

# CONFIGURATION OF A CERTIFICATION AUTHORITY AND IIS SERVER

By BOUBEKEUR Mohend

بامعد هولاي بجلدين للعلوم حالة الكاللا لا علوم الكاللا

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FACULTY OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

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#### **Definitions:**

**Internet Information Services (IIS):** Internet Information Services (IIS) is a flexible and versatile web server developed by Microsoft, which runs on Windows systems to serve HTML pages or requested files. We will use it to host our webpage.



**Certification Authority (CA):** A certification authority is a company, organization, or entity responsible for validating the identities of entities (such as websites, email addresses, businesses, or individuals) and linking them to cryptographic keys by issuing electronic documents called digital certificates. In our case, we will use a local certification authority.

The purpose of using a certification authority in our network is to establish a trusted infrastructure for secure communication and authentication. By implementing a Certification Authority (CA), we ensure that all entities within our network can be verified and authenticated reliably. This enhances the security of our network by:

- Authenticating Entities: The CA verifies the identities of various entities such as servers, clients, and users within our network. This ensures that only authorized entities can access resources and services.
- **Secure Communication:** The digital certificates issued by the CA facilitate secure communication by encrypting data transmitted between entities. This encryption helps prevent unauthorized access and eavesdropping, thus protecting sensitive information.
- Preventing Man-in-the-Middle Attacks: Through the use of digital certificates signed by the CA, we can detect and prevent man-in-the-middle attacks, where a malicious actor intercepts communication between two parties.

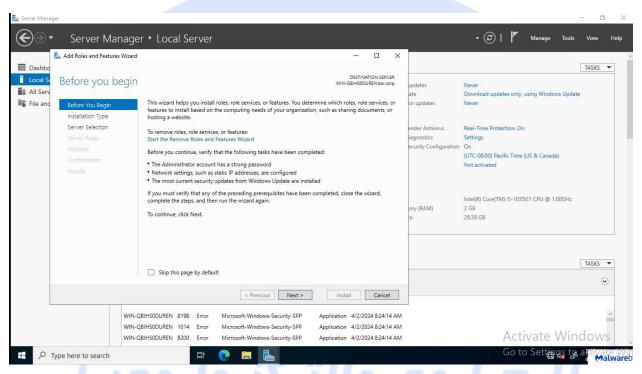
#### Configuration Steps:

Below are step-by-step instructions. You will simply need to replicate the screenshots.

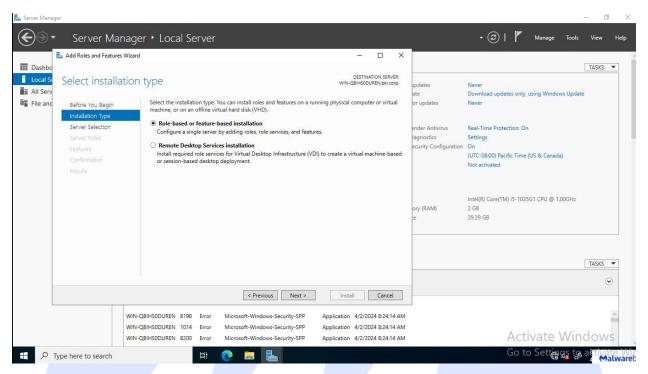
### • Step I: Creating a Domain and Promoting Your Current Machine to a Domain Controller:

To begin, we will create a domain and transform your current machine into a domain controller.

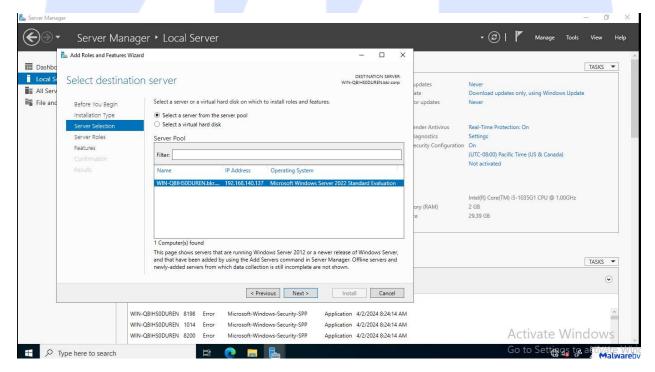
- Open the "Server Manager" by clicking on the "Start" menu, selecting "Windows Administrative Tools," and then clicking on "Server Manager."
- In the Server Manager window, click on "Add roles and features" from the Dashboard or the Manage menu.



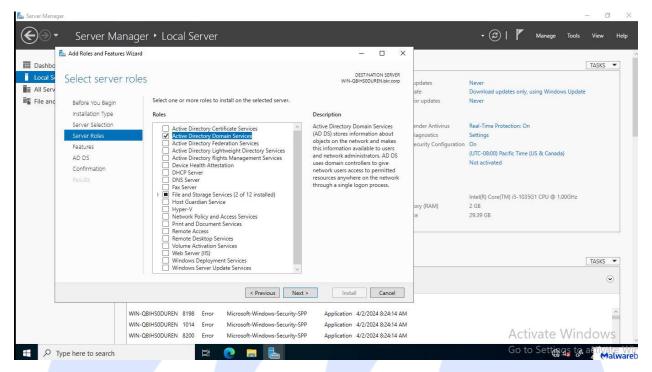
The Add Roles and Features Wizard will appear. Click "Next" to proceed.



Select "Role-based or feature-based installation" and click "Next."



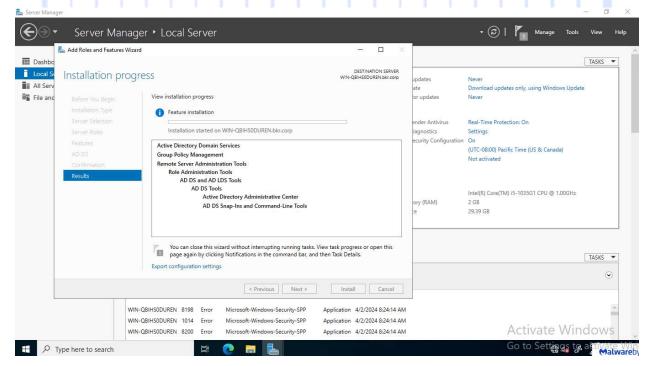
Choose the server you want to install the Active Directory Domain Services role on. If it's the local server, it should be selected by default. Click "Next" to continue.



In the Roles section, select "Active Directory Domain Services." A window will pop up, prompting you to add features required for Active Directory Domain Services. Click "Add Features" and then click "Next."

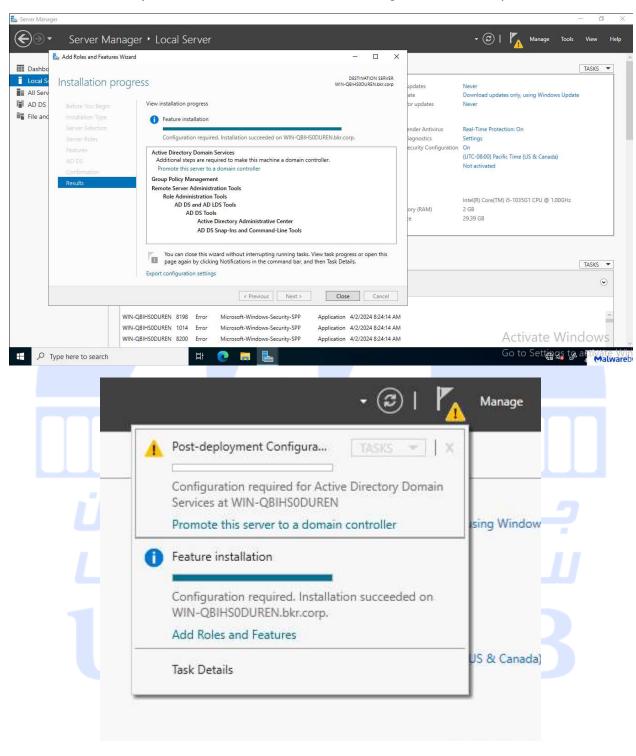
Review the information provided about Active Directory Domain Services, and then click "Next."

On the Features page, you can skip this step as no additional features are required. Click "Next."

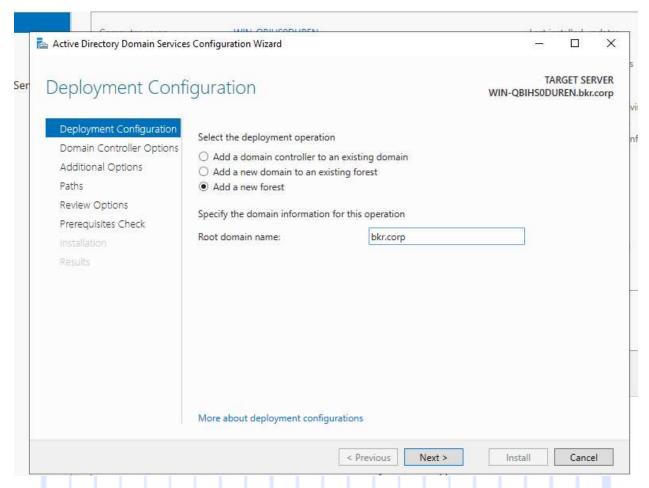


Click "Next" through the "AD DS" sections until you reach the "Confirmation" page.

Review the selections you've made, and then click "Install" to begin the installation process.

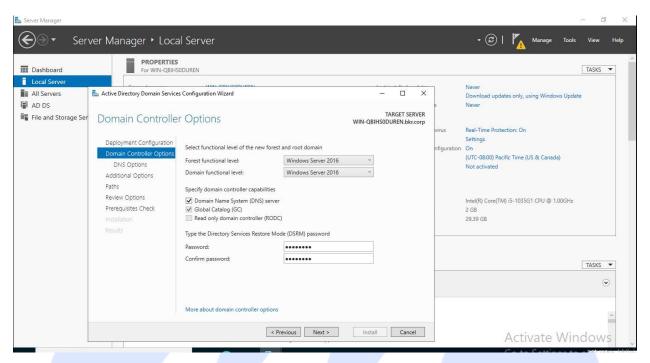


Once the installation is complete, click on the "Promote this server to a domain controller" link in the "Notifications" section of the Server Manager.

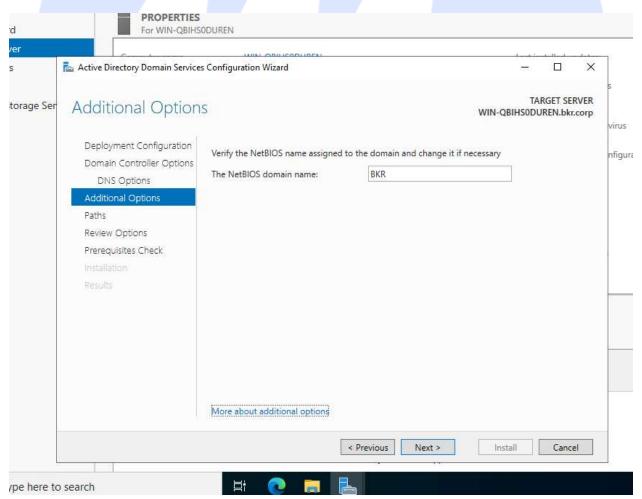


The Active Directory Domain Services Configuration Wizard will appear. Select "Add a new forest" if you're creating a new domain. Enter the root domain name for your Active Directory forest in the "Root domain name" field. Click "Next" to continue.

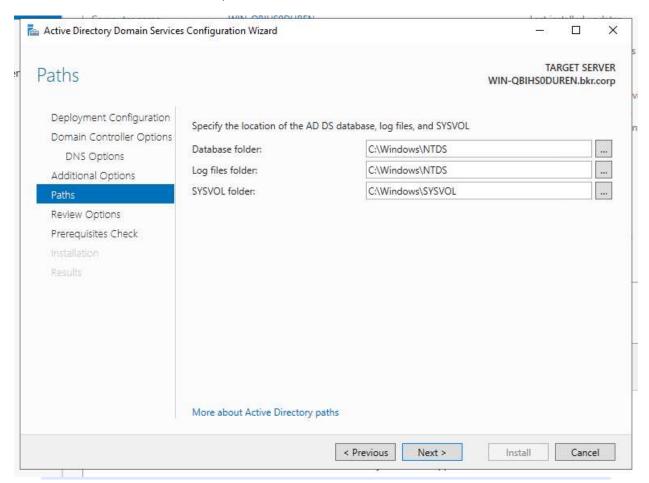
Choose the Forest Functional Level and Domain Functional Level according to your requirements. Click "Next."



