

Islamic Bank-as-a-Platform Business Model

(Comparative Case studies of Platform of Resalat Islamic Social Bank in Iran vs Business Model of Micro-finance Grameen Bank in Bangladesh)

Hassan Baan, DBA Student (Islamic Capital Market), hsn.baan@gmail.com Corresponding Author

Dr. Abouzar Soroosh, Member of Board in Iran Islamic Financial Association, association, associate Prof. Dr. M.H. Botshekan, Allame Tabatabaee University, mh.botshekan@gmail.com







Hassan Baan, CIFP, DBA

- **Student in Doctorate of Bank Management**, Iran Banking Higher Education Institute, Central Bank
- Doctorate of Business Administration, Islamic Capital Market,
 Iranian Association of Islamic Finance
- Chartered Islamic Finance Professional, INCEIF, Malaysia
- MA Financial Management, Allame Tabatabaii University
- Cofounder of 3 Islamic Fintech and consultant in startups
- Founder of 1st Iranian Asset Backed Crypto Currency Token.
- · in 00989123850426





Contents

- A) Introduction 1: What is Platform Business Model and what it is not?
- B) Introduction 2: What is Bank as a Platform (BaaP)?
- C) Introduction 3: Islamic Sharing Economy and Social Banking

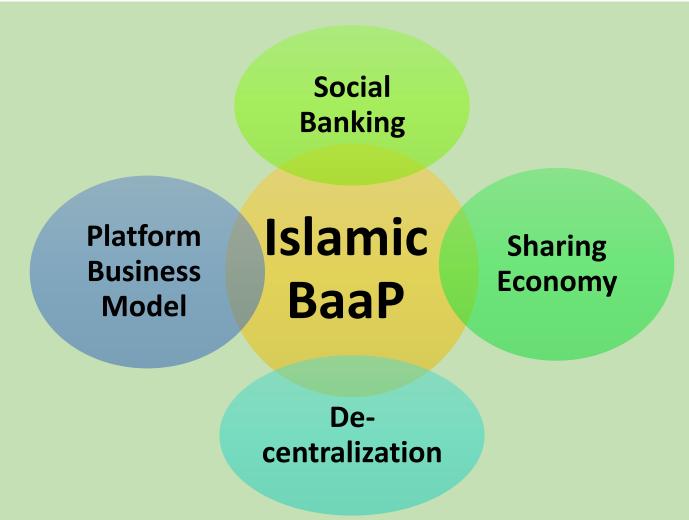
- D) <u>Business Model Transmission</u> (from Resalat Qard'al-Hassan Bank to Resalat Islamic BaaP)
- E) <u>Current Business Model Comparison:</u> Resalat Islamic Social Banking Platform vs Gerameen Bank

- F) **Best Practice** for Islamic Bank as a Platform
- E) Suggestions for future studies about Islamic Bank as a Platform





Islamic Bank as a platform (BaaP) is a Multi-Disciplinary Term





Introduction 1:

What is Platform Business

Model and WHAT IT IS NOT?





What is not Platform Business Model?

is not

- a financial technology
- an application (such as e-wallet, cryptocurrency or PF applications)
- a website,
- core-software, in SaaS (Software-as-a-Service) companies
 - it is kind of linear (tube) business model
- banking software.

• Linear Business Model vs Platform Business Model:

- Systematically current liner business models (like business model of financial institutions) make a service as a package or products, call it financial instrument, and sell it to who are in lower level of their linear supply chain.
- Appose to platforms, linear business own assets that will be illustrate in their balance sheet.
- In modern banking, the main asset of banks (even Islamic or not) are not their assets or their branches, but it is their communication and network.



What is Platform Business Model?

A PLATFORM IS A BUSINESS MODEL that creates value

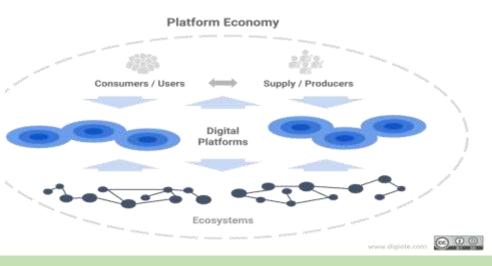
 by facilitating exchanges between two or more interdependent groups, usually consumers and producers.

In order to make these exchanges happen,

- platforms harness and create large, scalable networks of users and resources that can be accessed on demand.
- Platforms create communities and markets with network effects that allow users to interact and transact.

Platform businesses do not,

own the means of production—
instead, they create
the means of connection.





9 different types of PLATFORM **BUSINESSES:**

- organized by the type of value that is exchanged in the platform's core transaction,
 - Services marketplace,

Like Facebook, Uber, or Alibaba,

- Product marketplace,

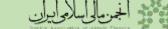
 - Payment platform,
- Investment platform,
- Social networks,
- 6.
- Communication platform,
- **Development platforms**: Closed development platform, Controlled development platform, and Open development platform
- **Content platforms**: Social and Media: 8.
- Social gaming platform. 9.

