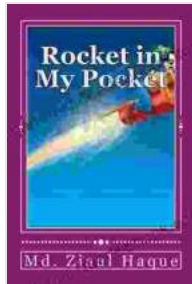


Rocket In My Pocket: The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of Md Ziaul Haque



Rocket in My Pocket by Md. Ziaul Haque

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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In the bustling streets of Dhaka, Bangladesh, a quiet revolution was taking place. It was a revolution that would change the lives of millions of people, empowering them financially and connecting them to the global economy. At the heart of this revolution was a visionary entrepreneur named Md Ziaul Haque.

Haque's story is a testament to the power of innovation, perseverance, and the belief that anything is possible. From humble beginnings, he rose to become one of the most influential figures in the global fintech industry. His creation, Rocket, a mobile financial service, has transformed the way people in Bangladesh and beyond access and manage their money.

This article delves into the extraordinary life and legacy of Md Ziaul Haque, exploring his journey from a young engineer to a world-renowned social entrepreneur. We will unravel the challenges he faced, the impact of his work, and the lasting legacy he has left behind.

Early Life and Education

Md Ziaul Haque was born in 1969 in a small village in rural Bangladesh. His family was poor, and he had to work hard from a young age to help support his family. Despite the challenges he faced, Haque was a bright and ambitious student. He excelled in his studies and went on to earn a degree in electrical engineering from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET).

The Genesis of Rocket

After graduating from BUET, Haque worked as an engineer for several years. However, he soon realized that his true passion lay in using technology to solve social problems. In 2006, he quit his job and founded a company called BRAC Bank. BRAC Bank's mission was to provide financial services to the poor and unbanked population of Bangladesh.

At BRAC Bank, Haque began to explore the potential of mobile technology to reach the unbanked. He realized that mobile phones were becoming increasingly ubiquitous in Bangladesh, even in the most remote areas. This

led him to the idea of creating a mobile financial service that would allow people to send and receive money, make payments, and save money, all from their mobile phones.

In 2008, Haque launched Rocket, the first mobile financial service in Bangladesh. Rocket was an instant success. It filled a huge gap in the financial market, providing access to financial services to millions of people who had previously been excluded from the formal banking system.

Challenges and Successes

The launch of Rocket was not without its challenges. Haque faced skepticism from traditional banks and regulators, who were concerned about the security and stability of a mobile financial service. He also faced challenges in educating the public about how to use Rocket and convincing them that it was a safe and reliable way to manage their money.

Despite the challenges, Haque persevered and Rocket continued to grow. In 2011, Rocket was acquired by bKash, a joint venture between BRAC Bank and the Norwegian telecom company Telenor. Under bKash, Rocket continued to expand its reach, becoming the largest mobile financial service in Bangladesh and one of the largest in the world.

Impact and Legacy

The impact of Rocket on financial inclusion in Bangladesh has been profound. Before Rocket, only about 10% of Bangladeshis had access to formal financial services. Today, over 80% of the population uses mobile financial services, and Rocket is the most popular platform.

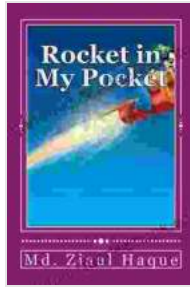
Rocket has not only provided financial access to millions of people, but it has also empowered them economically. By enabling people to save money, send and receive remittances, and make payments, Rocket has helped to reduce poverty, improve livelihoods, and promote economic growth in Bangladesh.

Haque's work has been recognized around the world. In 2014, he was named a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum. In 2016, he was awarded the Schwab Foundation's Social Entrepreneur of the Year Award.

Haque's legacy extends beyond Rocket. He has been a pioneer in the global fintech industry, demonstrating the power of technology to transform lives and create positive social change. He has inspired a new generation of entrepreneurs to use technology to solve social problems and make the world a better place.

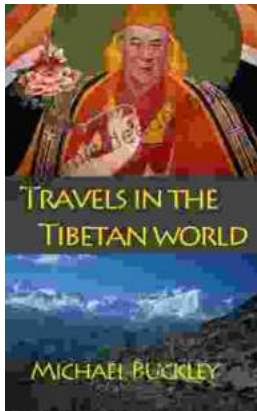
Md Ziaul Haque is a visionary entrepreneur whose work has had a profound impact on the lives of millions of people around the world. Through his creation of Rocket, he has revolutionized financial inclusion and empowered the poor and unbanked. Haque's story is an inspiration to us all, showing us that anything is possible if we have the courage to dream big and the determination to make it happen.

As we look to the future, the legacy of Md Ziaul Haque will continue to inspire and empower generations to come. His work has shown us that technology can be a powerful force for good, and that by working together, we can create a more just and equitable world.



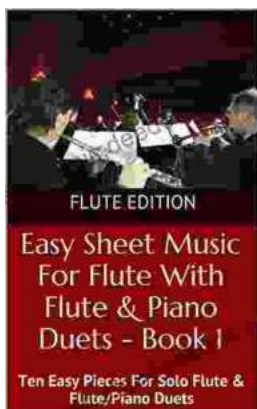
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