





# THE CREATION OF EMIRATES LEBANON BANK SAL

Seeing opportunities for further growth in the Gulf and throughout the Middle East, Bank of Sharjah realized that engaging in acquisitions would be part of its future strategy for success.

By the end of September 2008, Bank of Sharjah finalized the acquisition of the assets and liabilities of Banque Nationale de Paris Intercontinentale (BNPI Lebanon) after obtaining the approval from the U.A.E. Central Bank and the Central Bank of Lebanon and renamed it Emirates Lebanon Bank sal.

# THE MESSAGE OF THE CHAIRMAN -GENERAL MANAGER



In 2018, Bank of Sharjah celebrates the tenth anniversary of its successful entry into the Lebanese economy through its subsidiary Emirates Lebanon Bank SAL.

It celebrates a decade of strong performance, dedication, and commitment that have accompanied the growth and development of

the Bank's customer base; a base that prides itself in having been active and permanent contributors to a unique banking journey that began with the establishment of the Lebanese subsidiary of BNP Paribas in 1944.

Emirates Lebanon Bank SAL's business model stems from the fusion of two banking institutions' cultures, drawing upon its deep knowledge of customer needs to forge strong relationships of mutually beneficial trust and respect.

Emirates Lebanon Bank SAL adheres to the mission statement of Bank of Sharjah:

"To achieve exceptional Performance by focusing on sound Ethics and on the Commitment to only target the right Initiatives for its clientele, personnel and all stakeholders. To adopt the highest level of Transparency and to ensure the utmost Quality in the conduct of business in order to contribute to the wellbeing of the community." Since its launch in 2008, Emirates Lebanon Bank SAL has achieved strong results buoyed by sound Corporate Governance and strict Compliance guidelines adopted and implemented long before they became mandated by regulatory requirements.

In an ever-changing world, extremely weary of reputational risk, Emirates Lebanon Bank SAL's achievements clearly reflect the Board's strategic policies, focused on maintaining a strong financial standing while sustaining profitability in a volatile environment.

The following pages will endeavor to chronicle the rich history of the Bank, all-the-while highlighting its place in the future. A future that presents new challenges and opportunities, such as fintech and artificial intelligence, which promise financial innovation and disruption to the way banking is done.

Emirates Lebanon Bank SAL is ready to participate actively in the innovations to come, fostering a period of ease in banking operations and deeper understanding of customer expectations.

It's about time.

I wish to express my appreciation to the members of the Board for their relentless efforts in achieving our goal of becoming "your partner in progress"; as well as to the Management and Staff for their dedication and commitment to the Bank's strategy and values.

Last but certainly not least, my final words of thanks go to our customers for their continuous faith in us and the quality of our services; to our global banking correspondents; and to the Central Bank of Lebanon and the monetary authorities.

Varouj Nerguizian Chairman & General Manager

Allenby Street - 1948

# THE HISTORY

## HONORING THE PAST

Emirates Lebanon sal is among the youngest banks in the sector yet among the first banks implemented in Lebanon!

From its proud beginning to its promising future, we invite you to a journey through the past to discover a Bank built on the foundations of more than 70 years of history.

## THE HISTORY OF **BNPI LEBANON**

The history of BNPI Lebanon goes back to January 19, 1944 when "BNCI" A (Banque Nationale pour le Commerce et L'Industrie (Afrique) opened its first branch in Allenby street, Beirut. It was the 6<sup>th</sup> Bank to be established in Lebanon.

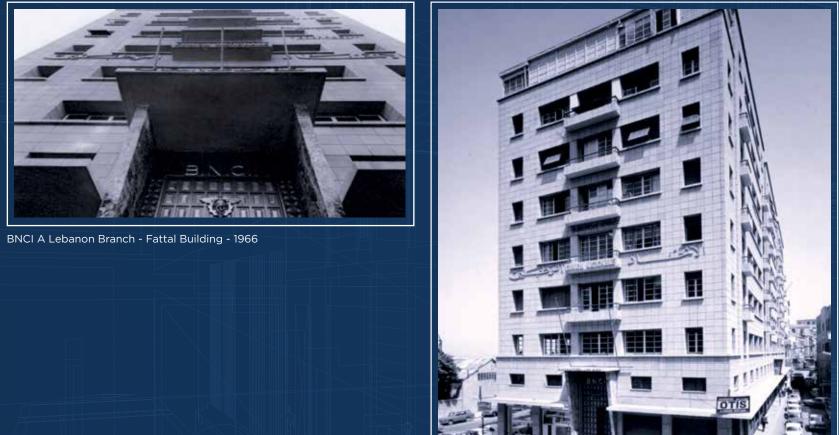


Press ad - November, 1945 (From the archives of L'Orient-Le Jour)



BNCI A First Financial Statement as at 31.12.1944

# THE BNCI A HEADQUARTERS



## THE VIEW FROM THE COUNTERS







BNCI A Lebanon Branch - Fattal Building - 1966

## FROM BNCI A TO BNP

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1966, Banque Nationale pour le Commerce et l'Industrie (BNCI) and Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris (CNEP) merged into a new financial institution: Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP).