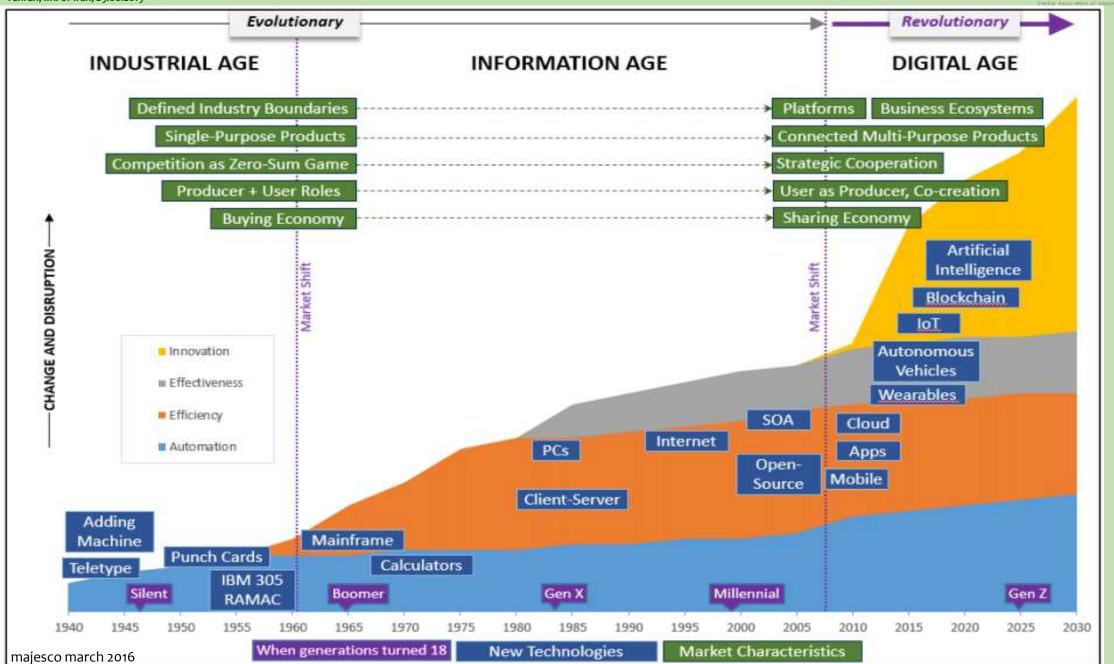
these businesses don't directly create and control inventory

via a supply chain the way linear businesses do.

platforms promote connection instead of production.

Tehran, I.R. of Iran, 29.08.2019







Introduction 2:

What is BANK as a Platform

(BaaP)?





What is BaaP?

In bank as a platform, banks don't own the funds, instead they create the means of connection.

Banking Platform is comprehensive business model that

by gathering together the providers and end-users of services make a Value.

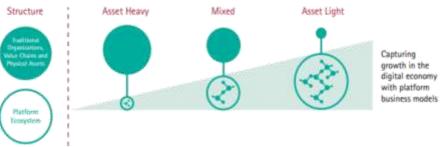
- BaaP is a kind of Platform Business Model in **modern financial institution** and it is a kind of business model that **provide a value in case of facilitating a transaction** between two (or among more groups) of stakeholders, mainly service providers and end-users.
- Successful bank as a platforms facilitate exchanges by reducing transaction costs and/or by enabling externalized innovation by Fintech.
 - The infrastructure as a service (laaS) layer provides basic infrastructure services through an laaS provider.
 - At the top of the laaS model would be banking as a platform provider (BaaP).



What is Islamic BaaP?

- The Islamic BaaP would be an Islamic bank that is
 - fully licensed or use an external regulated bank's licensed Islamic banking services.
 - The decomposed Islamic banking services (Islamic FinTech SaaS) are in essence, plugged into this layer.
- The most noticeable distinguish between an Islamic BaaP by custom
 Islamic bank is that Islamic BaaP never own the deposits in its balance
 sheet and their asset side is very light.
- This changing nature of banking balance sheets is a reflection of a clear shift in the banking business model.
- In Islamic BaaP the traditional interest-based income of banks from lending and deposits is under pressure,
- and Islamic BaaP are looking to augment their revenue with new feebased instruments.

Differences between conventional Islamic banks and Islamic Bank as a platform





What is Islamic BaaP?

- When an Islamic Bank transmits from a centralized business model (Like Islamic Qrd'al-Hassan Resalat Bank) to a decentralized business model (Like Resalat Islamic BaaP), it will appear that the transactions and verifications will be done by customers not by bank.
 - Platform just prepare infrastructure of doing credit scoring, and payment vehicle in its marketplace and its gain from fee not from interest on loans.
- In making transactions sharia approval, the platform using the smart contract in types of Mosharaka, Morabaha, Bai'al-dain, Wekala', etc.
- Finally it will omitted speculation in long term also fund-riser and fund-provider meet each other directly in peer to peer or as crowed sourcing and crowed funding.
- In brief, Islamic Bank as a platform, (mainly who are completely decentralized and distributed by blockchain) included three pillars of
 - Tawon (Mutual cooperation),
 - Social Welfare, and
 - Edalat (Justice).



What is Islamic BaaP?

- **depository** administrative tasks in Islamic BaaP is based on Wekala (وكاله ownership).
 - It means all administrations have been outsourced to the customers.
- In other words,
 - all **economic behaviors** in **centralized systems** are based on **fully ownership** by financial institutions and governors, and you could not find this behavior in Islamic BaaP.

