0.771	0.000
7	"Absence of an independent professional association related to forensic accounting."	**0.682	0.000
8	"Weak culture of combating cheating, fraud, and manipulation among stakeholders and interested parties."	**0.701	0.000
9	"The absence of professional conduct rules, professional ethics laws, or mandatory standards governing the performance of those conducting fraud and deception investigations."	**0.559	0.000

With a significance level of 0.01

as evident from Table (4) above, the Pearson correlation coefficients between the score of each phrase on the fourth axis and the overall result on the fourth axis were all statistically significant at the significance level (0.01). This was significant to achieve the research purpose.

The reliability of the study instrument:

The reliability of the questionnaire was calculated using Cronbach's Alpha coefficient, and the results are as follows:

Table (4.5) Results of the study instrument reliability using Cronbach's Alpha method.

"The axis"	"The number of paragraphs"	"The Cronbach's Alpha value"
"Forensic accounting"	21	0.917
"Limiting financial harm"	10	0.903
"Skills and qualifications of the forensic accountant"	12	0.856
"Factors limiting the effectiveness of forensic accounting implementation."	9	0.859
"The total questionnaire."	52	0.966

Table (5) shows the results of the reliability of the study tool used, and it indicates that the reliability coefficient (Alpha) was greater than 0.7 for the entire questionnaire. This indicates a high level of stability for the tool used in the study and confirms its suitability for achieving the study's purposes and objectives.

Characteristics of the study sample:

- Gender (Social Type)

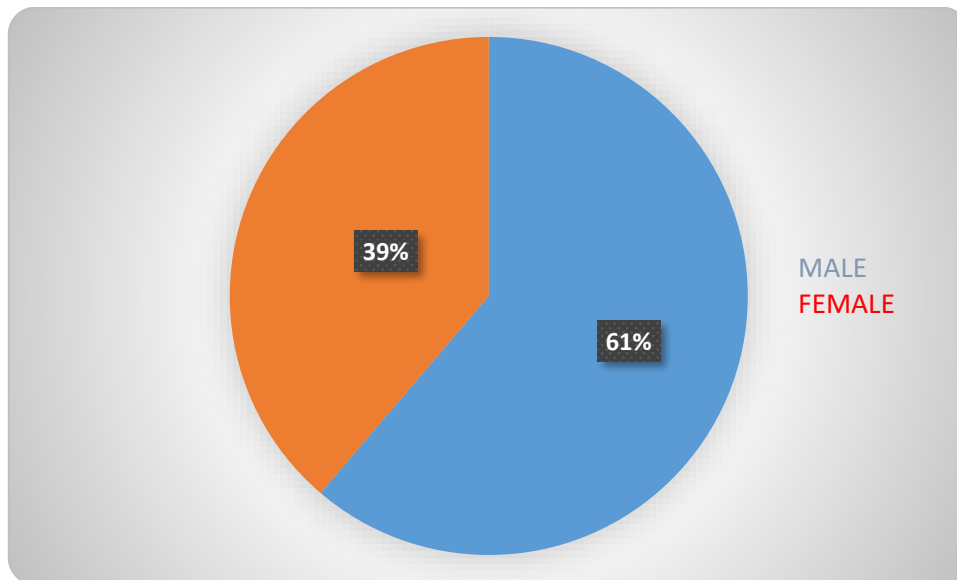
The study sample was divided into 49 males, accounting for 61.3%, and 31 females, accounting for 38.8% of the study sample.

Table (4.6) Distribution of the study sample according to gender (type).

S	"Gender"	"The number"	"The percentage %"
1	"Male"	49	61.3
2	"Female"	31	38.8
"The total"		80	100

The source: The researcher

Figure (4.1) Distribution of the study sample according to gender



Age Group:

The survey participants were classified into four age groups, where 28 individuals (35%) were under 30 years old, and 30 to 40 years old constituted 35%. The survey sample included 18 individuals aged between 40 to 50 years old, representing 22.5%, and the number of samples surveyed over 50 years old was 6 individuals, accounting for 7.5% of the survey sample.

Table (4.7) Distribution of the study sample according to age group.