#### Specify a Directory Services Restore Mode (DSRM) password and click "Next."

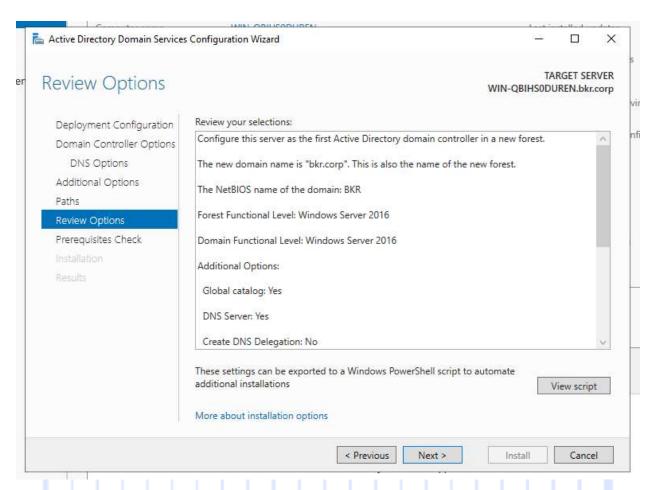


#### Review the NetBIOS domain name, and then click "Next."

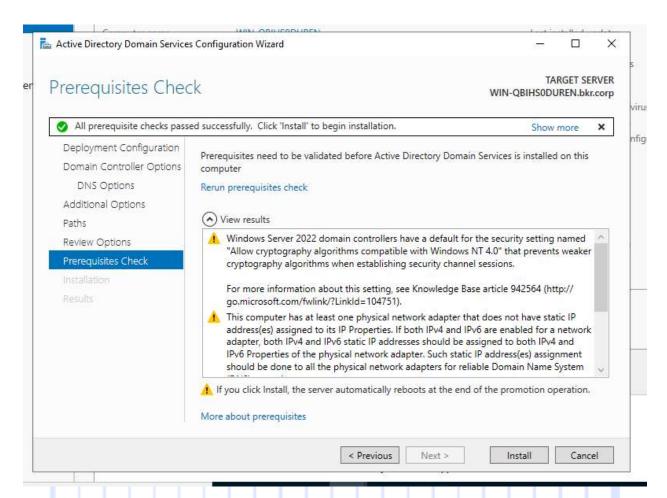


On the Paths page, you can leave the default paths as they are. Click "Next."

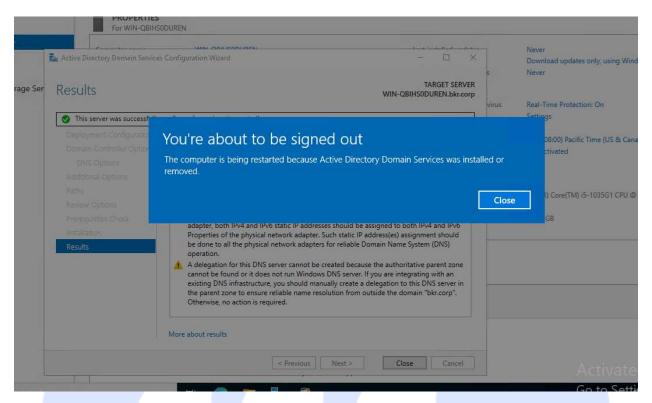




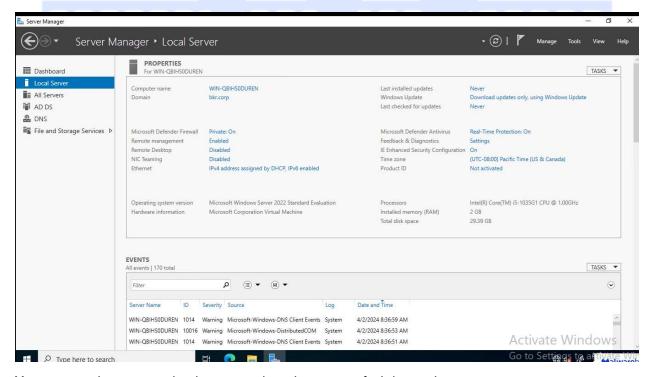
Review your selections on the Review Options page, and then click "Next" to proceed.



The prerequisite checks will be performed. If everything is successful, click "Install" to begin the installation process.



Once the installation is complete, your server will restart automatically. After the restart, your machine will be transformed into a domain controller, and you'll have successfully created a new domain.



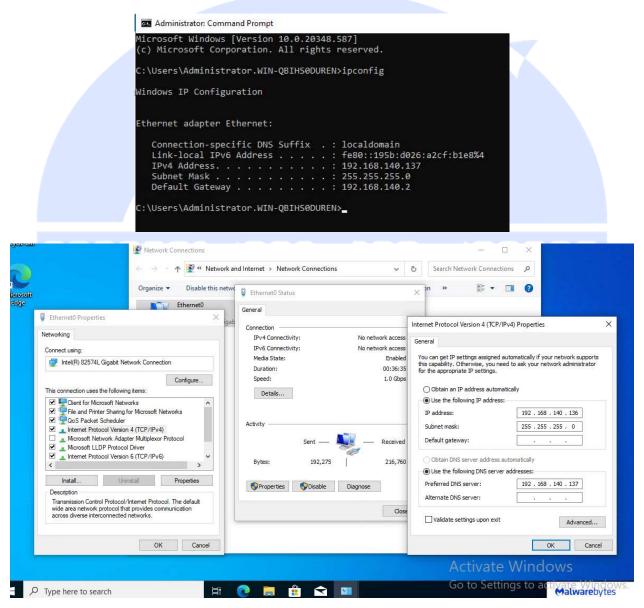
You can now log in using the domain credentials you specified during the promotion process.

#### Step 2: Adding the Client to the Domain:

We need to add a client to the domain to verify that our configuration is working as expected. On the client machine, before proceeding with joining the client to the domain, it's essential to ensure proper connectivity between the machines and configure the DNS settings on the client machine to point to the domain controller's IP address. Follow these steps to join the domain we created earlier:

Note: Ensure VMs are in the same network

On the client machine, open the network adapter settings by typing "ncpa.cpl" in the search bar and pressing Enter. This will open the Network Connections window directly.

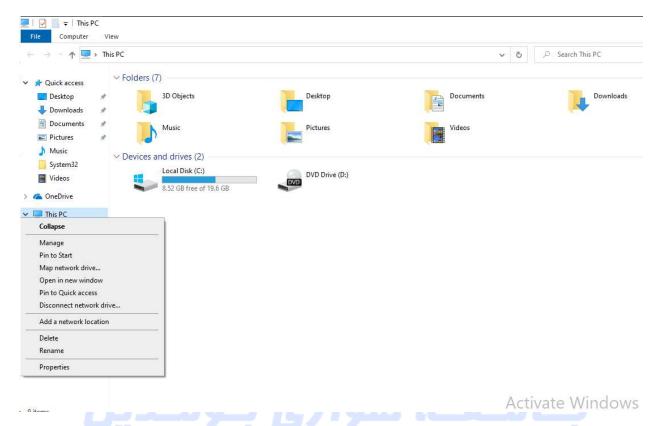


Right-click on the network adapter that is currently active and select "Properties".

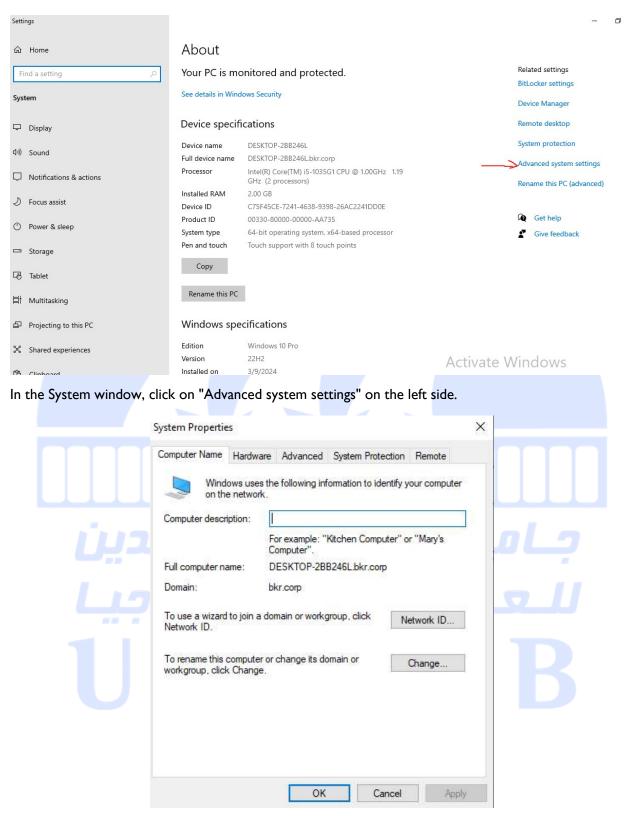
In the Properties window, scroll down and select "Internet Protocol Version 4 (TCP/IPv4)" and then click on the "Properties" button.

In the IPv4 properties window, select the option "Use the following DNS server addresses".

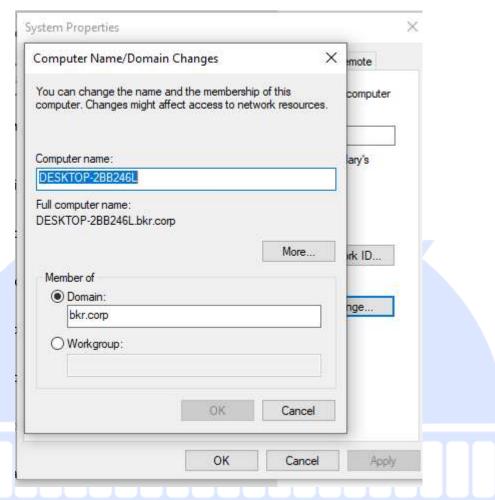
Enter the IP address of the domain controller in the "Preferred DNS server" field.



Open File Explorer on the client machine and right-click on "This PC" and select "Properties." This will take you to the System window.



In the System Properties window, click on the "Computer Name" tab, and then click the "Change" button.



In the Computer Name/Domain Changes window, select the "Domain" option and enter the domain name that you created in Step I into the "Domain" field.

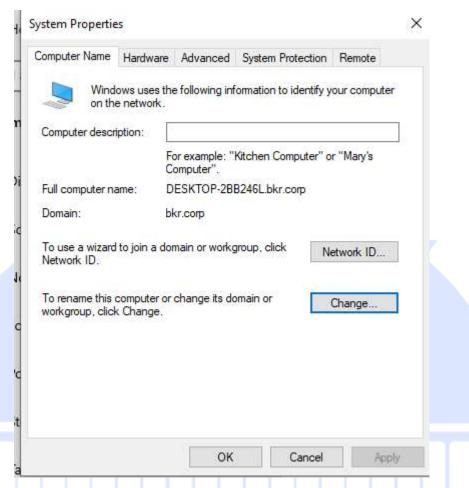
Click "OK" and then enter the credentials of a user account that has permission to join computers to the domain. This is typically an administrator account on the domain.

After entering the credentials, click "OK" again.

You will receive a message indicating that you have successfully joined the domain. Click "OK" to close the message.

You will then be prompted to restart the computer. Click "OK" to restart the computer and complete the process.

After the computer restarts, log in using the domain credentials of a user account that has access to the domain resources.



Once logged in, you can verify that the client machine has successfully joined the domain by checking the domain name in the System Properties or by attempting to access domain resources.