Centralized

Tamlik

(ownership تملیک)



Centralized Islamic Finance Institutions (there is an intermediary)

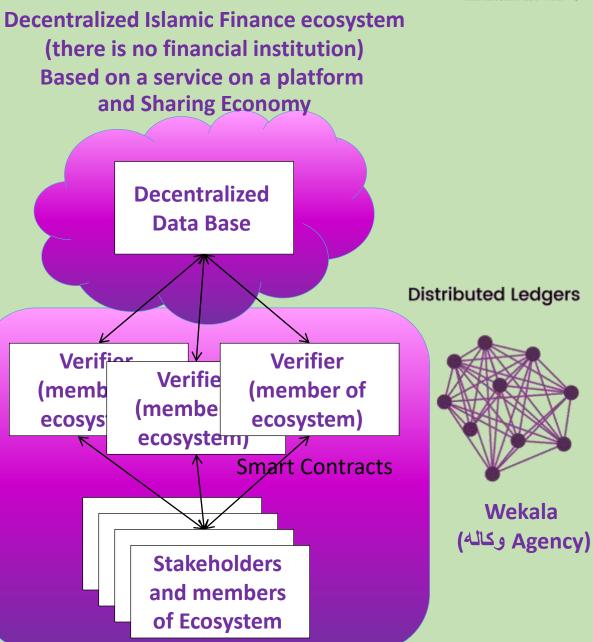
Centralized Data Base

Regulations for verification and confirmation by governors

Stakeholders and members of Ecosystem

Decentralized





Tehran, I.R. of Iran, 29.08.2019

Governmental infrastructure

institutions, Why?:

Globalization

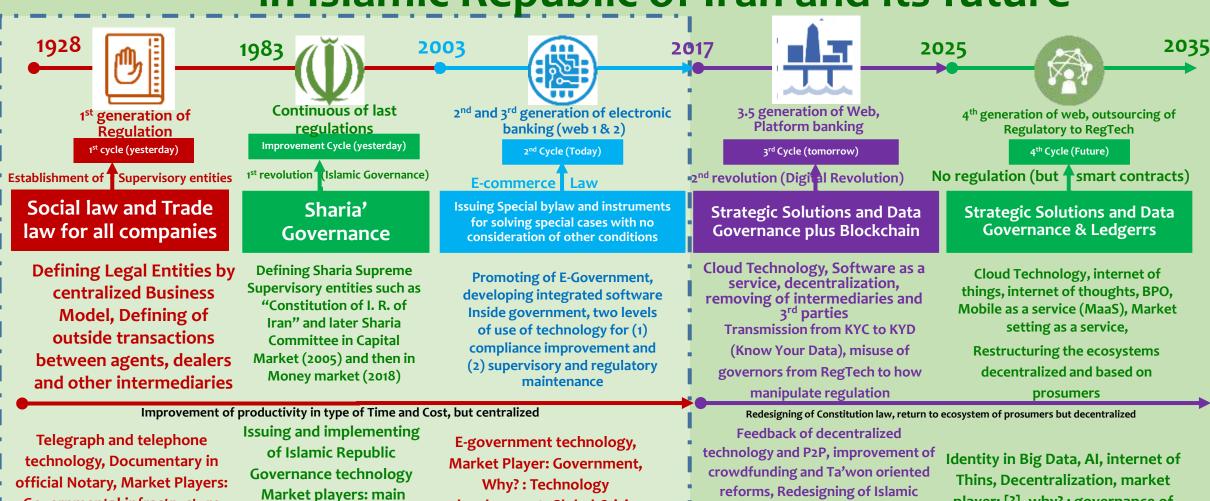
revolutionaries, Why?:

Sharia compliance is main

role of governors



History Of Banking Business Model Transmission in Islamic Republic of Iran and its future



development, Global Crisis,

Sanction Against Iran,

developing of efficiency

player: [?], why?: governance of

low-levels in societies

Economy structure, Market players:

Muslim Nation in face of FinTech,

Why?: reforms in people based



Introduction 3:

Islamic Sharing Economy

and Social Banking





Sharing Economy

- In the 1980 book, The Third Wave, futurologist Alvin Toffler coined the term "PROSUMER" when he predicted that the role of producers and consumers would begin to blur and merge,
 - Toffler envisioned a highly **saturated marketplace** as mass production of standardized products began to satisfy basic consumer demands.
- Now after 40 years, by developing technology his Futures studies has been made by Platform Business Model.
- SHARING ECONOMY, also known as the access economy, peer-to-peer (P2P) economy, or collaborative economy is a mode of consumption whereby goods and services are not owned by a single user, but rather only temporarily accessed by members of a network and underutilized assets are shared, either for free or for a fee.
 - It includes "sharing, bartering, lending, trading, renting, gifting, and swapping" redefined through technology and peer communities.



Islamic Sharing Economy

- Sharing Economy is closer to Islamic thought about ownership of funds and assets that say in Quran "Praise is for Allah, to whom belongs all that is in the heavens and the earth! (Quran 34-1) ("سُمَدُ سِّهِ الَّذِى لَهُ مَا فِي السَّمَاواتِ وَ مَا فِي الْأَرْضِ") and nothing belong to a person or to a minority of governors,
 - there is no need to stablish an intermediary organization and concentrating asset in one center and then issue several rules and condition to monitor them.
- In brief, in **Islamic prosumer** by mutual cooperation (Tawon) we will share in each benefit and there is no intermediary who wants to own the assets to redistribute them fairly or unfairly.
- The meaning of Islamic sharing economy will be find in an ecosystem that there are no institution to play the role of intermediary between several individuals
- and "the mutual right in everything (Haq- Mosha')" could be the best meaning of Islamic Sharing Economy.