S	Age Group	The number	The percentage %
1	Under 30 years old	28	35.0
2	From 30 to under 40 years old	28	35.0
3	From 40 to under 50 years old	18	22.5
4	50 years and older	6	7.5
The total		80	100

The source: The researcher

Educational Qualification:

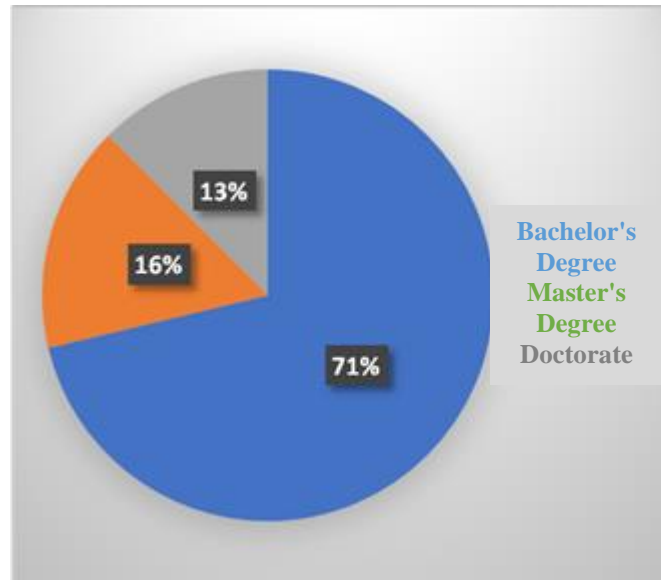
The research sample was divided into three categories based on educational qualifications, with 57 researchers (71.3%) holding a bachelor's degree, 13 researchers (16.3%) holding a master's degree, and the number of survey participants with a doctoral degree was 10, accounting for 12.5%.

Table (4.8) Distribution of the study sample according to educational qualification

S	Educational Qualification	The number	The percentage %
1	Bachelor's Degree	57	71.3
2	Master's Degree	13	16.3
3	Doctorate	10	12.5
The total		80	100

The source: The researcher

Figure (4.3) Distribution of the study sample according to educational qualification



Occupation:

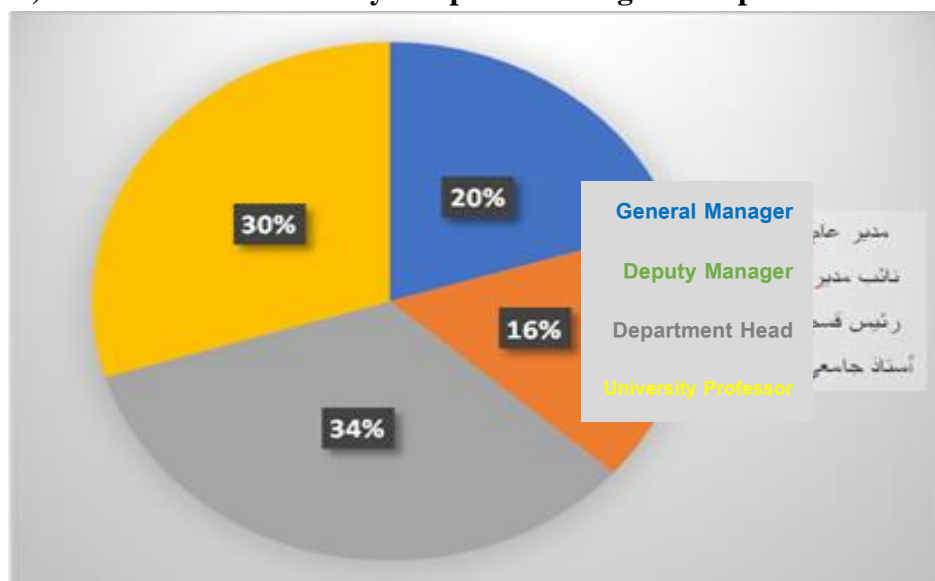
The research sample was divided into 4 categories according to their positions. The number of research sample individuals holding managerial positions was 15, accounting for 18.8% of them, and the number of research sample individuals working in this position was 18.8%. There were 12 deputy managers (15%) and 25 presidents (31.3%). The number of university professors was 22 academic positions, representing 27.5% of the study sample.

