




# Designing a Model for Integrating Social Capital with Innovative Knowledge Management in Gaining Competitive Advantage and Development of the Country's Banks (Case Study: Sepah Bank Branches in Tabriz)


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## 1. Round 1

### 1.1. Reviewer 1

Reviewer:

While the objective is stated, it would benefit from a more detailed explanation of how the integration of social capital and innovative knowledge management is expected to contribute to the competitive advantage and development of banks. Specifically, identify gaps in the current literature or practice that your study addresses.

The methodology section could be enhanced by providing more detail on the selection criteria for interviewees and the rationale behind choosing 15 managers and deputies. Furthermore, clarifying how the structural equations were developed and tested in the quantitative part would add to the robustness of the study.

The connection between the theoretical framework and the research model needs further elaboration. Specifically, how do the concepts of social capital and innovative knowledge management theoretically contribute to competitive advantage in the banking sector? Providing a more detailed theoretical argument would strengthen the foundation of your research.

The document would benefit from a thorough proofreading to correct typographical and grammatical errors. Additionally, ensure that formatting is consistent throughout the document, including figure labels, headings, and reference citations.

Response: Thank you for your comment. I will consider these comments.

### 1.2. Reviewer 2

Reviewer:

Expand on the data analysis process, particularly how you transitioned from grounded theory coding to the development of structural equations. Including examples of codes or themes that emerged from the qualitative analysis could provide readers with deeper insights into your findings.

The article could better articulate how the qualitative and quantitative findings complement each other. Discussing the integration of these findings in the context of your research questions would provide a more comprehensive understanding of your results.

While the conclusion summarizes the findings well, it could further discuss the practical implications of these findings for bank managers and policy-makers. Specifically, how can the integration of social capital and innovative knowledge management be operationalized in bank settings?

The limitations section is briefly mentioned but could be expanded. Discuss how the choice of a single case study (Sepah Bank) and the geographical focus (Tabriz) might influence the generalizability of the findings. Additionally, suggest specific avenues for future research that could address these limitations.

The literature review could be updated to include more recent studies on social capital, innovative knowledge management, and competitive advantage in the banking sector. This would help to contextualize your study within the current state of research.

Response: Thank you for your comment. I will consider these comments.

## 2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.