Islamic Sharing Economy

- By implementing the business model of decentralized platform in case of social Islamic finance, it seems there is no need to separate Islamic capital market and Islamic money market tools and methods, even could be merge them together, meanwhile there is no centralized supervisory governor in decentralized platforms, hence we can use investment tools and micro credit financing instantaneously in a common Islamic Finance Platform.
 - Even there is no more need a bureaucratic system comes in role of intermediary of Muslim Omma's financial transactions, and a right Islamic platform could be stablish with no owner (it belongs to all) far beyond the political borders.
- and all the case of **compliance** specially Sharia compliance will be covered by **Smart Contracts** plus **Regulatory Technologies** (**RegTech**).
 - Even though there is no doubt that directly or indirectly **Islamic RegTech** institutions must be managed and/or supervised by governors of Islamic society to cover the Fatawa (Sharia principles), AML, KYC, etc.



Islamic Social Banking

Social Banking :

- provides **financial services** to individuals and organizations that create social, environmental or sustainability benefits.
- Social bank **provides long- term relationships** with clients and a direct understanding of their economic activities and the risks involved.

Islamic Social Banking:

- You say:
- We say it is a means of Tawon (تعاون)



Business Model Transmission

(from Resalat Qard'al-Hassan Bank to

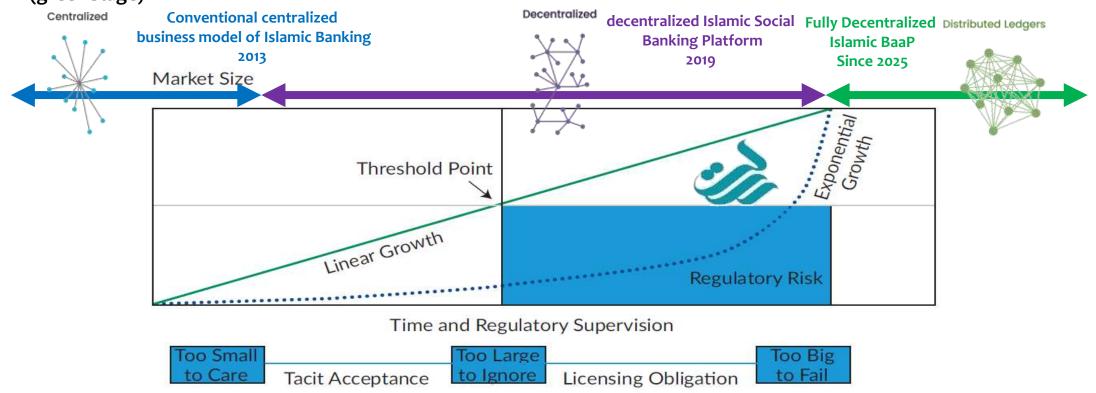
Resalat Islamic BaaP)





3 stages of growth of Resalat Bank against regulatory of Central Bank

- Resalat bank has been changed from conventional business model of Islamic Banking (blue stage in 2013)
- to modern social decentralized platform of banking (purple stage in 2019),
- and then after 2025 it will be ready to be switched and upgraded to a fully decentralized (distributed ledger) Islamic BaaP (green stage).





Identity Dimensions of Resalat Bank's Platform

Main **Goals** of Resalat Bank as a Platform

Developing Social Innovation

(Home and Small Businesses) Retail **Banking** Resalt Bank **Social Banking**

Financial inclusion

Main **Principals** of Resalat Bank's Platform





Transmission from Resalat Qard'al-Hassan Bank to Resalat Islamic BaaP

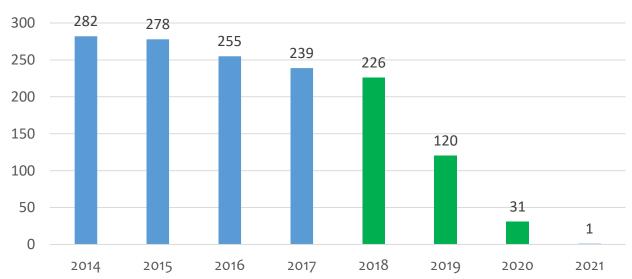
- Like every other industry; **digitization** has led to a **disruption** in common business model of Islamic banking, making it possible for **agile new entrants** to offer **innovative financial services** at a lower cost to the customer.
- While the traditional pipeline model in Islamic banking
 - creates value with owned assets and own products distributed through a bank's own channels,
- Resalat Islamic BaaP
 - relies on a diverse ecosystem to aggregate complementary and even competing Islamic Financial product (Qard'al-Hassan loan) on bank's own and third-party channels.
- Here **the Resalat Islamic BaaP** looks to create value for the customer building a marketplace platform of financial and non-financial offerings.



Statistics about Resalat Bank's Platform

after developing its social banking business model in 6 years

- Number of clusters (by above 15 members)
 - #8340 clusters
 - # 2.804.289 members
- Average # of members (by above 15 members)
 - # 336 members
- Proportion of resources of Social clusters to total resources of bank:
 - % 76.0





Acquisition of small Qard-al Hassan in last 6 years

- # of Acquisitions:
 - 39 Islamic Funds or Islamic Credit Tawoni.
- # of Branches:
 - 286 all around the country
- # of customers:
 - 1.841.652 person
- Amount of Deposits:
 - USD 660 million (IRR 27.695 billion)
- # of Employees:
 - 2.371 person





Statistics in Resalat Bank's Platform

(last 6 years up to January 2019)

- Number of deposited accounts:
 - #6.381.176
- Lump sum of resources:
 - USD 3.26 million
 - (~ IRR 137.000 billion)
- Deposits below \$23.8k (below IRR 1 billion):
 - % 99

- Total number of Qard-al Hassan Loan:
 - # 2.975.104
- Average amount of Qard-al Hassan Loan :
 - USD 3.500 (=IRR 112.836.890)
- Non-current receivables (claims)
 - About % 1.5



Transmission from Resalat Qard'al-Hassan Bank to Resalat Islamic BaaP

- The point is all these **massive records** has been happened since Resalat Islamic Bank changes its model of Social Banking from **centralized pyramid organization** to a **decentralized platform business model**.
- This **organizational minimization** by making **decentralized and agile platform** has been occurred **simultaneously** by acquisition of 39 Islamic Funds and more than 2.300 work forces in more than 280 branches.
- Next year this day the number of branches will be decline sharply to less than 120 branches and this trend will be continue up to **remain only one branch in 2021** and be fully decentralized platform business model later.



