YAHYA MOHAND ISAM

Senior CloudOps Engineer • Cloud & DevOps • AWS Certified Solutions Architect

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

AWS-certified Cloud & DevOps Engineer with hands-on experience since 2021 designing, operating, and securing production-grade, cloud-native systems on AWS. Specialist in high-availability architecture, incident response, and infrastructure automation for payment and e-commerce platforms with strict (sub-5-minute) SLAs. Proven under fire: led a zero-data-loss, cross-region production migration of a payments platform under an unplanned ~72-hour incident timeline. Deep expertise in Terraform IaC, containerized workloads (ECS Fargate, Docker, EKS), CI/CD automation, observability, cost optimization, and disaster recovery — with a track record of cutting downtime, deployment time, and operational risk.

CORE SKILLS

Cloud & Compute: AWS (ECS Fargate, EKS, Lambda, EC2), RDS Aurora PostgreSQL, Aurora Global Database, ElastiCache/Redis, SQS, S3, CloudFront, Route53, WAF, ECR, API Gateway

IaC & Automation: Terraform, GitHub Actions, CircleCI, Docker, trunk-based development, ephemeral environments

Reliability & Security: Incident response, on-call, cross-region DR, SSM Parameter Store, KMS, IAM/IRSA, Cognito, Age secret encryption, VPC networking

Observability: Amazon CloudWatch, AWS Chatbot, metrics/alerting, go/no-go runbooks, Grafana, prometheus

Data & MLOps: Airflow, ClickHouse, Airbyte, RudderStack, SageMaker, MLflow

Languages: Python, Bash, SQL, YAML, Terraform HCL

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Cloud Engineer / DevOps 03/2024 – Present

DigitalZone *Iraq (Remote)*

Flagship project — Zero-data-loss cross-region migration under fire (AWS Bahrain → Frankfurt):

- Led the emergency migration of a live payment & voucher platform from **AWS me-south-1 (Bahrain) to eu-central-1 (Frankfurt)** after an AWS availability-zone failure destabilized the source region — executed on a **precision 8-phase runbook against a hard 5-minute peak-hours SLA and a ~72-hour deadline, with a final cutover window of ~85 minutes and zero data loss.**
- Architected the cutover around **Amazon Aurora Global Database**, using storage-layer replication (~50 ms lag) and a managed planned failover to promote the Frankfurt cluster to primary in ~3 minutes — a reversible, no-data-loss operation versus a stale-snapshot restore.
- Rebuilt the entire target egion as code with **Terraform** (VPC, ECS Fargate, ALB, ElastiCache, SQS, ECR, SSM Parameter Store), mirroring production while correcting regional ARNs and resource names.
- Engineered a deterministic traffic gate using a **CloudFront WAF WebACL** (instead of unpredictable DNS TTL) and a single internal-DNS origin record, so the full production flip and rollback were instant and unambiguous.
- Coordinated S3 Cross-Region Replication and payment/voucher/third-party provider IP whitelisting as parallel workstreams tracked against a go/no-go checklist; hardened all GitHub Actions and CircleCI pipelines by removing hardcoded region references within 24h post-cutover.

Platform & infrastructure engineering:

- Architected scalable, cloud-native infrastructure on AWS ECS, RDS Aurora, Lambda, and S3 to improve performance and reliability.
- Diagnosed and resolved critical production incidents (database spikes, ECS resource exhaustion), cutting downtime by ~50%.
- Reduced deployment time by ~30% with reusable CI/CD workflows in CircleCI integrated with Terraform.
- Designed and built a full **ephemeral environment system** replacing traditional staging with trunk-based development: per-PR isolated DB schema, ECS service, ECR repo, and CloudFront/ALB; SSM-stored variables with Age-encrypted env files; per-PR Terraform S3 state with automated create/destroy via GitHub Actions and Slack notifications.

- Migrated sensitive environment variables to AWS SSM Parameter Store with KMS encryption; centralized secrets with no hardcoded credentials.
- Implemented proactive monitoring and alerting with CloudWatch and AWS Chatbot, improving incident response times.
- Built a cross-cloud backup solution with Lambda and S3 to replicate database backups to a second cloud provider for disaster recovery.
- Stood up full data-engineering infrastructure (RudderStack, Airbyte, Airflow, ClickHouse, S3) via Terraform to optimize cost and ensure data privacy.
- Designed an end-to-end MLOps pipeline using SageMaker and MLflow with S3 artifact storage and Airflow-orchestrated batch inference.

Technical Lead — AWS re/Start Program 03/2022 – Present
Mosul Space *Iraq*

- Led the AWS re/Start workforce-development program, achieving a 70% pass rate for the AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner credential in the first cohort.
- Designed and delivered coursework and hands-on labs using real-world cloud scenarios; mentored career-changers into entry- to mid-level cloud roles.
- Delivered professional-skills training (resume building, interview coaching) and partnered with organizations to broaden tech-industry inclusion.

AWS Solutions Architect 09/2021 – 02/2023
Mosul Space *Iraq*

- Consulted on cloud solution design across compute, virtualization, unified computing, and enterprise storage, aligning architecture to business goals.
- Built targeted disaster-recovery and cloud-backup offerings, giving customers cost-effective, compliant off-site solutions.
- Migrated customers to modern virtual server and storage platforms, improving performance, availability, and scalability while lowering total cost of ownership.

Machine Learning Engineer 03/2023 – 06/2023
Falaq *Mosul, Iraq*

- Built an RNN (Keras) sales-forecasting model for an online platform connecting pharmacies with drug stores, improving purchasing decisions.
- Raised predictive accuracy from 72% to 95% while reducing inference latency by ~25%.

CERTIFICATIONS

- **AWS Certified Solutions Architect – Associate** — Amazon Web Services (2022)
- **AWS Certified Machine Learning – Specialty** — Amazon Web Services (2023, valid through 2026)
- **AWS re/Start Accredited Instructor** — Amazon Web Services (2022)

EDUCATION

B.Tech. in Computer Engineering 11/2017 – 08/2021
Northern Technical College *Mosul, Iraq*
GPA: 3.7 • Best Graduation Project award (2021)

AWARDS

- Agriculture Hackathon — Qaf Lab (2023)
- Best Graduation Project — Northern Technical College (2021)