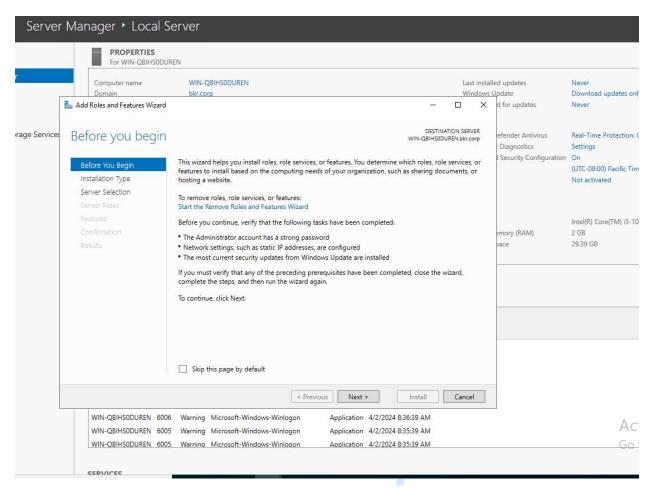
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#### • Step 3: Installing the Web Server (IIS):

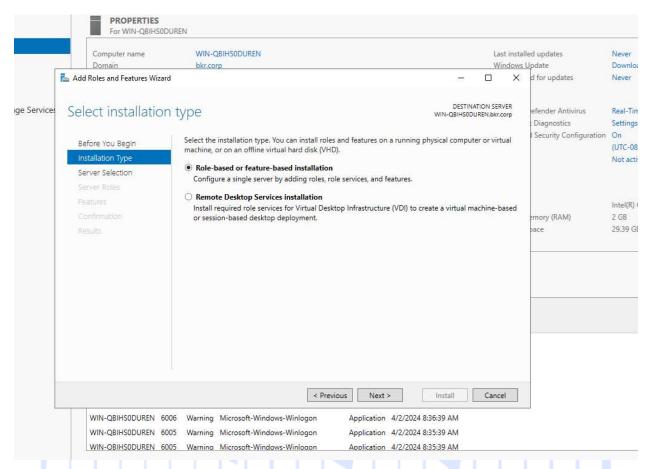
We will install the web server (IIS) on the client machine. By default, this will use the HTTP protocol, which is not secure. We will secure this later.

To install IIS on the client machine, follow these steps:

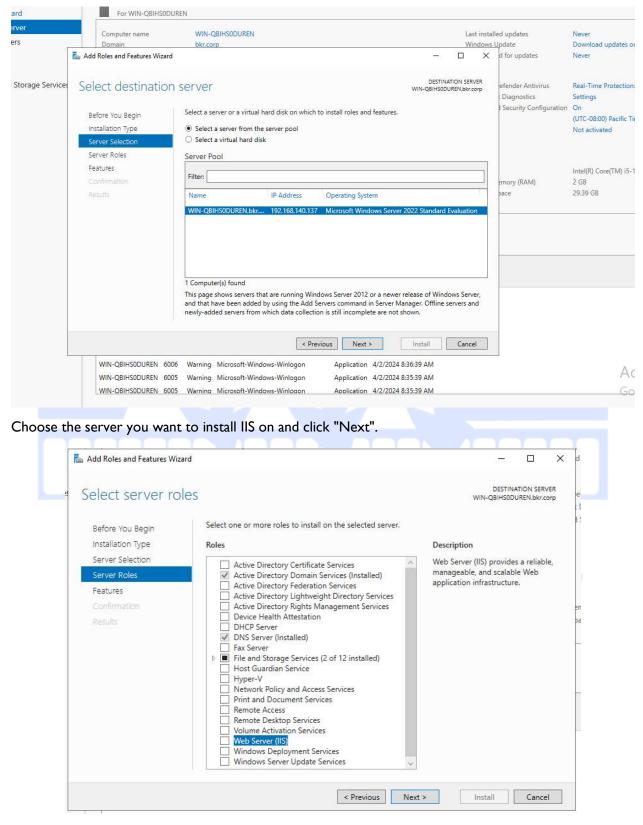
open the Server Manager then click on "Manage" at the top-right corner and select "Add Roles and Features".



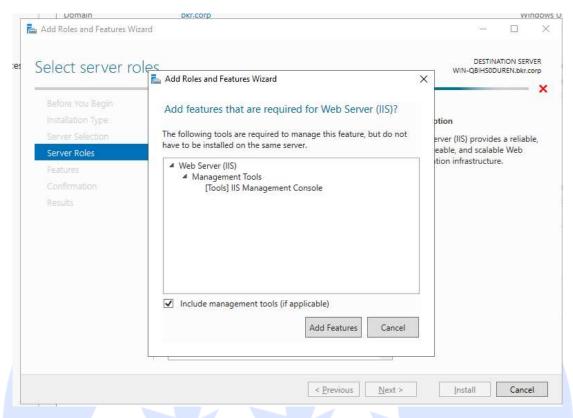
The Add Roles and Features Wizard will open. Click "Next" on the Before you begin page.



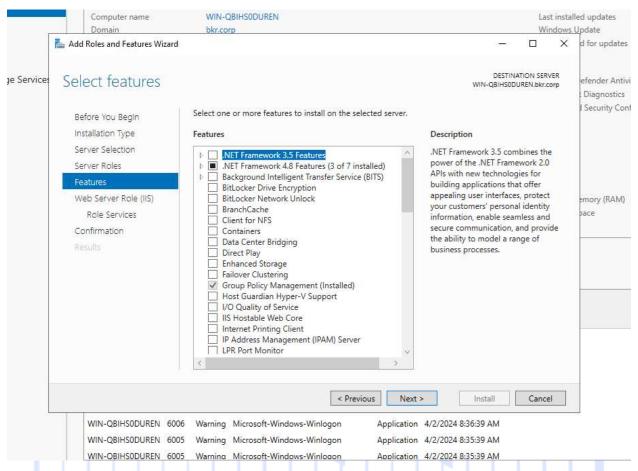
Select "Role-based or feature-based installation" and click "Next".



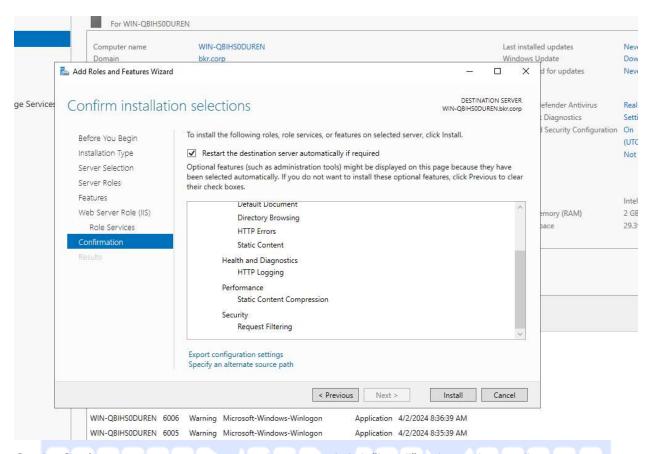
In the Roles list, select "Web Server (IIS)".



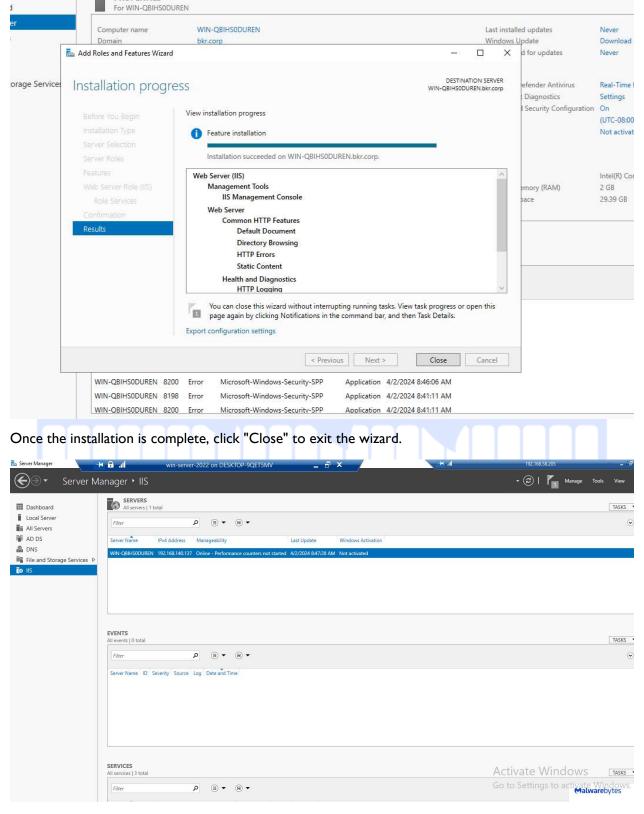
A dialog box will appear, prompting you to add features that are required for Web Server (IIS) to function properly. Click "Add Features".



Click "Next" through the Features, Web Server Role (IIS), and Role Services pages without making any changes.

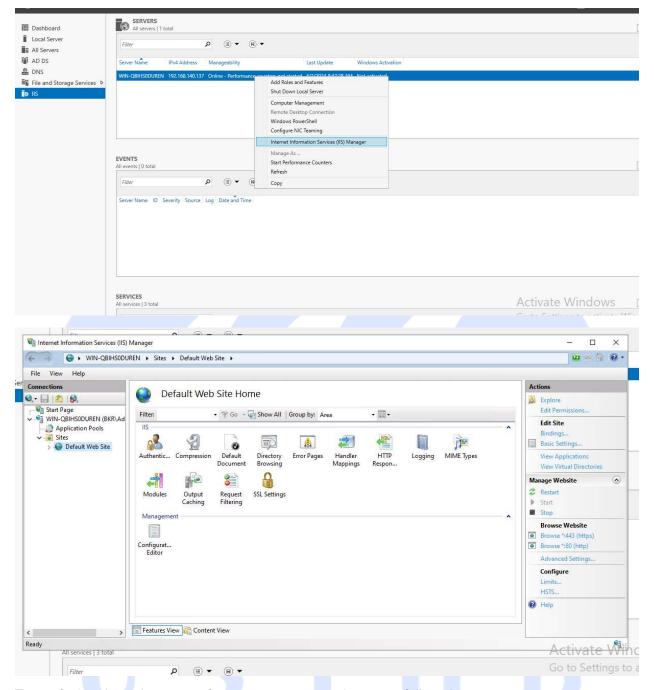


On the Confirmation page, review your selections and click "Install" to begin the installation process.



PROPERTIES

Now, IIS is installed on your Windows Server. You can verify the installation by opening the Internet Information Services (IIS) Manager from the Tools menu in Server Manager.



To verify that the web server is functioning as expected, you can follow these steps:

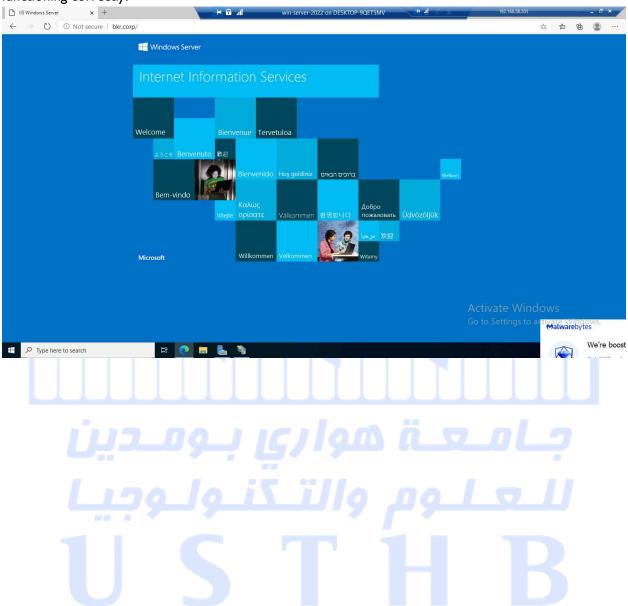
Open a web browser on the client or on another machine connected to the same network as the web server.

In the browser's address bar, enter the IP address or domain name of the web server. For example, if the web server's IP address is 192.168.1.100, enter "http://192.168.1.100" or "http://domain-name".

Press Enter to access the website hosted on the IIS server.

You should see the default homepage or any other web page you have configured on the server.

If you are able to access the website without encountering errors, it means that the web server is functioning correctly.