Main Challenge

- However, although a Banking platform enables the core transaction, it doesn't directly control its users' behaviors.
- Here in Resalat bank all users are Muslims who are looking for Halal financing. The challenge is a unique one:
 - how to get potentially millions of people to behave the way you want them to in case of Qard'al-Hassan loan with zero interest.
- First it must attract Muslim users to join the platform, then it aid them by matching them together in Halal Financing, providing the information technology to facilitate the transaction and establishing the rules that govern the network in order to build trust and maintain quality.
- These are the four core functions of a Resalat Islamic BaaP business model:
 - **Audience building** (using current customers, current employees, plus using acquired customers and employees)
 - **Matchmaking** (by providing Halal financing through zero interest rate Qard'al-Hassan loan)
 - **Providing core tools and services** (through social bankers, clusters and online instruments)
 - **Setting rules and standards** (in accordance to fulfill a self-control marketplace platform)



The Anatomy of Resalat Islamic BaaP Administrative affairs & Business Model





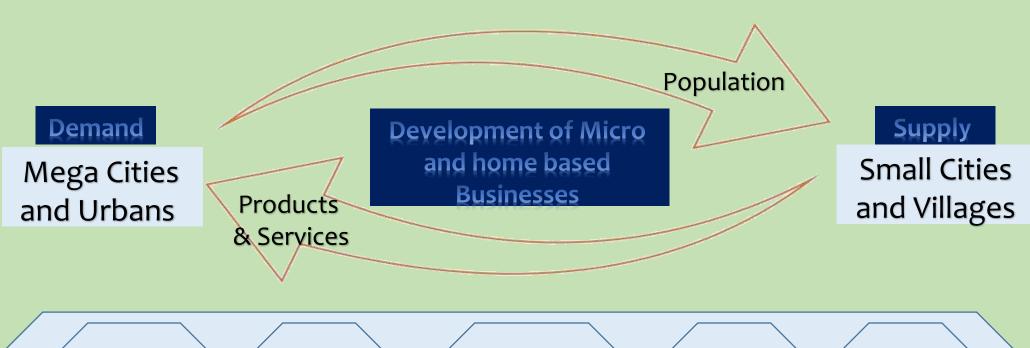
The Anatomy of Resalat Islamic BaaP Administrative affairs & Business Model

- Resalat Bank's platform ultimately enables this value creation by facilitating transactions.
- While a current banking linear business **creates value** by developing services, Islamic Banks as a platform create value by **building connections** in Islamic society and "manufacturing" transactions.
 - Getting the core transaction right is the most important part of platform design that has been done very well by Resalat Bank, as the banking platform business will need its users to repeat this process over and over to generate and exchange value.
- The core banking transaction is the platform's "factory"— the way Resalat Bank manufactures value for its users.
- It is the process that turns potential business and social connections into transactions.



Big picture of Resalat Islamic BaaP:





Competitive

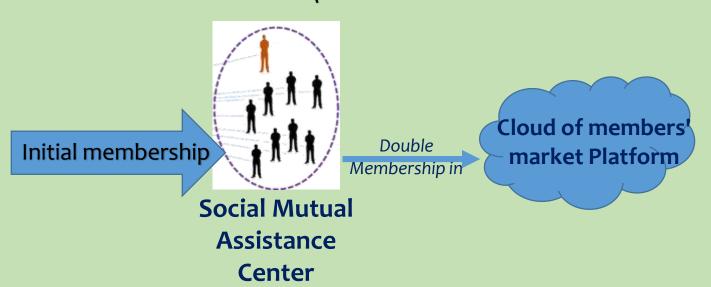
Qard-al Hasaan Finance Professional management of Value Chain