Table (4.9) Distribution of the study sample according to occupation

S	Occupation	The number	The percentage %
1	General Manager	15	18.8
2	Deputy Manager	12	15.0
3	Department Head	25	31.3
ρ	University Professor	22	27.5
The total		80	100

The source: The researcher

Figure (4.4) Distribution of the study sample according to occupation



Years of Work Experience:

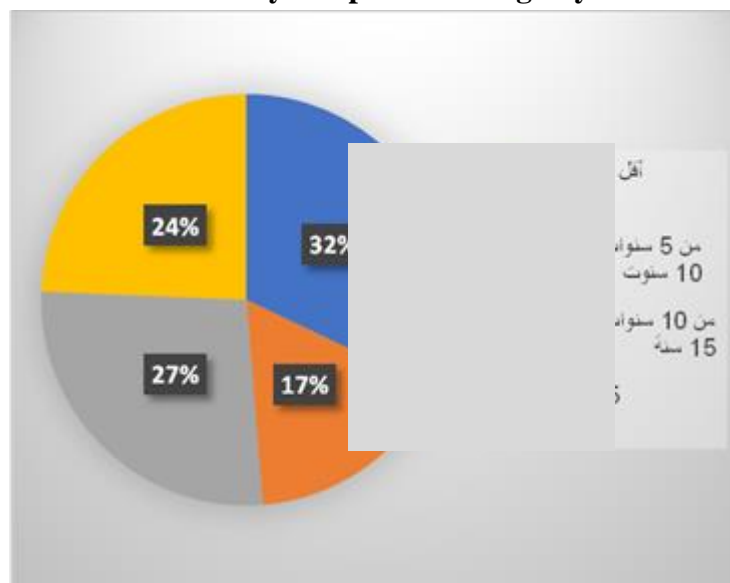
When survey participants were classified into four categories based on their years of practical experience, 25 individuals (31.3%) had less than five years of experience, while those with more than five years of experience were 13 individuals (16.3%) for 5 to 10 years, 21 (26.3%) for 10 to 15 years, and over 26.3% for 15 years or more, totaling 19 individuals, or part of the research sample, representing 23.8%.

Table (4.10) Distribution of the study sample according to years of work experience

S	Years of Work Experience:	The number	The percentage %
1	Less than 5 years	25	31.3
2	From 5 years to less than 10 years	13	16.3
3	From 10 years to less than 15 years	21	26.3
4	15 years or more	19	23.8
The total		80	100

The source: The researcher

Figure (4.5) Distribution of the study sample according to years of work experience



Factor Analysis of the Questionnaire:

First Axis: Forensic Accounting

1- Interactive auditing

Table (4.11) Mean, Standard Deviation, Relative Weight, Ranking, and Level of Agreement on Interactive Auditing Statements

The Phrase	The Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation	Relative Weight	Ranking	Level of Agreement
"Interactive auditing determines the authorities, responsibilities, and required objectives."	4.300	0.604	0.860	2	"Very high"
"The interactive auditing system is continuously and periodically"	4.350	0.658	0.870	1	"Very high"

reviewed."					
"The interactive auditing system defines the definition and rules of professional conduct and standards of professional practice."	4.150	0.677	0.830	8	"High"
"Interactive auditing avoids conflicts of interest and maintains a neutral and unbiased position."	4.063	0.905	0.813	10	"High"
"Interactive auditing adheres to legal provisions in examining financial statement data."	4.225	0.795	0.845	7	"Very high"
"Interactive auditing reviews programs and processes to ensure that results align with set objectives and goals."	4.275	0.616	0.855	3	"Very high"
"Interactive audit reports represent a necessary document that proves the accuracy and quality of financial information, enhancing the usefulness and value of the fundamental financial statements."	4.250	0.684	0.850	6	"Very high"
"The interactive auditing system prioritizes transparency in all its transactions."	4.275	0.711	0.855	4	"Very high"
"Forensic accounting methods and procedures contribute to increasing the efficiency of	4.275	0.729	0.855	5	"Very high"

interactive auditing."					
"Forensic accounting helps to reduce the confidence gap and enhance credibility in financial reports through interactive auditing."	4.138	0.759		9	"High"
			0.828		

The research sample arranged terms linked to forensic accounting on the axis of cross-auditing procedures based on their relative relevance, determined by the maximum value of relative weight. Cross-audits aim to prevent conflicts of interest and uphold a neutral and unbiased stance. The phrase has a rating of 0.813, ranking it as the least significant phrase with high consensus. We identified 7 terms in the forensic accounting axis connected to interactive auditing that had exceptionally high levels of agreement. The research sample's average reveals a high level of interactive auditing application as a facet of forensic accounting in Iraq. The formula for the forensic accounting axis in interactive auditing processes was calculated to be 4.230 with a standard deviation of 0.714.

