

## **AN EXPOSITORY ANALYSIS OF TRUE AND FAIR VIEW CONCEPT IN ACCOUNTING PROFESSION**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The true and fair view concept is a legal standard for financial reporting quality that has attracted much debates in its meaning. The controversy surrounding its exact meaning is however yet to be settled. The absence of a concise definition for the term implies the absence of relevant instrument for measuring the level of fidelity reflected in the financial statement. Why have there been difficulties in finding an acceptable definition for the concept? Is the concept still relevant in the accounting process in the light of recent reforms in accounting standards development and information technology advancements in business world? These are the issues of concern in this paper. The paper employed library or archival research approach, and after a review of prior literatures, the study proposed that the meaning and delimitation of the concept should be derived from popular usage in the domain of accounting research and practice. Furthermore, despite the uncertainty, in the meaning of the concept, the study did not find evidence of the accounting profession discarding it. Literature before and after the accounting reforms embedded in International Accounting Standard (IAS) and International Financial Reporting Standard (IFRS) have recognized the term as even having an override above any standard. This study therefore recommends that International Accounting Standard Board (IASB) should take it upon itself to provide a concise definition for this concept. Given that accounting worldwide is gravitating towards IFRS which is a product of IASB, it is believed that whatever IASB is able to do will go a long way in localizing the concept within accounting domain.

SAug18007

Keywords: True and Fair View, Accounting Perspective, Legal Framework, Linguistic View