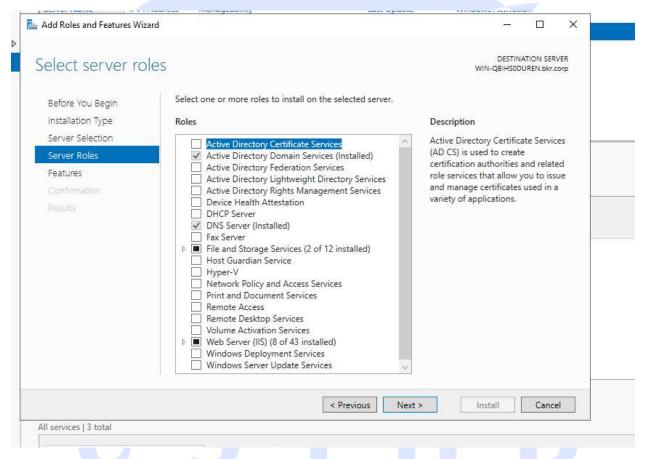


### • Step 4: Installing and configuring Active Directory Certificate Services:

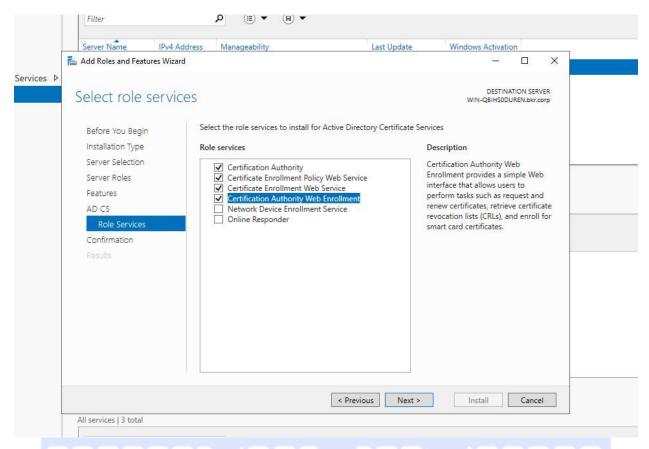
We will install Active Directory Certificate Services (AD CS) on our server to secure communications via SSL/TLS. We will select SHA512, the most secure version of the SHA hashing algorithm.

To install Active Directory Certificate Services on a Windows Server, follow these steps:

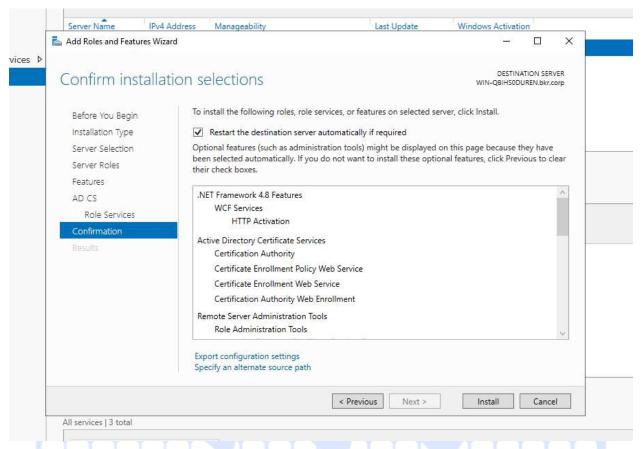
Open Server Manager then click on "Manage" at the top-right corner and select "Add Roles and Features", Click "Next" on the Before you begin page, select "Role-based or feature-based installation" and click "Next", choose the server you want to install Active Directory Certificate Services on and click "Next".



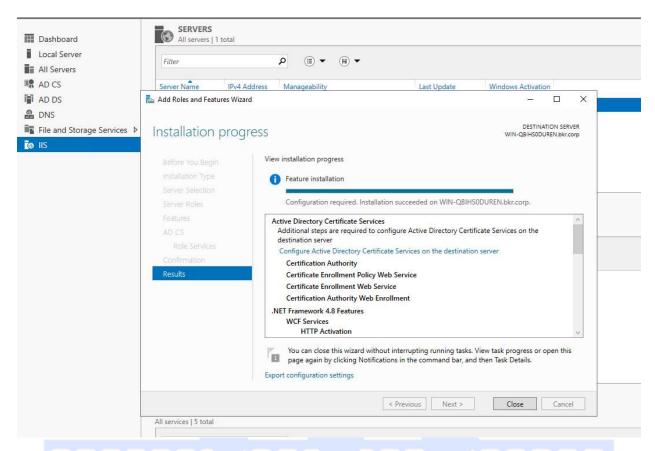
In the Roles list, select "Active Directory Certificate Services".



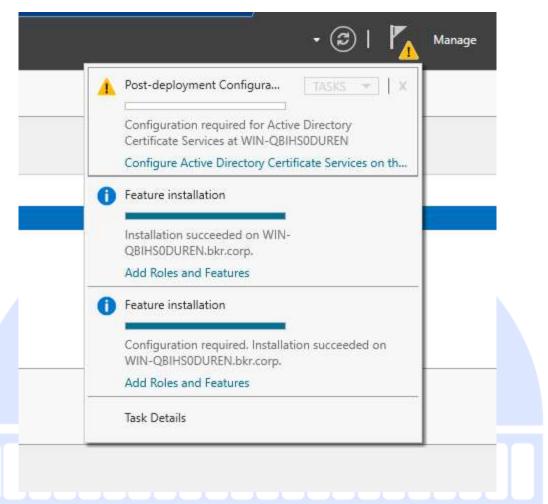
A dialog box will appear, please select the same options as shown in the screenshot above and Click "Next".



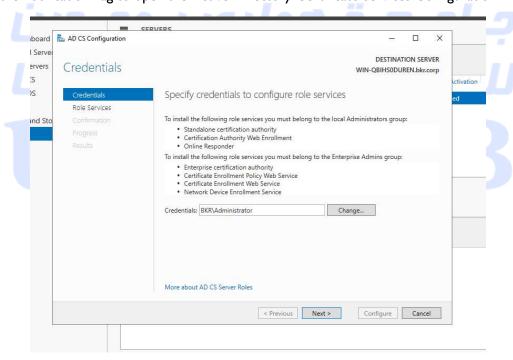
On the Confirmation page, review your selections and click "Install" to begin the installation process.



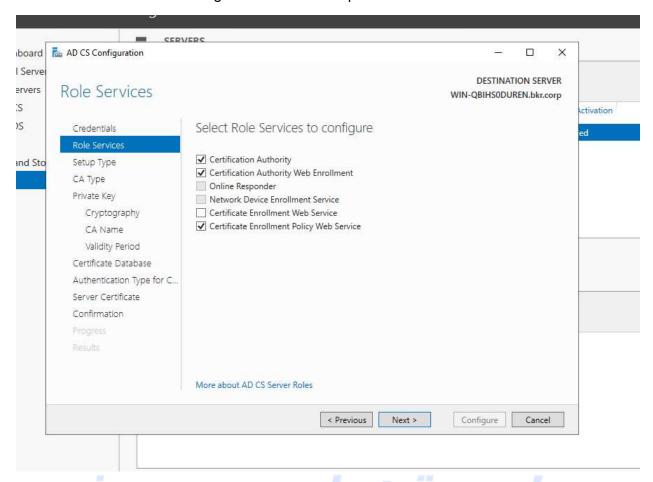
Once the installation is complete, After the installation is complete, you will receive a notification flag in Server Manager indicating that additional configuration is required for Active Directory Certificate Services.



Click on the notification flag to open the Active Directory Certificate Services Configuration Wizard.

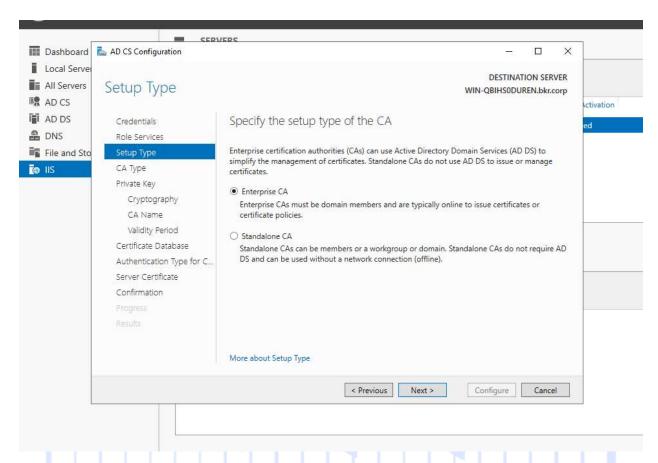


In the Configuration Wizard, you'll be prompted to specify credentials to configure role services. You can leave this at the default settings and click "Next" to proceed.

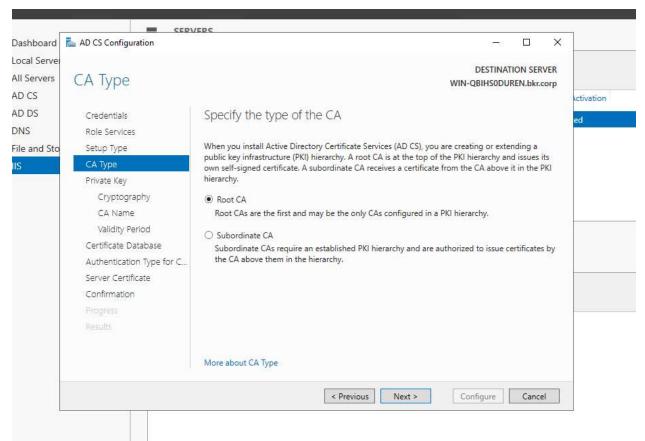


Next, you'll need to select the role services to configure. please select the same role services as shown in the screenshot above. Once selected, click "Next" to continue with the configuration process.

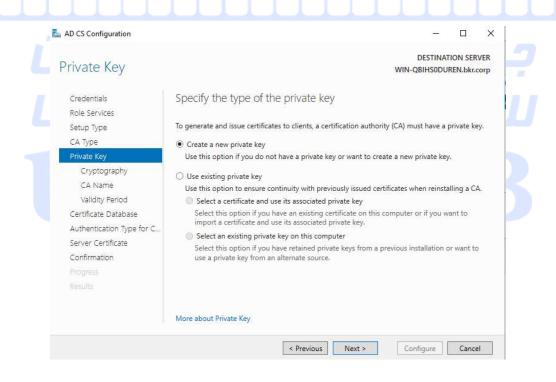
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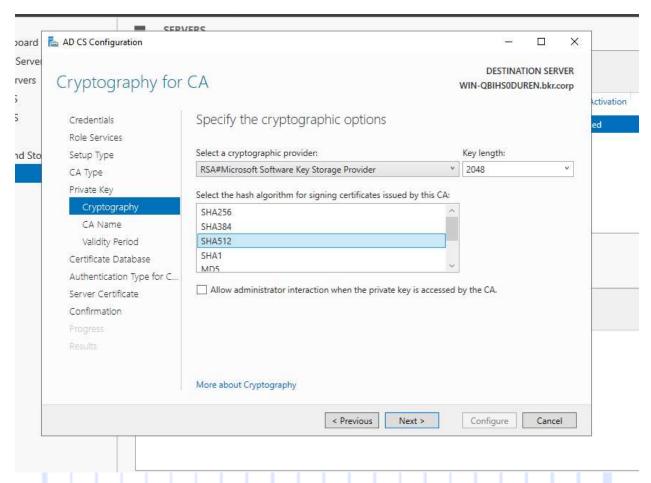


In the Configuration Wizard, select the deployment configuration for Active Directory Certificate Services. This could be "Enterprise CA" or "Standalone CA", depending on your organization's requirements. Click "Next" to proceed.

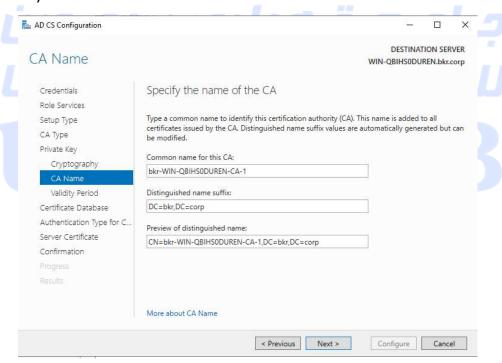


Choose the type of Certificate Authority you want to set up. For example, you can select "Root CA" if this is the first CA in your organization's hierarchy. Click "Next".