Banque Nationale de Paris Intercontinentale referred at the time to subsidiaries of BNP France operating in the Middle East, Africa and the French Overseas Department & Territories. Hence, after the merger, BNPI Lebanon became a full subsidiary of BNPI France.





Press release - merger BNCI and CNEP

**BNPI** Logo

## SETBACK OF BNPI

BNPI witnessed a period of economic prosperity until the civil war broke out in 1975. The toll was heavy on the Bank as the only branch in Lebanon was completely destroyed in 1976.

Though most foreign banks completely retrieved their operations from the country, BNPI chose to stand by its clients. Managers set up offices in their own homes to ensure a minimum of services to their customers.

## THE OUTBREAK OF THE WAR

Overcoming the war hurdles, BNPI opened the Sarba branch in 1976, followed by the Hamra, Dora and Achrafieh branches in 1977. The Saida branch was opened in the following year. The Sarba branch was replaced by the actual Jounieh branch in 1979.

BNPI maintained its activities without interruption from 1976 until the end of the ravaging war in 1992. During that period, the management and the main branch were temporarily hosted in other premises.

main branch.

The choice of the new Headquarter location in Tabaris was not innocent since it was exactly where the demarcation line was drawn. Through this dare decision, BNPI's management wanted to send a powerful symbolic message that it strongly believed that the war was truly over and belonged to the past.

Allenby Street - To the right, the Fattal Building harboring the BNCI A Headquarters

With the end of hostilities in 1992, the BNPI management decided that time was convenient to invest in a new building to harbor its Headquarters and

## THE NEW HEADQUARTERS

Two years after the launch of construction works, the Achrafieh branch and the management moved in 1994 to their new Headquarters in Borj El Ghazal whose total surface area is of 4000 m<sup>2</sup> in addition to a 1000 m<sup>2</sup> terrace.

The inauguration coincided with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BNPI in Lebanon.

## THE MERGER **OF BNP & PARIBAS**

In 1999, BNP launched a takeover bid for Paribas, which led to the merger of the two banks on 23 May 2000 and the formation of the BNP Paribas Group.

BNPI Lebanon became therefore a full subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a world leading bank with an international network.



BNPI Lebanon new premises - Borj El Ghazal - Tabaris

# **BNPI**

## THE HISTORY OF BANK OF SHARJAH

Bank of Sharjah was incorporated on December 22, 1973. Operations started in May 1974 as the first consortium bank established in the GCC in association with Banque Paribas. The Bank was the first financial institution in Sharjah to make 40% of its capital available for public subscription.

The three founding members came together to create an institution that would eventually become a symbol of integrity, transparency, growth and success.

With an equal 20% stake in shares, together the 3 members have combined their strengths and knowledge to nurture the potential of this everprogressing establishment.

### THE GOVERNMENT OF SHARJAH

Led by HH Dr. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi, the Government of Sharjah took the initiative to establish Sharjah's first Bank. Approached by Banque Paribas, to create a local, yet independent entity in the Emirate, the Government of Sharjah helped facilitate a venture that would become a symbol for the Emirate's growing advancement.

### **HASSAWI GROUP**

After finding success and becoming an integral part of the Emirate's business community, Mr. Mubarak Al-Hassawi was selected by the HH Dr. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi, Honorary Chairman of the Board, to become the 2<sup>nd</sup> founding partner at what was to become Bank of Shariah.

### **BANQUE PARIBAS**

Established in 1872, Banque Paribas, which later became known as BNP Paribas, is the third founding member of Bank of Sharjah.

Choosing Sharjah for its rich and natural resources and potential of growth, the bank approached HH Dr. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi with a proposal to create a Bank of Sharjah - a bank that would represent the Emirate's local community and culture combined with the knowledge and expertise of an international bank.