Post-audit

Table (4.12) Mean, Standard Deviation, Relative Weight, Ranking, and Level of Agreement on Post-Audit Phrases

The Phrase	The Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation	Relative Weight	Ranking	Level of Agreement
"Post-audit contributes to increasing confidence in the independence of audit management."	4.175	0.776	0.835	3	" high"
"Post-audit contributes to enhancing the ability of senior management in the company to make decisions."	4.138	0.707	0.828	7	" high"
"Post-audit contributes to increasing confidence in the accuracy and quality of financial information."	4.163	0.665	0.833	5	" high"
"Post-audit contributes to increasing the rate of transparency and credibility."	4.263	0.689	0.853	1	"Very high"
"Post-audit contributes to providing accurate and comprehensive financial reports."	4.150	0.695	0.830	6	" high"

"Post-audit contributes to combating corruption and financial irregularities in the company."	4.175	0.725	0.835	4	" high"
"Post-audit reports represent a necessary document that proves the accuracy and quality of financial information."	4.113	0.693	0.823	8	" high"
"Post-audit adheres to the application of laws and regulations in performing its work."	4.175	0.612	0.835	4	" high"
"The information provided by post-audit is comprehensive, effective, efficient, and reliable."	3.975	0.763	0.795	9	" high"
"Forensic accounting methods and procedures contribute to increasing the efficiency of post-audit work."	4.163	0.719	0.833	5	" high"
"Forensic accounting contributes to increasing levels of disclosure transparency through post-audit."	4.225	0.616	0.845	2	"Very high"

The study ranked expressions connected to post-mortem evaluations in forensic accounting based on their relative relevance, with a maximum relative weight value of 0.795. There was strong consensus that the least significant expression was agreed upon. Upon reviewing the forensic accounting axis phrases, we identified two expressions with a high degree of agreement, suggesting that the utilization of post-mortem examination in forensic accounting in Iraq is high in terms of terminology. The survey sample yielded an arithmetic mean (median) of 4.156 for the forensic accounting axis equation linked to post-mortem review, with a standard deviation of 0.696.

From the above, the overall arithmetic mean (average) for the value of the forensic accounting axis equation is 0.705 standard deviations.

Axis Two: Reducing Financial Corruption

Table (4.13): Mean, Standard Deviation, Relative Weight, Ranking, and Level of Agreement on Phrases for Reducing Financial Harm

The Phrase	The Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation	Relative Weight	Rank	Level of Agreement
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The proper implementation of forensic accounting procedures and methods helps in reducing financial damage.	4.475	0.573	0.895	1	Highly agree.
The forensic accountant's analysis of financial information and data for use in financial disputes contributes to reducing financial damage.	4.400	0.686	0.880	2	Highly agree.
Providing financial and accounting information to the judiciary helps track corrupt transactions, thereby contributing to reducing financial damage.	4.375	0.718	0.875	3	Highly agree.
Providing financial and accounting information to the judiciary about the sources and uses of funds contributes to reducing financial damage.	4.313	0.756	0.863	6	Highly agree.
Providing information to the judiciary about fraud, errors, and manipulation in financial statements contributes to reducing financial damage.	4.375	0.848	0.875	3	Highly agree.
Forensic accounting contributes to enhancing the efficiency of regulatory bodies, thereby reducing financial damage.	4.313	0.686	0.863	6	Highly agree.
Forensic accounting contributes to accelerating the resolution and adjudication of financial lawsuits and disputes, thereby combating financial damage.	4.363	0.621	0.873	4	Highly agree.

Forensic accounting provides information about the extent of the company's compliance with legislation and laws, contributing to the reduction of financial damage.	4.288	0.814	0.858	7	Highly agree.
The level of expertise of forensic accountants in various forms of deception and fraud in financial statements contributes to the reduction of financial damage.	4.325	0.759	0.865	5	Highly agree.
The forensic accountant's professional skepticism helps them uncover financial damage.	4.375	0.682	0.875	3	Highly agree.

The phrases concerning the reduction of cash damage were ranked by relative importance based on the survey sample. The phrase "Providing accounting justice with information about the company's compliance with laws and regulations helps reduce cash damage" had the lowest importance value of 0.858, with a high agreement rate of 0.895. Upon analyzing the claims related to monetary damage reduction, it was discovered that there was a high degree of agreement, averaging at 4.360 on the reduction axis with a standard deviation of 0.714.