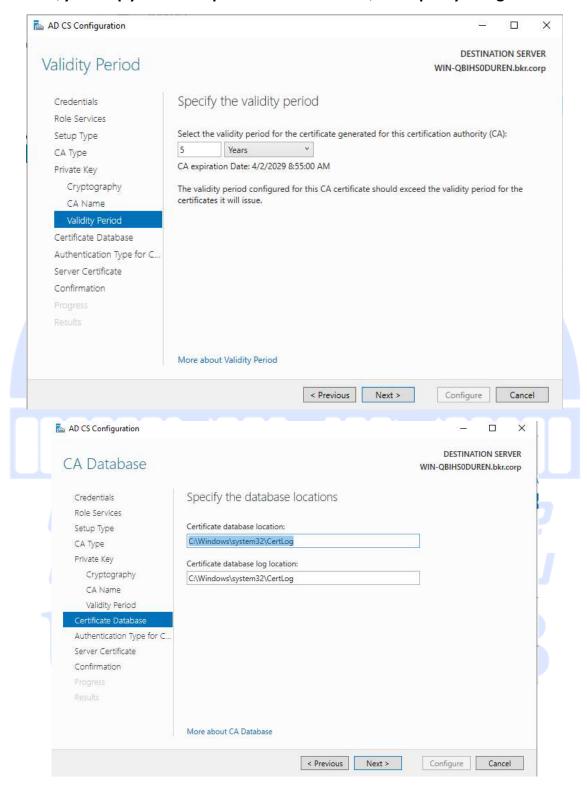


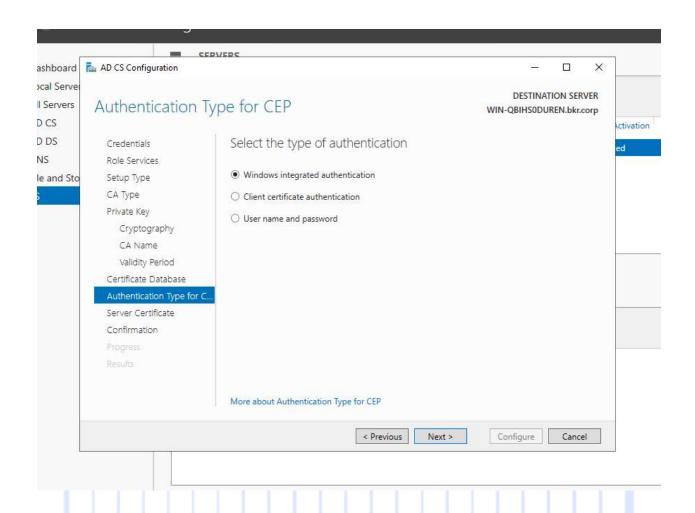


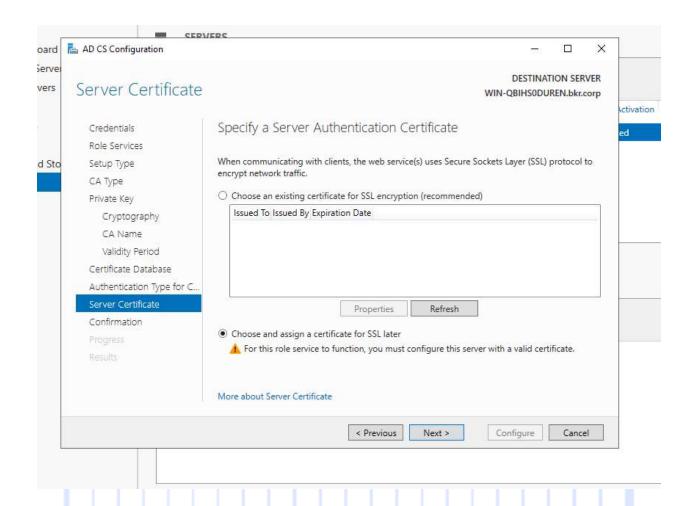
Select the cryptographic options for the CA. You can choose SHA512 as the hash algorithm for enhanced security. Click "Next".

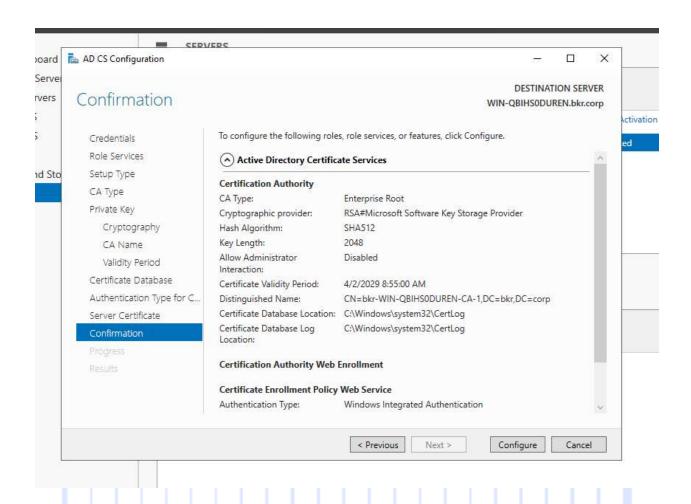


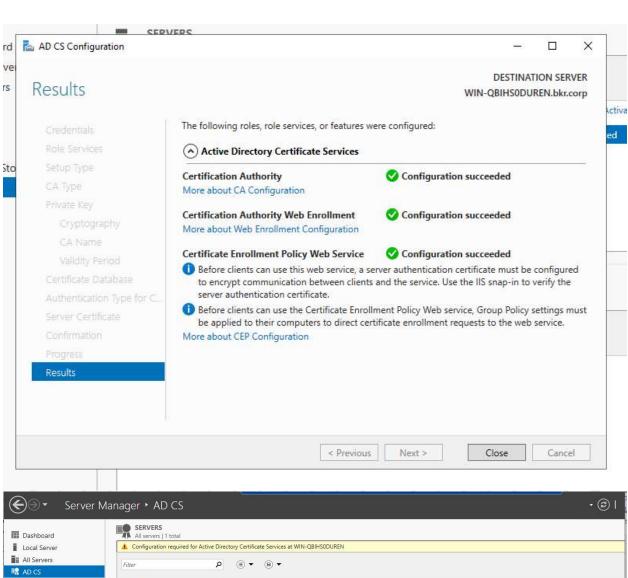
#### From here, you simply need to replicate the screenshots, as it's pretty straightforward.