HH Dr. Sheikh Sultan Bin Mohammed Al-Qasimi delivering his speech at the One of the early meeting of the Board of Directors 1973 opening, seated next to him is the late Mr. Mubarak Al-Hassawi





## **BANK OF SHARJAH** A PARTNER IN PROGRESS

Sharjah is primarily a corporate Bank, catering to UAE-based businesses, SMEs, the Sharjah government and government facilities, syndicate loans, and short-to-medium term loans. In addition, the Bank engages in Private Banking, Wealth Management, and Investment.

An unlimited perspective. That's what Bank of Sharjah offers its customers as corporate banking does not stop at basic account management or advice on financial investments. It evolves with their customers' business.

Because every corporate's vision is unique, its development demands very specific inputs, that are critical to each stage. Employing expert minds, using innovative tools, Bank of Sharjah strives to provide its customers with financial solutions that deliver results, not just promises.



# THE PRESENT

## Emirates Lebanon Bank is:

A leading commercial bank that caters to the daily banking needs of large corporates as well as of Retail & Private Banking clients through high quality products & services.

Considered a benchmark of international standards in the banking sector. Emirates Lebanon Bank is renowned for the expertise of its team who actively develops and nourishes a strong professional relation with its customers.

A full subsidiary of Bank of Sharjah thus giving its customers access to the profound knowledge of the Gulf market, its expertise and its network.



# Consensus

# oriented

# Participatory

# Good

Accountable

Governance

## Follo he

rule/of law

# Effective and Efficient

# THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Board and Management of Emirates Lebanon Bank acknowledge and believe that Corporate Governance is of paramount importance and commit to implement the soundest standards and the best practices, whether locally or internationally.

Emirates Lebanon Bank's guidelines are hence developed in strict adherence to policies and regulations set forth by Lebanon's supervisory authorities namely the Central Bank, the Banking Control Commission and the Special Investigation Commission.

Emirates Lebanon Bank's Governance structure, which aims to provide a proficient framework by assigning responsibility and accountability, comprises:

- BOARD OF DIRECTORS
- BOARD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
- BOARD COMPLIANCE "AML/CFT" COMMITTEE
- BOARD CREDIT COMMITTEE
- BOARD RISK COMMITTEE
- BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE

• BOARD CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE BOARD COMPENSATION. REMUNERATION & NOMINATION COMMITTEE

## THE CORE VALUES

Emirates Lebanon Bank's Governance framework revolves around Bank of Sharjah Group's Corporate Governance Code which focuses on transparency and disclosure. It also includes the Group's Code of Conduct from which stem the Code of Ethics, the Conflict of Interest Policy ensuring that any conflict of interest in any area of business is avoided and the Disclosure Policy covering all documents released to shareholders or other stakeholder groups.

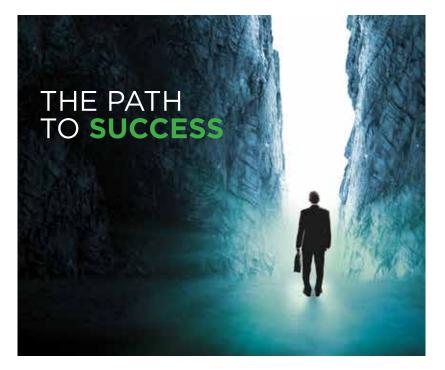
A the heart of Bank of Sharjah Group's philosophy are six main values.

### PERFORMANCE

Every action taken by Bank of Sharjah Group must be performed with the aim of success. While not all performance will be successful, one must perform with the belief that one will succeed.

## **ETHICS**

Without a foundation based on ethics, nothing is possible. Ethics are what allow customers to place their ultimate trust in Bank of Sharjah Group's performance.





## TRANSPARENCY

Honesty, clarity, transparency – giving customers the ability to be confident in every action Bank of Sharjah Group takes on their behalf.



## COMMITMENT

Every successful relationship is based on solid commitment to work together in order to achieve the goals that were set out from the very first day.

## INITIATIVE

The world would be a much dimmer place without initiative .Innovation can only occur when ideas are pushed, goals are set and dreams are realized.



