

MOHAMMAD ZIAD ABUSAA

Director, Cloud Architecture & Platform Engineering

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cloud and platform engineering leader with 16+ years building production systems across regulated environments. Currently directing cloud architecture and migration at Qiwa, the Saudi national workforce platform, under National Cybersecurity Authority controls. Previously led the Middle East regional platform at Lucid Motors and DevSecOps work at Vision Bank. Comfortable across GitOps, Infrastructure as Code, microservices, and big data platforms. I work closely with CTOs and product leadership, and enjoy teaching what I learn: published Udemmy instructor with 26,000+ learners and community speaker on Argo CD and Kubernetes.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Cloud Strategy & Migration:** Multi-cloud architecture (AWS, OCI, GCP), cloud migration program design, enterprise landing zones, regulatory compliance (NCA, banking), FinOps, executive advisory.
- **Platform Engineering:** GitOps at scale (Argo CD), Infrastructure as Code (Terraform), release orchestration, branching and release-based workflows, microservices governance, observability.
- **Big Data Platform Operations:** Owned and operated Kafka, Spark, Airflow, Hive, Iceberg, and Trino from a cloud and SRE perspective using Terraform, Helm, and Argo CD. Platform availability, scaling, upgrades, and reliability rather than pipeline or ETL development.
- **Team & Delivery Leadership:** Engineering management, mentorship, hiring, Agile/Scrum, stakeholder alignment, CTO and C-suite engagement.
- **Technical Foundations:** Kubernetes (CKA, CKS, CKAD), .NET Core backend, Linux, microservices architecture, CI/CD, DevSecOps (SAST/SCA).
- **AI Engineering:** Anthropic Claude API certified; building agentic engineering workflows with Claude Code; integrating LLM tooling into delivery pipelines.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Director, Cloud Architecture (Cloud Platforms Advisor)

Aug 2025 to Present

Takamol Business Services (Qiwa), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Lead cloud architecture and migration strategy for Qiwa digital services, supporting millions of users and hundreds of thousands of businesses across the Saudi labor market.
- Designed and govern the enterprise cloud migration program operating under National Cybersecurity Authority (NCA) regulatory controls.
- Established the enterprise cloud landing zone covering security, networking, identity, governance, and operations across multiple environments.
- Driving GitOps and Infrastructure as Code adoption across the platform; introduced release-based branching workflows for IBM ACE pipelines.
- Advising on GitOps adoption for IBM API Connect (APIC) and on platform decisions across ~200 microservices.
- Trusted technical advisor to the CTO and product leadership on architecture, vendor strategy, and platform trade-offs.

Engineering Manager, Cloud Architecture & Solutions

May 2023 to Jun 2025

Lucid Motors, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Led cloud-native architecture and reliability engineering for the Middle East data and microservices platforms supporting connected-vehicle telemetry across tens of thousands of vehicles.
- Operated the underlying Kubernetes, Kafka, EMQ X, Airflow, and Spark platforms across AWS and OCI from a cloud and SRE perspective; partnered with product, data, and security teams as architecture lead.
- Built Terraform modules and CI/CD pipelines managing 20+ environments, achieving 80% reduction in provisioning time.
- Drove Argo CD GitOps adoption across 25+ Kubernetes clusters, cutting deployment time and rollback incidents by ~50%.
- Maintained 99.5%+ uptime, reduced cloud spend by 25 to 30%, and mentored a team of 5 engineers.

Principal DevOps Engineer & Solutions Engineering Lead

Jan 2022 to May 2023

Vision Bank, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Led cloud adoption and DevSecOps transformation for a regulated banking environment.
- Drove GitOps with Argo CD across 400+ applications, improving deployment reliability and release velocity.
- Integrated SAST and SCA into CI/CD pipelines, strengthening product security and regulatory compliance posture.
- Stood up Prometheus and Grafana observability; automated Terraform provisioning for rapid customer pilots.
- Trained and mentored engineering hires; embedded a customer-oriented DevOps culture across teams.

Platform Lead & Solutions Consultant

Sep 2019 to Dec 2021

Thiqah Business Services, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Delivered cloud-native platform projects for Saudi government clients; led requirements workshops, solution demos, and executive stakeholder sessions.
- Spearheaded Kubernetes adoption and containerization across the engineering organization.
- Managed and mentored multiple technical teams; provided architectural advisory and presales support contributing to contract wins.

Solution Engineering Manager

Jan 2018 to Aug 2019

Netways, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Led cross-functional teams delivering enterprise solutions across finance, government, and private sectors; primary technical contact for key customers.
- Engaged directly with IT managers and C-level executives on requirements, RFPs, proofs of concept, and tailored solution design.
- Acted as product owner and delivery lead under Agile/Scrum; shipped custom .NET, SharePoint, CRM, and workflow solutions.

Senior Solution Designer to Technical Team Leader

Dec 2012 to Dec 2017

Netways, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Progressed from Senior Solution Designer (2012 to 2017) to Technical Team Leader (2017), designing and delivering custom enterprise solutions for regional clients.

Software Engineer

Jan 2010 to Nov 2012

Oger Systems, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- Built .NET applications and integrations across enterprise systems.

CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- **QIWA Cloud Migration & GitOps Transformation (2025 to Present):** Driving cloud migration design and platform modernization for the Saudi national workforce platform under NCA regulatory controls. Leading IBM ACE pipeline automation with GitOps and release-based branching workflows; advising on GitOps adoption for IBM API Connect.
- **Lucid Motors Middle East Region Platform (2023 to 2025):** Delivered the Middle East data and microservices platforms on AWS and OCI, supporting connected-vehicle telemetry across tens of thousands of vehicles and enterprise analytics workloads.
- **Multi-Agent Engineering Pipeline (Personal Project, 2025):** Designed and built a Level 4 autonomous multi-agent setup on Claude Code, including custom .claude folder layout, specialized agents, slash commands, and loop-state tracking. Documented as a reference architecture for agentic engineering workflows.

PUBLISHED WORK & COMMUNITY

- **Udemy Instructor:** Argo CD Essential Guide for End Users, 26,000+ learners enrolled.
- **Conference Speaker:** Community sessions on Argo CD and multi-cluster Kubernetes GitOps.
- **Writing:** Engineering content on LinkedIn covering cloud architecture, GitOps, and AI-native engineering workflows.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Anthropic Certified, Building with the Claude API
- AWS Certified Solutions Architect, Associate
- AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
- Certified Kubernetes Administrator (CKA), Security Specialist (CKS), Application Developer (CKAD)
- Microsoft Certified: DevOps Engineer Expert
- Microsoft Certified: Azure Developer Associate
- Prometheus Certified Associate
- Google Cloud Digital Leader

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Computer Science, University of Jordan, 2005 to 2009