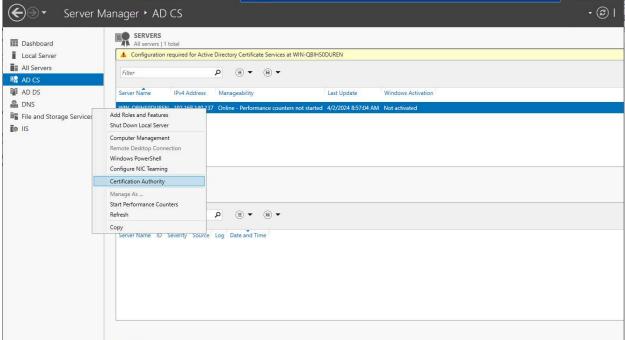


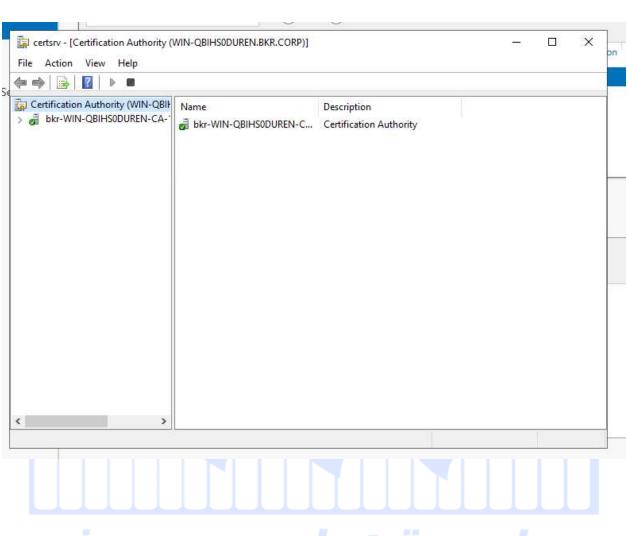


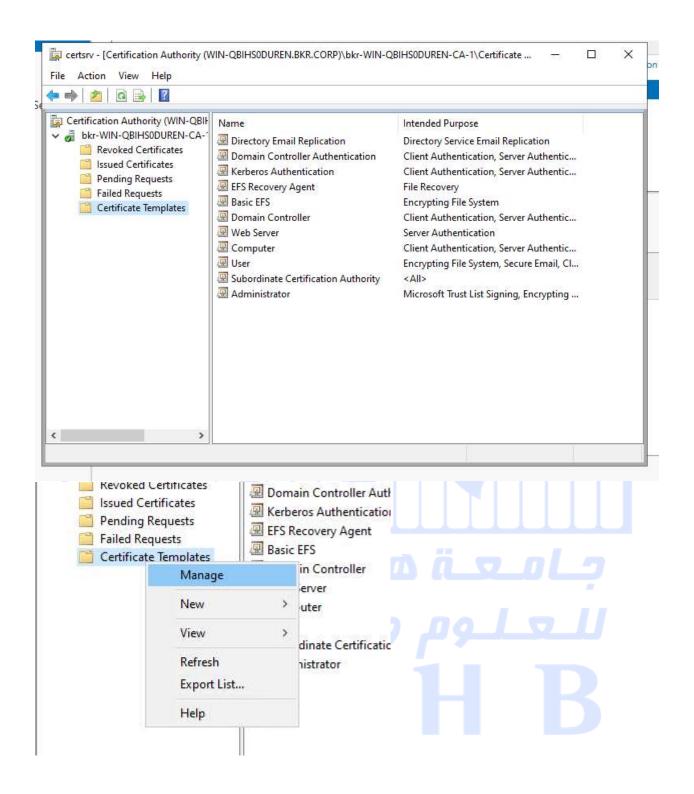


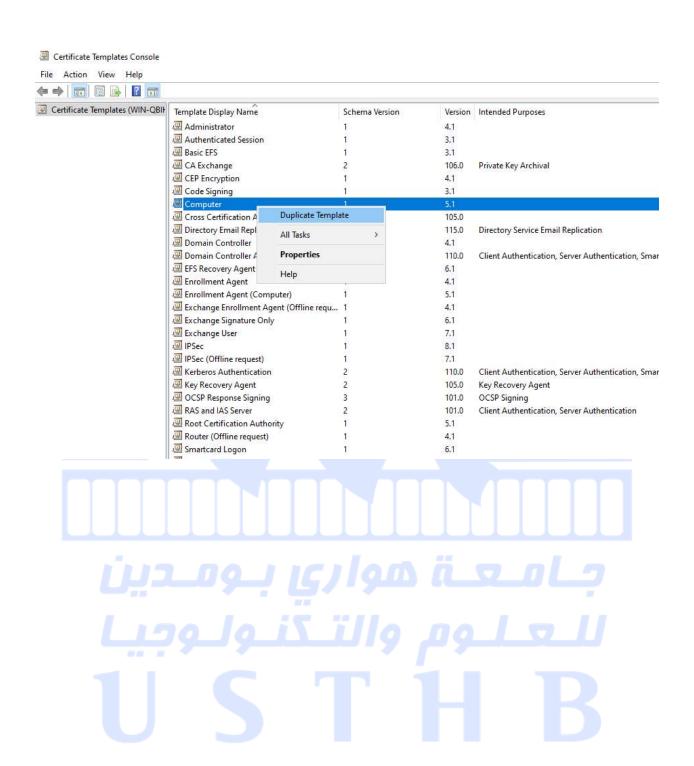


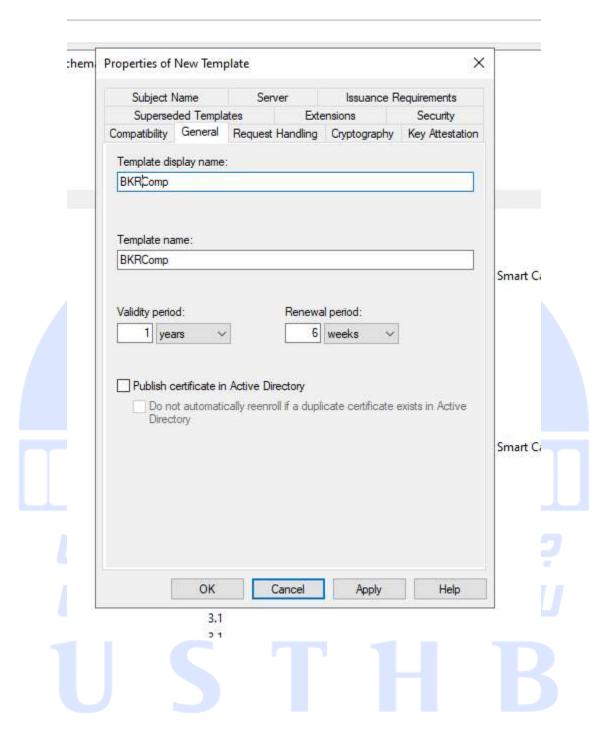


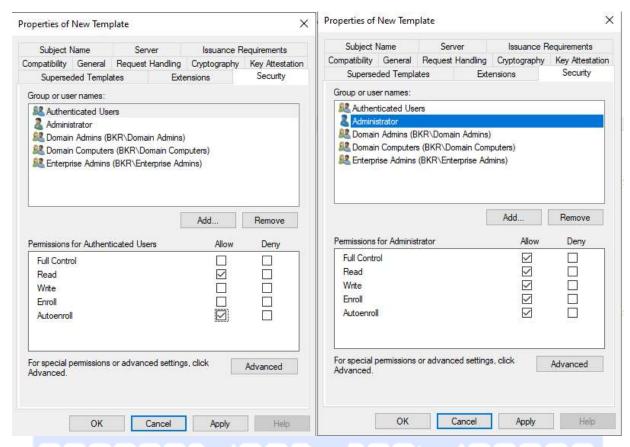




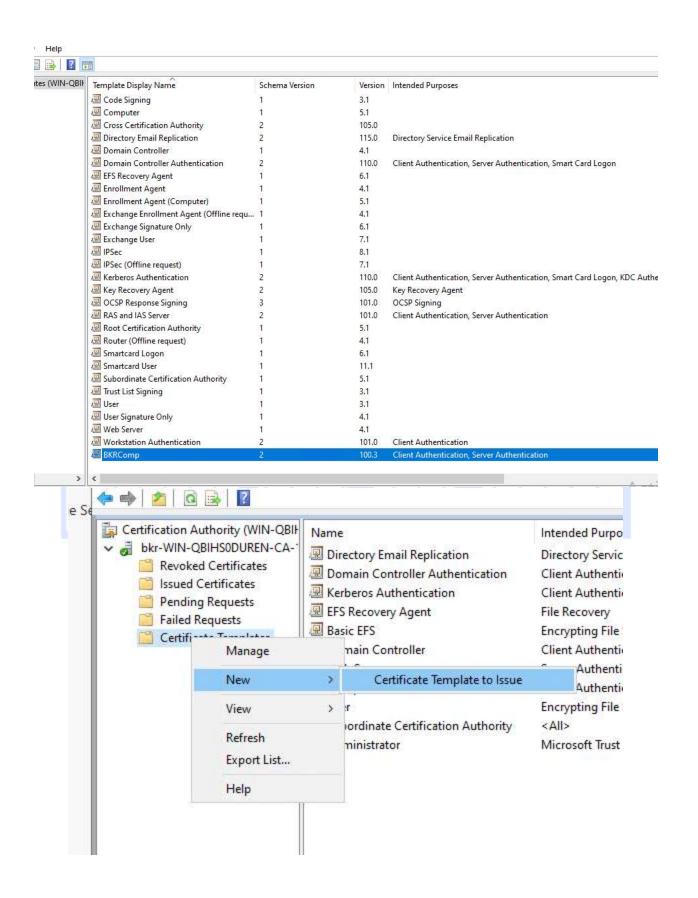


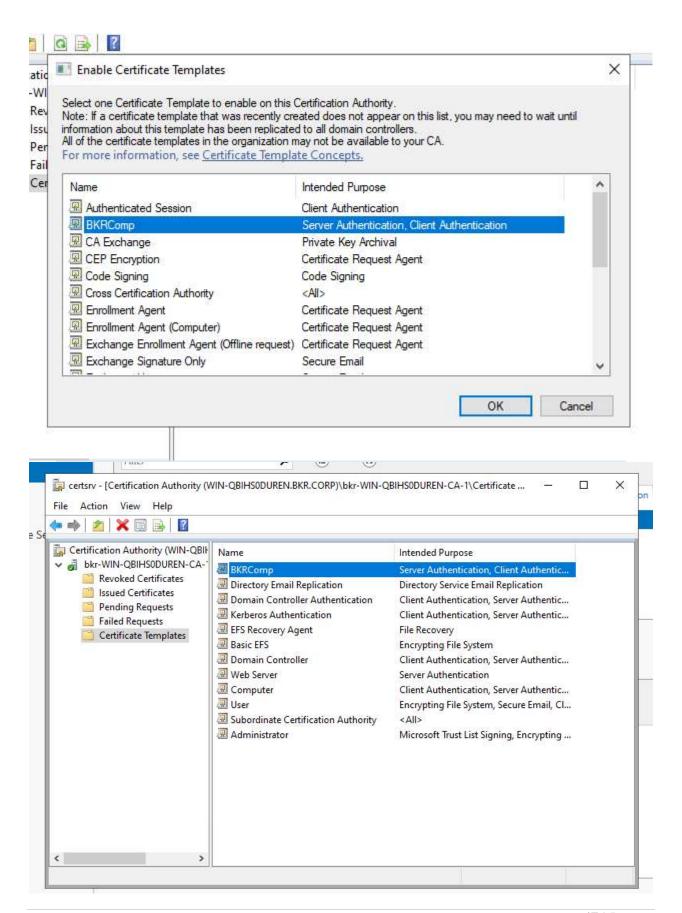


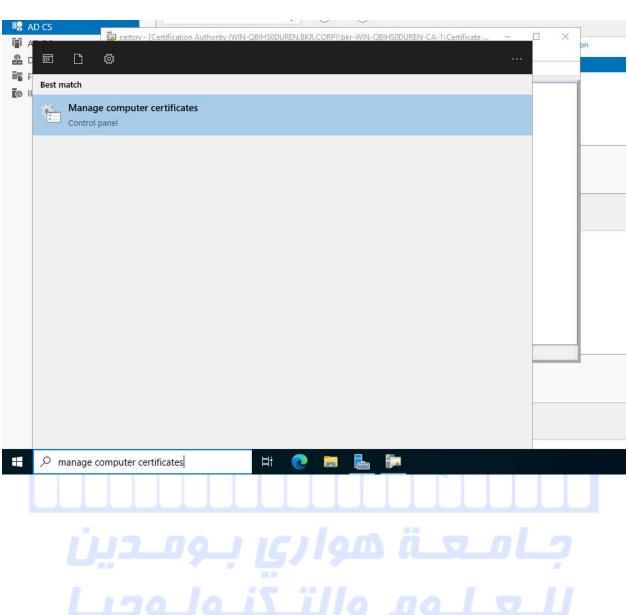


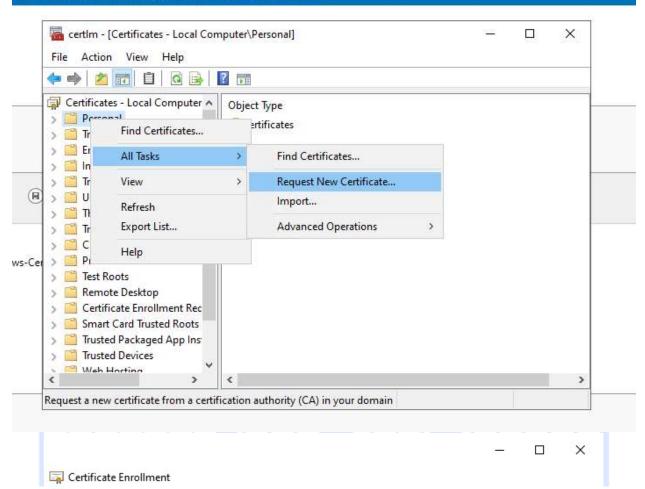


Note: Ensure that "Autoenroll" is selected for all users.









#### Before You Begin

The following steps will help you install certificates, which are digital credentials used to connect to wireless networks, protect content, establish identity, and do other security-related tasks.

Before requesting a certificate, verify the following:

Your computer is connected to the network

You have credentials that can be used to verify your right to obtain the certificate

Next Cancel



#### Certificate Enrollment

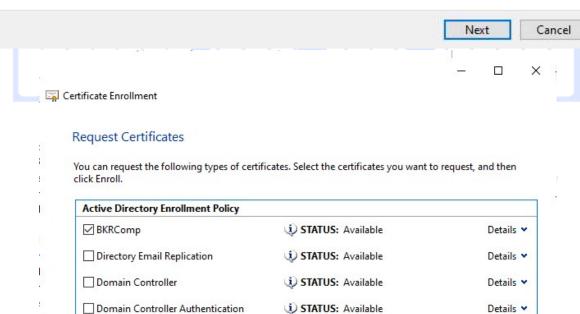
#### Select Certificate Enrollment Policy

Kerberos Authentication

Show all templates

Certificate enrollment policy enables enrollment for certificates based on predefined certificate templates. Certificate enrollment policy may already be configured for you.





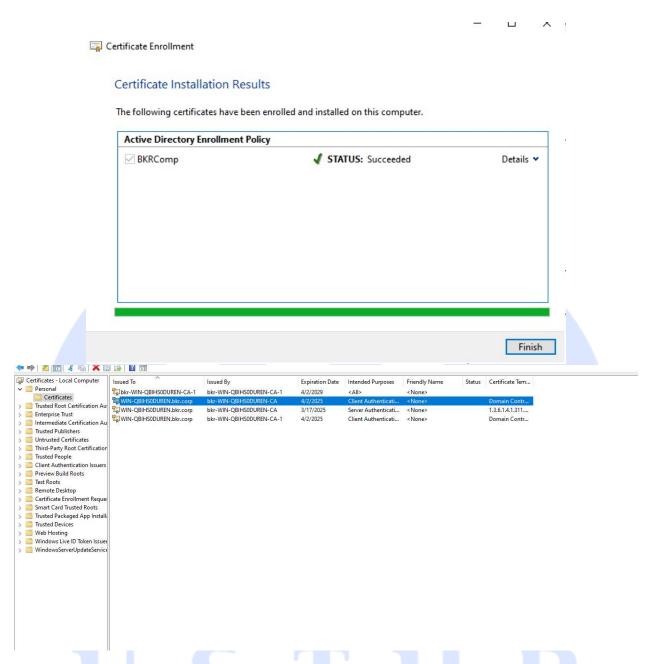
Make sure your certificate is displayed above!