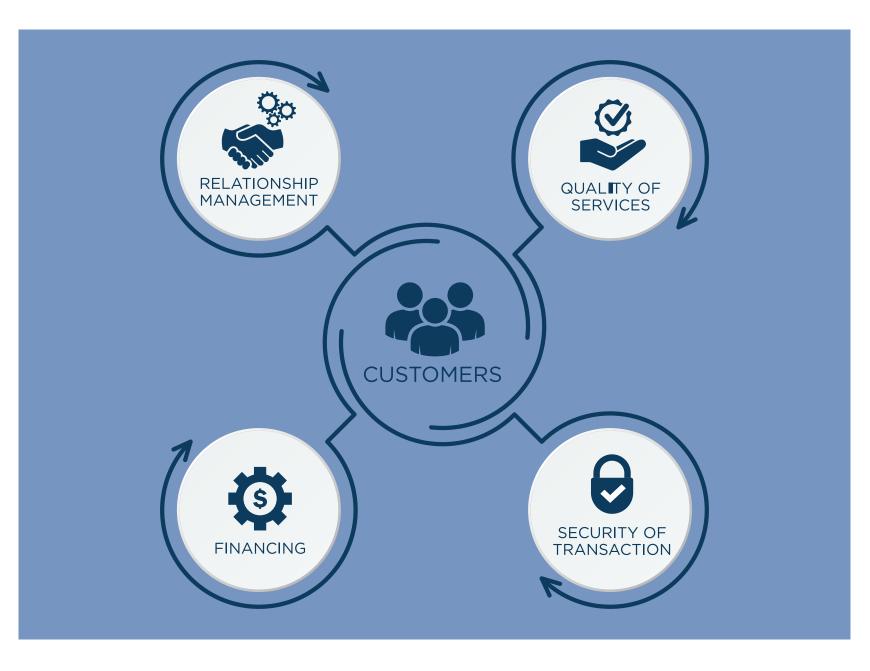
## QUALITY

From the smallest of transactions to the grandest of investments, Bank of Sharjah Group ensures that the level of service, advice and support is of excellent quality.