Each member a Coach Each Home a Factory Approach



Membership process in Market place Platform

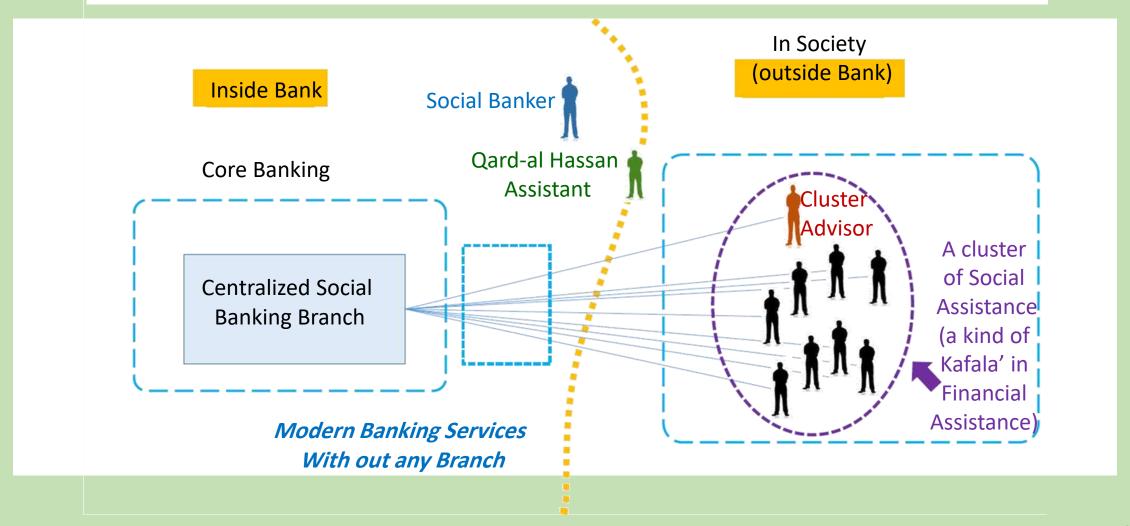
- ✓ Trustable and Fair Marketplace
- ✓ Purchase of Product and Services by Zero-fee (& zero- interest)
 Qard-al Hassan Loan



- Cash Purchase
- By defer payment Purchase
- By installment Deferred purchase
- By installment purchase
- Purchase by Token



Conceptual Business Model of Merging Social Banking by Qard-al Hassan Banking



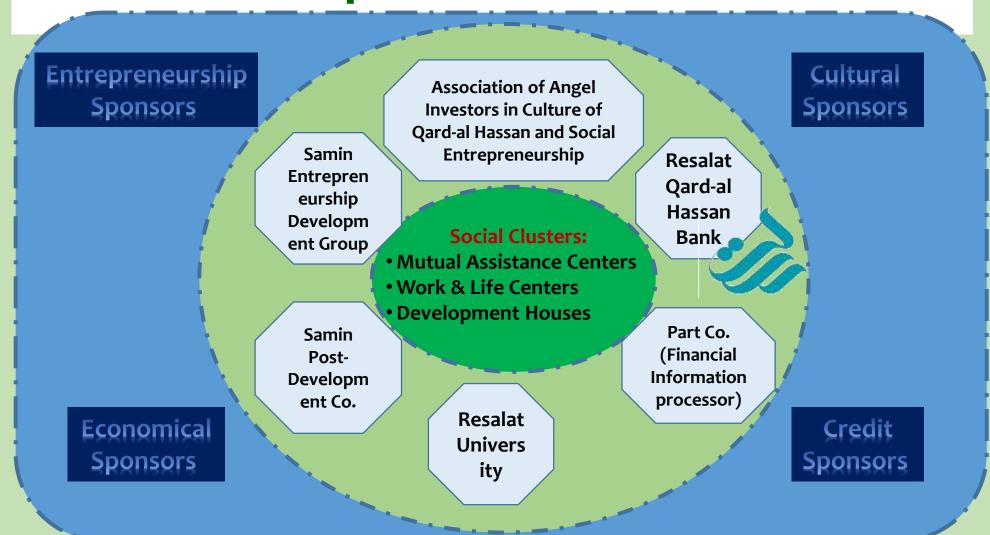


The Anatomy of Resalat Islamic BaaP Administrative affairs & Business Model

- In next diagram the roles of sponsors, strategic partners and special centers has been illustrated to gain the main goal and object of Resalat Islamic BaaP.
- The point is two platform of banking transaction (Resalat bank) and platform of trade (Samin Development Co) has been matched and mapped together to cover small and medium size of transaction in supply chain.
- By concerning this point, Resalat Islamic BaaP provide API for its partners included strategic ones, social centers and clusters, and they promote their own Fintech and/or website.
- Resalat Islamic BaaP charges fee through its facilities included **opening account, storing and managing customer data, follow** and fulfill compliance, issue credit and or debit cards, and providing security of platform.
- In the soon future, in fully decentralized platform, Resalat Islamic BaaP also did not own the funds of customers and just facilitates the P2P transactions.



Social Development Network of Resalat





Social Development Network of Resalat (Roles and Responsibilities)

Credit Support, Collateral Support, Entrepreneurship Support, Economical Social Mutual **Sponsors Support, Cultural support** Assistance Secretariat of leading the network and Association of Angel Investors in Culture of **Qard-al Hassan and Social Entrepreneurship** mentorship (facilitators) **Resalat Qard-al Hassan Bank Financial & Banking Services** Main Goals **Strategic** Part Co. (Financial Information Credit Scoring and upgrading of Financial inclusion Firms in processor) Knowledge Social Samin Entrepreneurship Management of core tasks in Value Chain of **Development Group** platform **Plaform** Entrepreneurship **Management of Markets of members (platform** Samin Post-Development Co. of Supply and demands of products & Services) **Resalat University Culture making and knowledge management** Social Social activities, Production of products and providing of services Clusters



Current Business Model Comparison:









- conceptually Islamic microfinance is different from the conventional microfinance
- The study found that the business model of Resalat Bank (That it is not interest based) is **more efficient** than Grameen Bank (that is an interest-based microfinance organization),
 - which Grameen Bank used not same peer pressure as collateral for distributing loans,
 - while the Resalat Bank business model and its platform implemented different types of investment modes to finance the home-business and retail sector.
- Resalat Bank targeted the social clusters as borrower instead of merely targeting individuals or women.
- Although Grameen Bank had a worse coverage, the performance of Resalat Islamic BaaP is better, such as the effectiveness of the credit and lower default.



