

## **Library management systems projects based on SAAS technology (Software as a Service): a case study of the KOHACAT project**

Research – Results

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### **Mohamed Mosaad El Zalabany**

Library automation systems consultant  
Doctoral researcher, Department of Libraries,  
Documents and Information, Cairo University,  
Egypt

[mh\\_zalabany@hotmail.com](mailto:mh_zalabany@hotmail.com)

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Mohamed Mosaad El  
Zalabany, Suzan Gamal  
Ashmawy

### **Suzan Gamal Ashmawy**

Master's in Library Management Systems,  
Department of Libraries, Documents and  
Information, Cairo University, Egypt  
Library Supervisor for Circulation and Inquiry  
Services and Subject Librarian for Medical Science,  
British University Library, Egypt

[suzygamal81@hotmail.com](mailto:suzygamal81@hotmail.com)



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### **Abstract**

The research paper explores an entrepreneurial project in library management systems, focusing on the globally renowned KOHA system. Launched in 2000, KOHA has been continuously developed by a vast community of developers, libraries, and commercial companies. This project offers an integrated library management system

accessible online, catering primarily to small-sized libraries, with a specific focus on school and larger libraries.

KOHA allows participating libraries to perform all essential operations, including cataloging, lending, user registration, and various other functions supported by standard library management subsystems. Additionally, it facilitates the sharing of bibliographic data with other libraries, thereby saving time on cataloging tasks while ensuring the necessary privacy for managing patrons and their collections.

## Keywords

Libraries management systems, KOHA

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## 6. Results and Recommendations

The study yielded the following insights:

- Understanding the Technical Aspects: The research provided detailed knowledge on the technical requirements for establishing the KOHACAT platform, including the necessary infrastructure.
- Implementation Steps and Operational Needs: The study identified the steps required to implement the platform, from selecting the service name and logo to addressing marketing and legal requirements for contracts.
- Basic Subsystems Exploration: The research examined the core subsystems of the platform, illustrating how they support multiple libraries while maintaining privacy for each one.
- Review of Services Provided: The study reviewed the services offered by the KOHACAT platform, emphasizing its focus on library services.
- Comparison Between SaaS and Local Implementation: The study compared KOHACAT as a SaaS service to locally implemented software, highlighting key findings:
  - Cost Efficiency: SaaS models like KOHACAT are more cost-effective than locally implemented systems.
  - Operational Support: SaaS platforms offer extensive support, including essential tasks and personnel necessary for ongoing system operations.

- Infrastructure Management: SaaS providers handle the infrastructure, maintenance, and support, reducing the burden on libraries.
- Enhanced Security and Availability: SaaS platforms provide higher levels of security and availability, ensuring reliable access and data protection at a lower cost compared to local implementations.