STATUS: Available

Details >

Cancel

Enroll

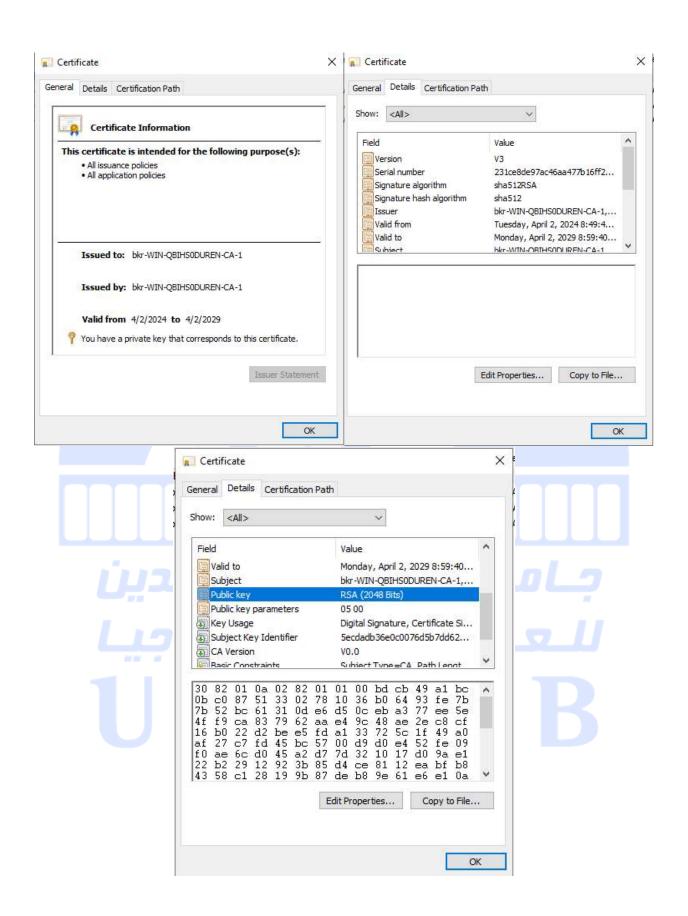


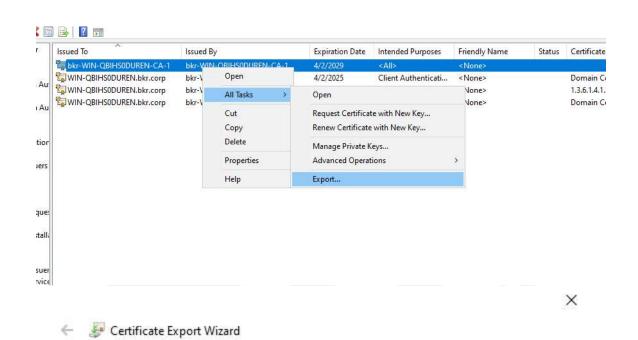
To view the certificate properties, right-click on the certificate you want to inspect then select "Properties" from the context menu.

The properties of the certificate typically include details such as:

Version, Subject, Issuer, Validity period, Public key, Key usage, Extended Key Usage (EKU), Thumbprint, Serial number, Signature algorithm, Certificate chain, Certificate policies, Certificate Revocation List (CRL) distribution points, Authority Information Access (AIA) extensions, Subject Alternative Names (SANs), Basic Constraints, Enhanced Key Usage (EKU), Certificate templates used (if applicable), Revocation status.

These details provide information about the certificate's identity, usage, validity, and associated cryptographic properties.



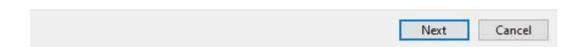


#### Welcome to the Certificate Export Wizard

This wizard helps you copy certificates, certificate trust lists and certificate revocation lists from a certificate store to your disk.

A certificate, which is issued by a certification authority, is a confirmation of your identity and contains information used to protect data or to establish secure network connections. A certificate store is the system area where certificates are kept.

To continue, dick Next.



#### **Export Private Key**

You can choose to export the private key with the certificate.

Private keys are password protected. If you want to export the private key with the certificate, you must type a password on a later page.

Do you want to export the private key with the certificate?

- O Yes, export the private key
- No, do not export the private key

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Next

Cancel

#### **Export File Format**

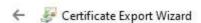
Certificates can be exported in a variety of file formats.

#### Select the format you want to use:

- DER encoded binary X.509 (.CER)
- Base-64 encoded X.509 (.CER)
- Oryptographic Message Syntax Standard PKCS #7 Certificates (.P7B)
  - Include all certificates in the certification path if possible
- Personal Information Exchange PKCS #12 (.PFX)
  - Include all certificates in the certification path if possible
  - Delete the private key if the export is successful
  - Export all extended properties
  - Enable certificate privacy
- Microsoft Serialized Certificate Store (.SST)

Next

Cancel



# File to Export Specify the name of the file you want to export File name: C:\Users\Administrator.WIN-QBIHS0DUREN\Desktop\cert\Myserve Browse...

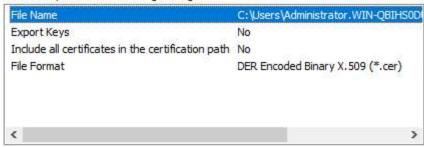




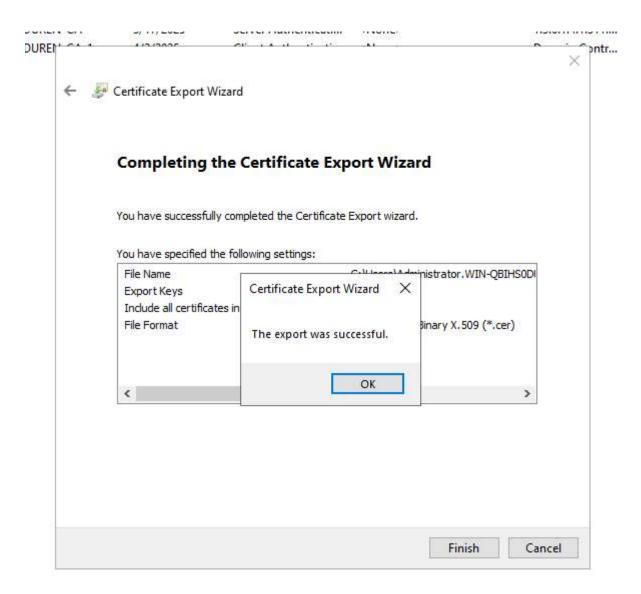
#### **Completing the Certificate Export Wizard**

You have successfully completed the Certificate Export wizard.

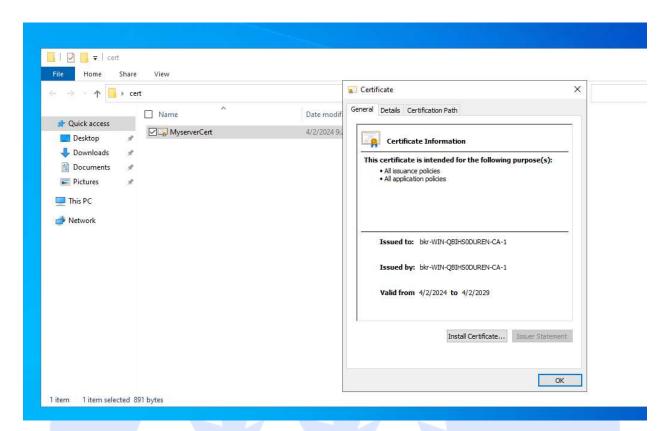
You have specified the following settings:



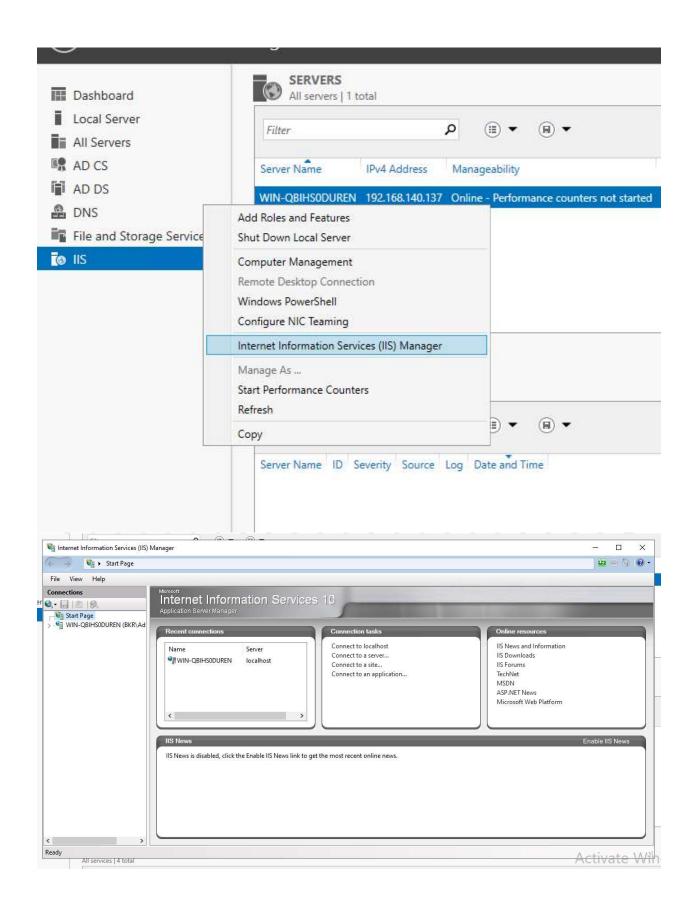
Lesson established to the concell to

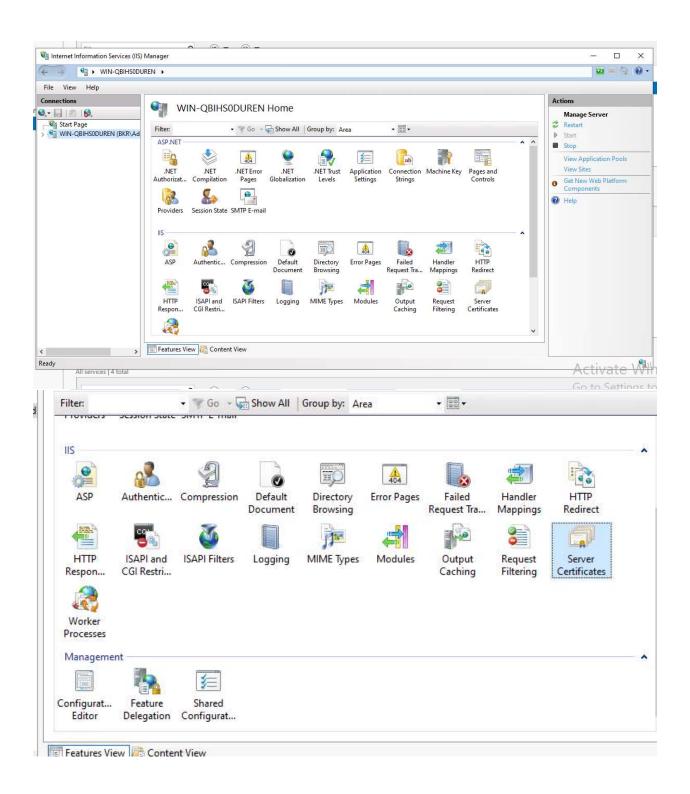


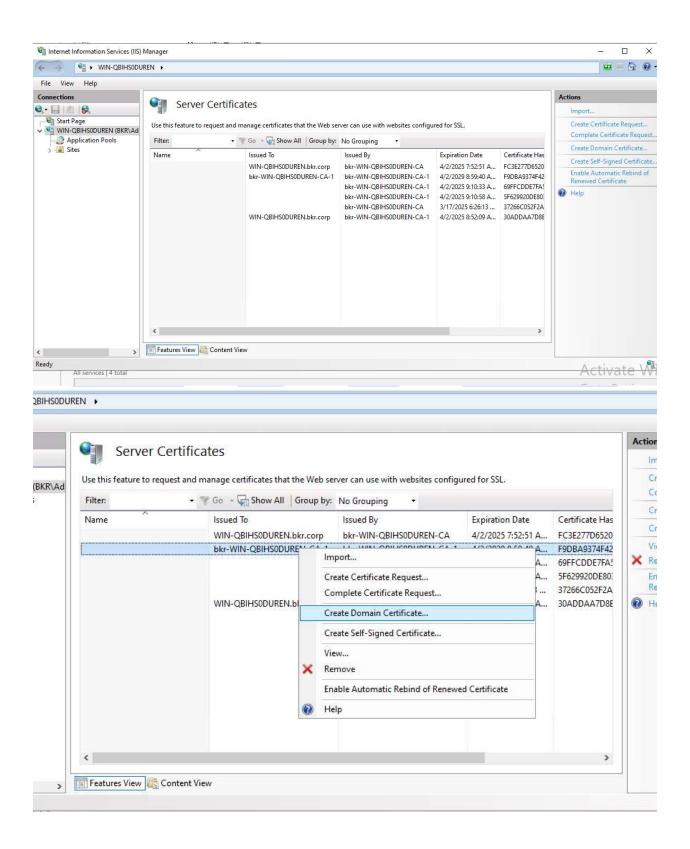
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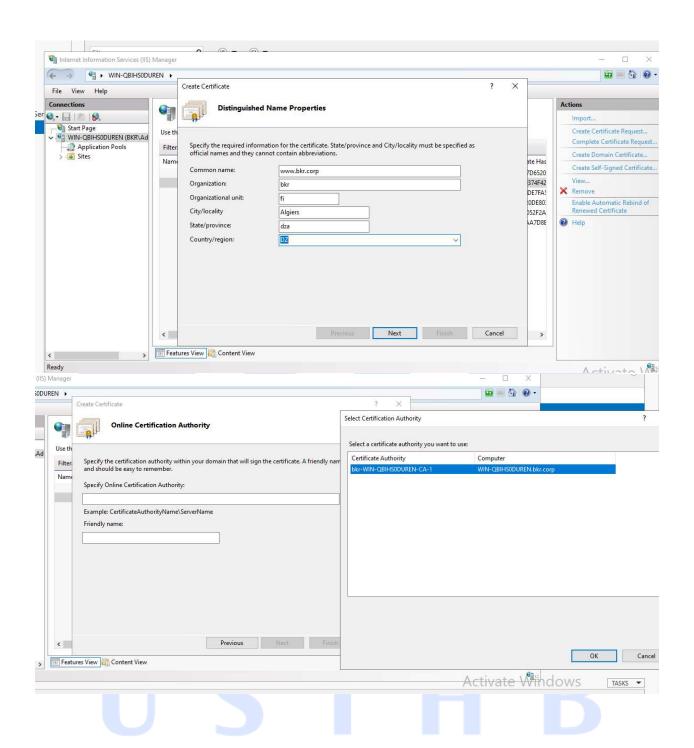