Axis Three: Skills and Qualifications of Forensic Accountants

Table (4.14): Mean, Standard Deviation, Relative Weight, Ranking, and Level of Agreement on Statements of Skills and Qualifications of Forensic Accountants

The Phrase	The Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation	Relative Weight	Rank	Level of Agreement
"The forensic accountant must possess determination and perseverance."	4.350	0.658	0.870	5	"Extremely high."
"The forensic accountant should possess effective communication skills."	4.150	0.677	0.830	10	" high"
"Observational strength and focus are characteristics of a forensic accountant."	4.063	0.905	0.813	11	" high"

"It is essential for the forensic accountant to have research and investigation skills as well as the ability for creativity."	4.225	0.795	0.845	8	"Extremely high."
"The ability to debate, analyze, and evaluate are characteristics of a forensic accountant."	4.275	0.616	0.855	7	"Extremely high."
"The forensic accountant must prioritize continuous learning and staying updated with all new developments in their field of expertise."	4.163	0.719	0.833	9	" high"
"The forensic accountant should be knowledgeable in legal matters."	4.225	0.616	0.845	7	"Extremely high."
"The forensic accountant must possess investigative skills."	4.475	0.573	0.895	1	"Extremely high."
"One of the characteristics of a forensic accountant is a deep understanding of accounting processes."	4.400	0.686	0.880	2	"Extremely high."
"The forensic accountant must have a comprehensive knowledge of auditing and internal control."	4.375	0.718	0.875	3	"Extremely high."
"The forensic accountant must have the ability to manage risks and detect fraud and deception."	4.313	0.756	0.863	6	"Extremely high."
"The forensic accountant should prioritize obtaining courses and training programs that enhance	4.375	0.848	0.875	4	"Extremely high."

their capabilities and skills."					
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The forensic accountant's abilities and credentials have been organized according to their relative relevance, with the highest weight value, as perceived by the study sample. The phrase "Observational strength and focus" has a low importance level with a relative weight value of 0.813 and a high degree of acceptability. The study of the skills and qualifications required for a forensic accountant in Iraq revealed that ten sentences were highly accepted, while two sentences were accepted at a lower level, indicating the high level of skills and qualifications necessary for this role according to the study sample. The average value of the abilities and credentials for the forensic accountant is 4.282 with a standard deviation of 0.714.

Axis Four: Factors Limiting the Effectiveness of Forensic Accounting Enforcement

Table (4.15): Mean, Standard Deviation, Relative Weight, Ranking, and Level of Agreement on Statements of Factors Limiting the Effectiveness of Forensic Accounting Enforcement

The Phrase	The Arithmetic Mean	Standard Deviation	Relative Weight	Rank	Level of Agreement
"The absence of universities teaching forensic accounting as part of their academic curriculum."	4.138	0.707	0.828	6	" high."
"The absence of regulations and laws governing forensic accounting practice."	4.163	0.665	0.833	4	" high."
"The lack of sufficient attention from professional organizations in this field."	4.263	0.689	0.853	2	"Extremely high."
"The lack of emphasis on adequately qualifying forensic accountants."	4.150	0.695	0.830	5	" high."
"The shortage of scientifically and practically qualified human resources for implementing forensic accounting."	4.175	0.725	0.835	3	" high."
"The absence of professional certifications for conducting fraud investigation and detection operations."	4.113	0.693	0.823	7	" high."
"The absence of an independent professional association related to forensic accounting."	4.175	0.612	0.835	3	" high."
"The lack of a culture of combating fraud, deception, and manipulation among	3.975	0.763	0.795	8	" high."

stakeholders and interested parties."					
"The absence of professional conduct rules, ethics laws, or binding standards governing the performance of those conducting fraud investigation and detection operations."	4.313	0.756	0.863	1	"Extremely high."

The constraints of the variable axis that hinder the implementation of legal executive responsibility for bookkeeping in audit testing have been categorized according to their relative relevance (highest relative weight value). The primary expressions are "deception" and "blackmail" with a value of 0.863 and strong support. The phrase "Weak culture of combating manipulation, blackmail, and control among investors and partners" holds the highest significance with a value of 0.795 and substantial support. Two expressions had very high support, and seven had high support, which is largely logical considering the constraints that affect the feasibility of implementing legal executive responsibility for bookkeeping in Iraq during audit testing. The mathematical value of 4.163 with a standard deviation of 0.701 indicates the legitimacy of the third assumptions of the audit, expressing the degree of variables limiting the feasibility of applying legal executive authority as high for an accountant in Iraq.