Resalat Islamic BaaP vs Gerameen Bank in Social Responsibility Asspect

- it has warned that providing small loans to impoverished families is dramatically increasing stress and debt levels and everyone has not the skills to use the money wisely and micro-financing could actually lead to a higher level of debt. This social problem has been solved in Resalat Islamic BaaP by defining a systematic ecosystem of clusters, Social Bankers, Sponsors, strategic partners like Resalat University, and with no interest of Qard'al-Hassan loan and by enhancing mix of loan and equity to the borrowers.
- Logically, it was unreasonable to expect that people in poor communities would use the loans to make wise business decisions, without a supportive social network and a platform. The objective of "Marketplace Platform" of Resalat Islamic BaaP is to actually educate these people about financial decision making even to give people the skills they needed, and it is a key point that has been forgotten in business model of Gerameen Bank.
- Micro-finance is not the solution for poverty alleviation; but it is part of the solution, with many other different things embedded all in Resalat Islamic BaaP.



- Other different is about **collateral norms,** that in Gerameen Bank it does not ask for any collateral and relies on the personal contacts of its field staff with the clientele and has not so far faced any difficulty in recoveries (repayments are made weekly).
- But in contrast, in Resalat Islamic BaaP it has been asked to be covered the loan amount by a mutual collateral in affiliate social cluster or at least based on your credit behaviors history and credit scoring from a report by Part Co (strategic partner of Resalat Bank in credit scoring).
- In other words, all members of a social cluster take responsibility (Kafala') of all of its affiliated members, if not; their total credit of them will be disrupted amongst other parts of platform stakeholders.
- Although Grameen Bank responds to the socioeconomic needs of the poor through a target-oriented approach, yet there is nothing "soft" or "charitable" about it. It totally rejects the idea of subsidy, arguing that the "poor needs only access to credit and is fully capable of making profits and honoring repayments of capital charged with 16 percent [now 20 per cent] interest.
- The counter argument that if the bank availed borrowing facility at 2 percent since 1976 and continued to do so till 1995 (as reported by the management), why the poor (landless, widows/deserted women) are asked to pay 20 percent was nullified by stating that most of these poor people were since long paying more than 5 percent interest per month to the money-lenders; they were, therefore more than happy with the bank's offer.



| | Gerameen Bank | Resalat Islamic Social Banking Platform | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Main Model | Micro Finance, Linear | Islamic Social Banking as a Platform | | |
| Main Goal | Low interest loan | No interest loan (Qard'al-Hassan) | | |
| Business Model | Centralized Pyramid Organization | Decentralized Ecosystem connector | | |
| Rate of Default | Less than 2.5% | Less than 1.5% | | |
| Transferring Ownership of Deposits | Yes | Yes in current stage (Semi Decentralized) No in next stage (Fully Decentralized) | | |
| Total Asset | USD 1.5 billion (2010) | USD 3.3 million (2018) | | |
| Number of Branches | Now: 2.568 | Now: 211 | | |
| | 3 years later: ? (not decreasing) | 3 years later: 1 (Decreasing) | | |
| Number of Employees | 20.138 (2018) | 2.371 (2018) | | |
| | | 3 years later: 200 (making agile plan) | | |
| Amount of financial resources | Subsidies by national and international organizations | By members and sponsors | | |
| Model of Platform | No | Yes (in API and in merchants network) | | |
| Credit scoring | No for poor women | Yes by mutual support of social clusters (Kafala) | | |
| Efficiency & global scalability | No | Yes | | |
| Establishment | 1983 | 2013 | | |
| Sharia Approval/based | No | Yes | | |

Tehran, I.R. of Iran, 29.08.2019



Best Practice for

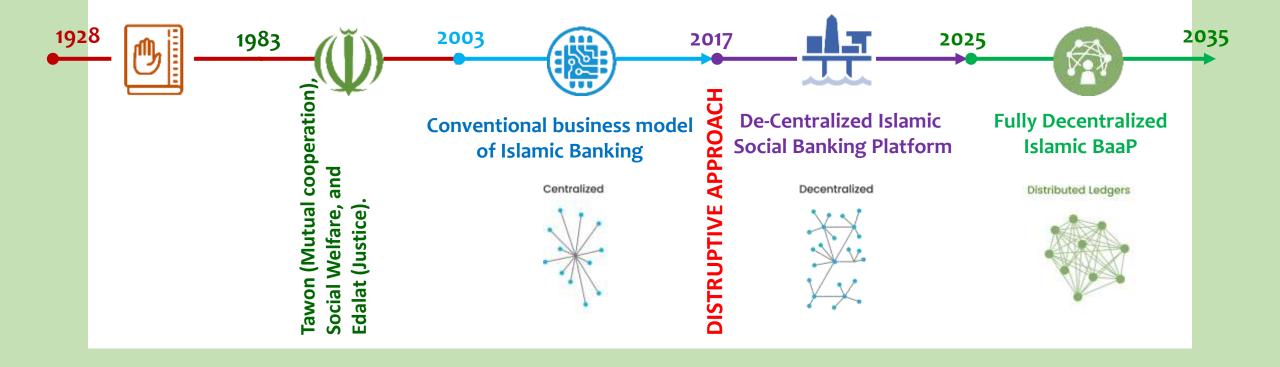
Islamic Bank as a Platform





Best Practice for Islamic Bank as a Platform

• Sustainable Transmission from conventional business model to private distributed ledger business model.