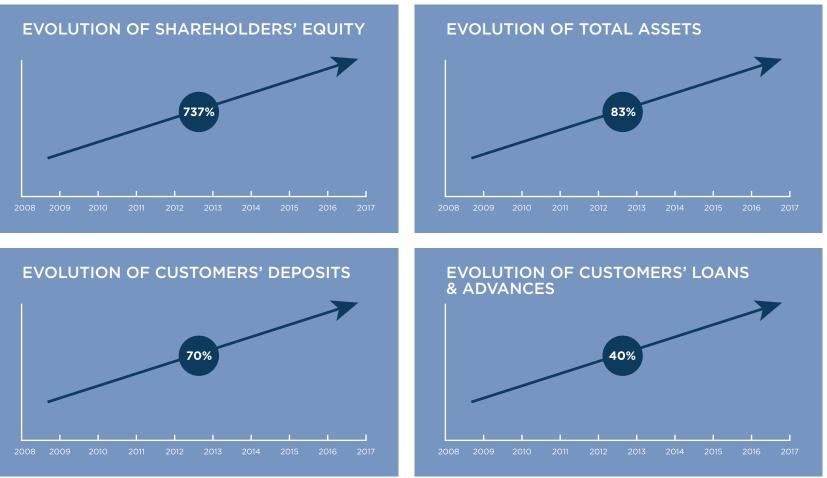


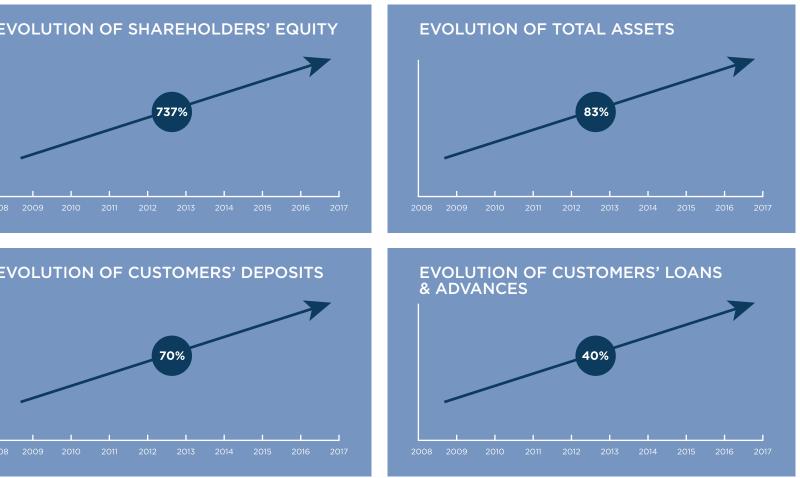
## THE **MISSION**

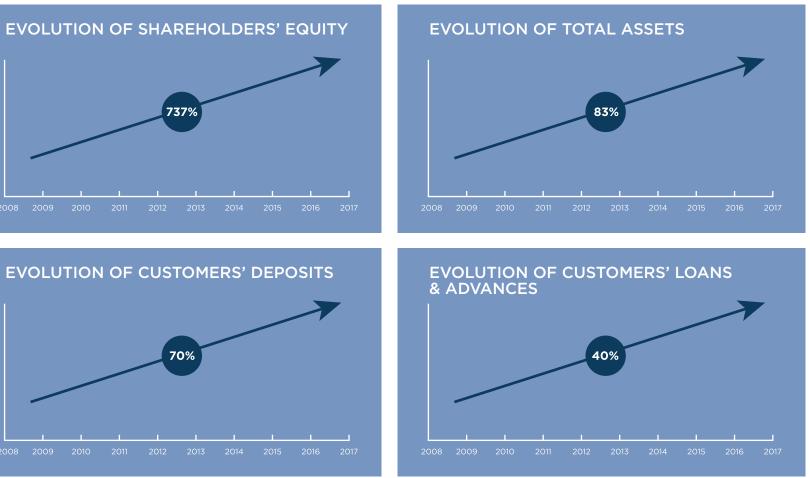


## THE **ACHIEVEMENTS**

Since it first launched its commercial operations in 2008 following the acquisition of the assets and liabilities of BNPI in Lebanon, Emirates Lebanon Bank has been witnessing a strong performance.







## THE PRODUCTS & SERVICES

Two core business lines mirror the Bank's organization: Corporate Banking and Retail Banking mainly focused on High Net Worth Individuals (HNWI).

Large Corporates and SMEs constitute a major component of Emirates Lebanon Bank's development strategy. To customers, Emirates Lebanon Bank is first and foremost their trusted advisor. Whether financing a project, delivering a guarantee or planning a merger or an acquisition, clients benefit from a specific range of products and services that allows them to optimize their growth and development.

HNWI customers constitute the other component of Emirates Lebanon Bank's development strategy. Emirates Lebanon Bank puts at their disposal a product mix covering deposits, a range of payment cards, Spectra (an array of 7 packages gathering daily retail banking products and services), personal, car and housing loans, as well as e-banking and mobile banking services. These products were conceived to meet the ever growing needs of our customers.



Tailored Services



EL Home Housing Loan



Credit Cards



Commercial Loans



International Trade



Management of Assets



Dealing room

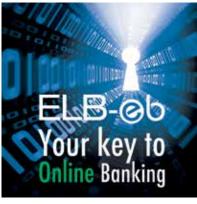




EL Perso Personal Loan EL Visio Revolving Loan



EL Drive Car Loan



E-Banking service



**ELB-App Mobile** Banking Application



EL Points Reward Program



Spectra Packages

## THE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Corporate Social Responsibility reflects the Bank's commitment to our customers, employees and to the communities we serve.

Beyond sponsorships and partnerships, activities of Emirates Lebanon Bank's Corporate Social Responsibility are built around various activities such as education, sports, culture, health and social issues as well as supporting charities and institutions.

## NOI. CHARITIES HEATH D PORTS UCAT ŬÚ HEALTH CORPORATE C. **SPOR** CULTURE III **SPORTS** SPOR **CORPORATE CORPORATE** SO

## THE BRANCH NETWORK



The Headquarters in Borj EL Ghazal - The Management floor



The Achrafieh Main Branch





E-Space - Ground Floor of Borj EL Ghazal



Dora Branch



Jounieh Branch

Hamra Branch

Saida Branch



## **THE** FUTURE

The coming years will be marked with new goals, new challenges and new achievements.

Growth will be sustained by continuing to support the Lebanese economy, contributing to the success of the Lebanese Government's Capital Investment Program and by financing the private sector in priority areas such as electricity, transportation, waste management and telecommunication.

Over more than seven decades, strong well-knit ties have developed between Emirates Lebanon Bank and its customers, with some relationships passed from generations to generations.

The ongoing search of excellence in the quality of services, the personal and customized approach and the professionalism of its staff are some of the key elements that kept these relationships going through decades.

It is those same key elements that will keep Emirates Lebanon Bank striving forward and pushing the boundaries of progress, more than ever confident in the future of Lebanon.

## LET'S KEEP GROWING. TOGETHER. SIDE BY SIDE.

#### Main Branch

Tabaris T. 1285 or +961 1 200 601 F. +961 1 200 604

### Hamra Branch

T. +961 1 353 672 F. +961 1 353 668

#### **Dora Branch**

T. +961 1 240 818 F. +961 1 240 820

#### Jounieh Branch

T. +961 9 912 151 F. +961 9 913 670

#### Saida Branch

T. +961 7 720 900 F. +961 7 725 725

### Headquarters

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