Chapter Three

Conclusion, Recommendations, and Suggestions

Introduction:

In this chapter, the conclusions drawn from the survey are presented through the analysis of survey data related to the survey axis obtained through survey tools expressed in the form of an electronic questionnaire and conducting survey hypothesis tests to achieve confrontation. This chapter also presents a set of recommendations verified through research.

5.1 Study Conclusions:

- The level of application of interactive auditing as one dimension of forensic accounting in Iraq is highly elevated from the perspective of the study participants.
- The level of application of post-audit review as one dimension of forensic accounting in Iraq is high according to the study sample.
- The high level of application of forensic accounting in Iraq is consistent with the findings of studies by Manal Nagi (2018) and Abeer Bakri (2019).
- The contribution of forensic accounting to reducing cash damage in Iraq is significantly high, aligning with the results of studies by Lina Barghul and Mohammed Matar (2015), Aarem Saad and Al-Hasan Ali (2016), Babiker Ibrahim and Musa Bashir (2018), Tareq Wafiq (2019), Nafath Yassin and Bassam Mahmoud (2021), and Al-Awad and Al-Jubouri (2021).
- There is an extremely high level of skills and qualifications required for forensic accountants in Iraq according to the study sample, consistent with previous research by Aarem Saad and Al-Hasan Ali (2016), Abeer Bakri (2019), Youssef Jamal, Mohamed Ezzat, and Abdel-Tawab (2019), Ilham Hamoudi and Khaled Jafal (2020), Hala Kurdi Mohammed Ali (2020), Nafath Yassin and Bassam Mahmoud (2021), and Al-Awad and Al-Jubouri (2021).
- The level of factors limiting the effectiveness of forensic accounting application in Iraq is high according to the study sample, supporting the third hypothesis of the study, which indicates a high level of factors limiting the effectiveness of forensic accounting application in Iraq,

consistent with the results of studies by Youssef Jamal, Mohamed Ezzat, and Abdel-Tawab (2019) and Ilham Hamoudi and Khaled Jafal (2020).

- There is a statistically significant impact of the level of forensic accounting application on the level of reducing cash damage in Iraq at a significance level of 0.01, indicating the acceptance of the first hypothesis of the study, consistent with the results of studies by Lina Barghul and Mohammed Matar (2015), Aarem Saad and Al-Hasan Ali (2016), Babiker Ibrahim and Musa Bashir (2018), Amima Boumaarafi and Adel Al-Khalidi (2020), Hala Kurdi Mohammed Ali (2020), Nafath Yassin and Bassam Mahmoud (2021), and Al-Awad and Al-Jubouri (2021).

- At a significance level of 0.01, there is a statistically significant direct effect of the post-audit application level as one dimension of forensic accounting on the level of reducing cash damage in Iraq. This supports the feasibility of the second hypothesis of the study, indicating a strong direct relationship between the application of post-audit as one dimension of forensic accounting and the reduction of cash damage in Iraq. The correlation coefficient was 0.592. It was found that a 1% increase in the average level of post-audit application as one dimension of forensic accounting in Iraq led to an increase in the average level of reducing cash damage in Iraq by 0.596%.

- The direct effect of the level of skills and qualifications of forensic accountants in Iraq on the level of reducing cash damage in Iraq is statistically significant at a significance level of 0.01, supporting the second hypothesis of the study. The correlation coefficient was 0.847, indicating that a 1% increase in the average level of skills and qualifications of Iraqi forensic accountants was associated with an increase in the average level of reducing cash damage in Iraq by 0.828%.

- Reducing cash damage in Iraq.

5.2 Proposals and Recommendations

5.2.1 Proposals for Practitioners

The study suggests a set of proposals and recommendations that can contribute to enhancing the efficiency of forensic accountants' performance, as well as improving their skills and capabilities, as follows:

- Consider establishing a union or professional organization for those working in the field of forensic accounting to safeguard their rights, advocate for them, and work on enhancing their capabilities and potentials.

- Focus on raising public awareness about the necessity of having organized legislation and laws regulating the work of forensic accountants, defining their duties and tasks, and safeguarding their rights.

- Collaborate with organizations or associations of forensic practitioners to urge relevant colleges and universities to incorporate courses related to forensic accounting.

- Pay attention to providing forensic accountants with training courses and programs that contribute to enhancing their capabilities and skills, acquainting them with the latest laws and methods used in the field of forensic accounting.

- Educate forensic accountants about the latest methods in fraud, deception, and embezzlement to increase their levels of awareness and ability to confront fraudulent techniques they may encounter in the workplace.

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