TRL & MRL (readiness of Islamic BaaP)

| Business model | Conventional Business model of Islamic Banks | Islamic Social Banking (semi- decentralized platform) | Islamic Bank as a Platform (Fully decentralized platform) | | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| | All Islamic Banks | Resalat Qard'alll Hassan Bank | Resalat Islamic BaaP | | | |
| sample | last business model of Resalat bank | current business model of Resalat Bank | future business model of Resalat Bank | | | |
| TRL (in 2019) | 9 | 8 | 4 | | | |
| MRL (in 2019) | 6 | 7 | 7 | | | |
| Legal ownership of funds | In hands of bank | In hands of bank | In hands of customers | | | |
| Fee | Yes | Yes | Yes | | | |
| Interest | 2% to 4% (more than inflation) | 0% | 0% | | | |
| Needs Branches | Yes, several | 1 is enough | No need | | | |
| Clusters | No | Yes | No/yes | | | |
| Transparency | Low | Low | High | | | |
| Operational Risk | Yes | Yes but low | Not at all (smart contract) | | | |
| Risk of conflict of interest | Yes | Yes | No | | | |
| Scalability and globalization | By high cost | By low cost | By very low cost | | | |



TRL & MRL (readiness of Islamic BaaP)

| MRL | | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
|--|----------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|---|-----|
| Building the adapted answer to the expressed need in the market | | Capita | Marke | | | | | | | 9 |
| Identification of the Experts possessing the competencies | | Tec | hnol | | 1 | | | / | \nearrow | 8 |
| Definition of the necessary and sufficient competencies and resources | | amic | Risk | alMa | rket | | | M | | 7 |
| Translation of the expected functionalities into needed capabilities to build the response | | 1, 10 1, | -an-c-20 | 7 | | | | | I | 6 |
| Identification of system capabilities | | | | | | | | | | 5 |
| Quantification of expected functionalities | | | | | | | N | 1ark | et | 4 |
| Identification of the expected functionalities for new product/service | | | | | | | I | Risk | 1 | 3 |
| Identification of specific need | | | | | | | | | | 2 |
| Occurrence of feeling "something is missing" | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| I) Conventional Business model of Islamic Banks II) Islamic Social Banking (semi- decentralized platform) III) Islamic Bank as a Platform (Fully decentralized platform) | Fundamental research | Applied Research | Research to prove feasibility | Laboratory Demonstration | Technology Development | Field demonstration of | Industrial Prototype | Product Industrialization | Market Certification and Authorization | TRL |
| | | | lity | 'n | ıt | whole | | | Sales | |



Suggestions for future studies about

Islamic Bank as a Platform





Summary about Islamic BaaP

- In this article an **efficient and effective model of administrative** for an ecosystem of Islamic-FinTech is define, design and proposed. Developing Islamic finance products to resolve financing needs of Islamic societies has been define by **a disruptive approach of Resalat Islamic BaaP** in case of FinTech in Islamic financial markets.
- The article traces **the gradual and sustainable development** of Resalat Islamic Bank as a Platform expertise in formulating social business models, which require new value propositions, value constellations and profit equations, and as such, resembles business model innovation.
- The article presents five lessons learned from this experience:
 - three are similar to those of conventional business model innovation
 - (a) challenging conventional thinking,
 - (b) finding complementary partners in ecosystem and
 - (c) undertaking continuous experimentation by a journey from semi-decentralized platform to a fully decentralized platform;
 - two are specific to Islamic social business models:
 - (d) recruiting social-profit-oriented sponsors and strategic partners (I case of Sharing Economy), and
 - (e) outsourcing specifying social profit objectives clearly and early, not to third parties but to the social clusters.



Suggestions for future studies about **Islamic Bank as a Platform**

- Last but not the least, these five pieces line out the future of Islamic Bank as a platform, decentralization and Islamic sharing economy collaboration in a complex stakeholder field, and will be suggested for future researches and studies:
 - Suggestion 1: Managing innovation in the Islamic social networked organization
 - How do digital technologies influence systems, practices and processes of Islamic Economy Ecosystem for the effective management of innovation within and across Islamic Financial Platform?
 - Suggestion 2: Dynamic capabilities for competitiveness in the digital era
 - What firm level and individual level factors give rise to Islamic Financial Platform' adaptability in response to disruptive IT forces? How?
 - Suggestion 3: Seizing the future: fostering collaborative (Tawon) entrepreneurship
 - What are the characteristics of alternative business models in digital ecosystems of Islamic Finance? Which factors facilitate their development?
 - Suggestion 4: Alternative business models for Islamic Finance Institutions in digital ecosystems
 - What are the internal and external contingencies that explain the diverse Islamic Financial Platform arrangements seen in new ventures? How does the internal and decentralized organization of entrepreneurial ventures interact with governance, ownership, industry, Sharia Scholars and geography?
 - Suggestion 5: Effective strategies and policies for enhanced Islamic social payoff, during and after digital transformation
 - What are the roles, challenges and opportunities for currently active Islamic Financial Institution for a sustainable transition to digital technologies? How can Islamic Financial Institution overcome struggles over the meaning of sustainability, within and across organizational fields, as the digital ecosystem unfolds?







Hassan Baan, DBA Student (Islamic Capital Market), hsn.baan@gmail.com Corresponding Author Dr. Abouzar Soroosh, Member of Board in Iran Islamic Financial Association, asoroosh@gmail.com Associate Prof. Dr. M.H. Botshekan, Allame Tabatabaee University, mh.botshekan@gmail.com