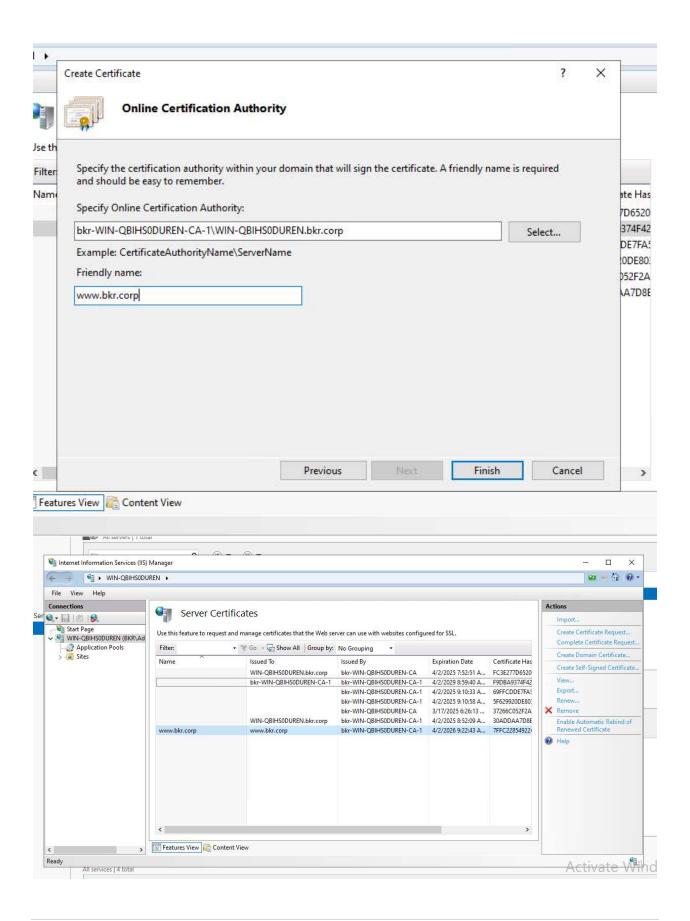
Now that the certificate has been created and exported, we will proceed to utilize it by adding it to our webpage.

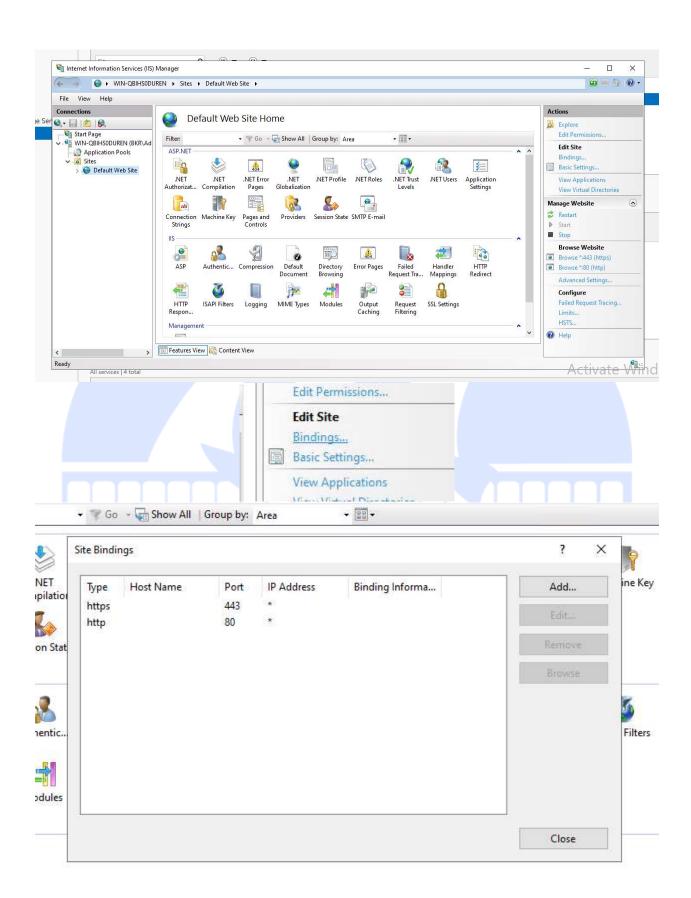


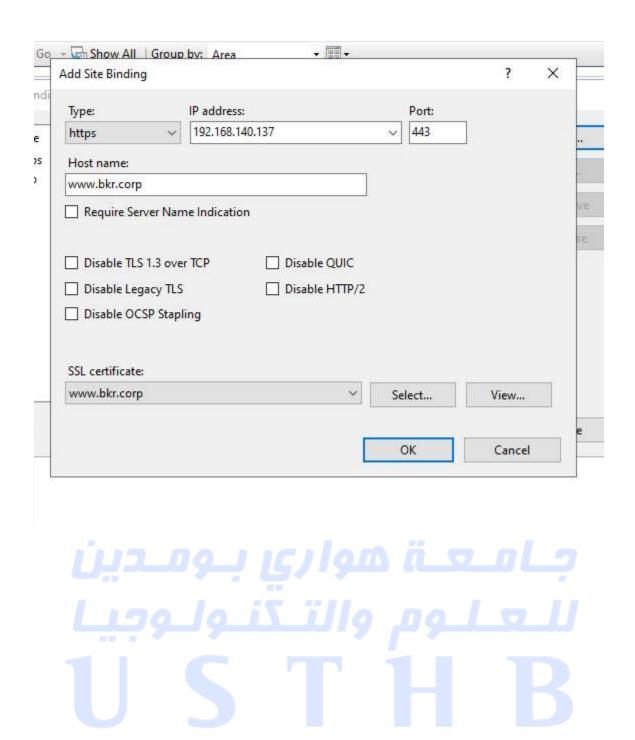


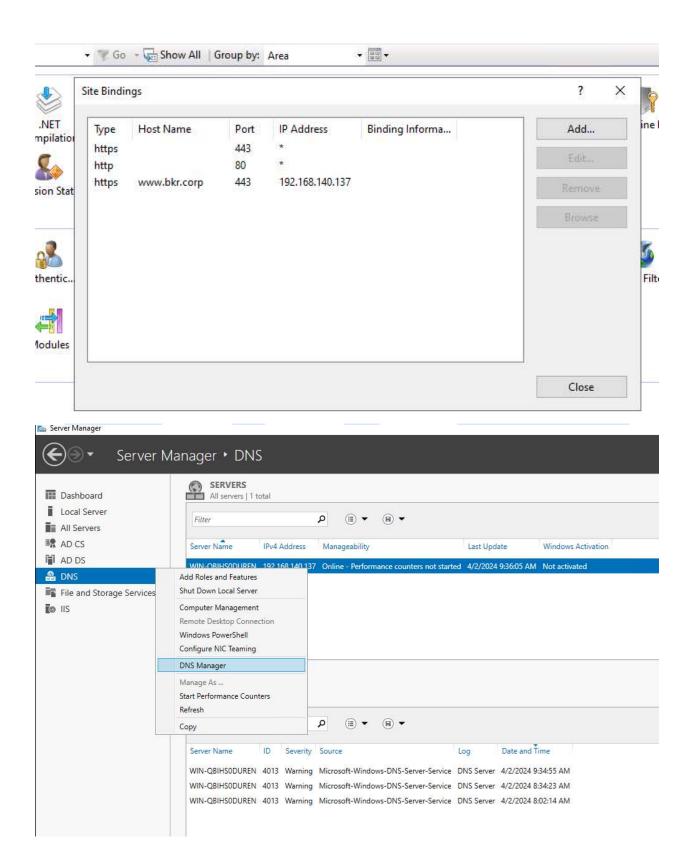


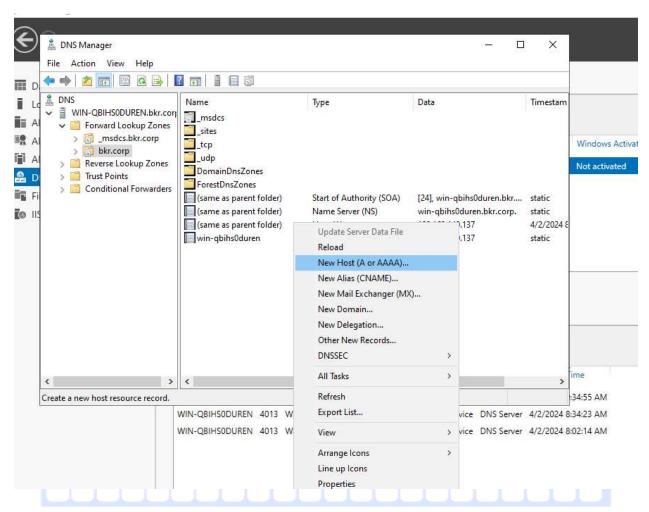


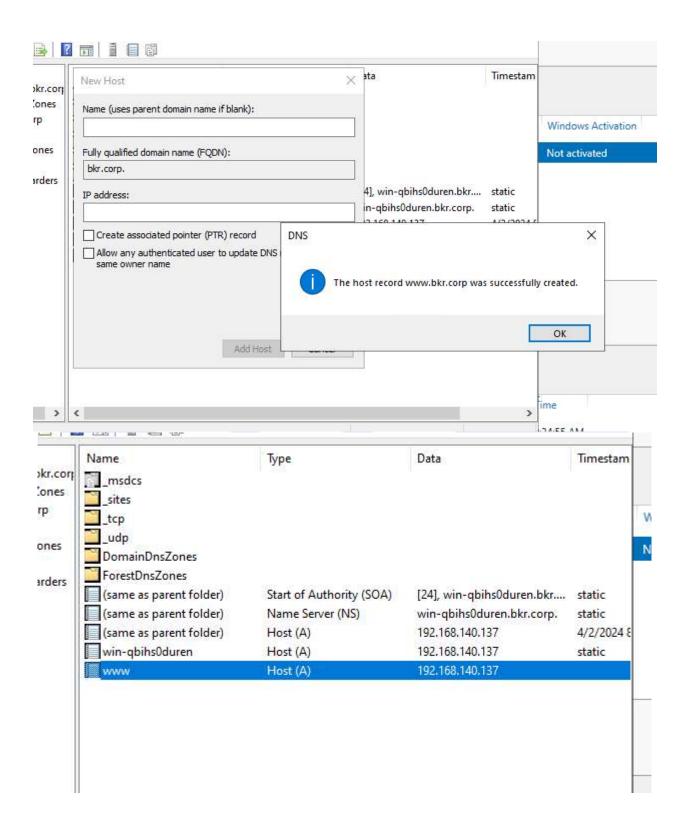


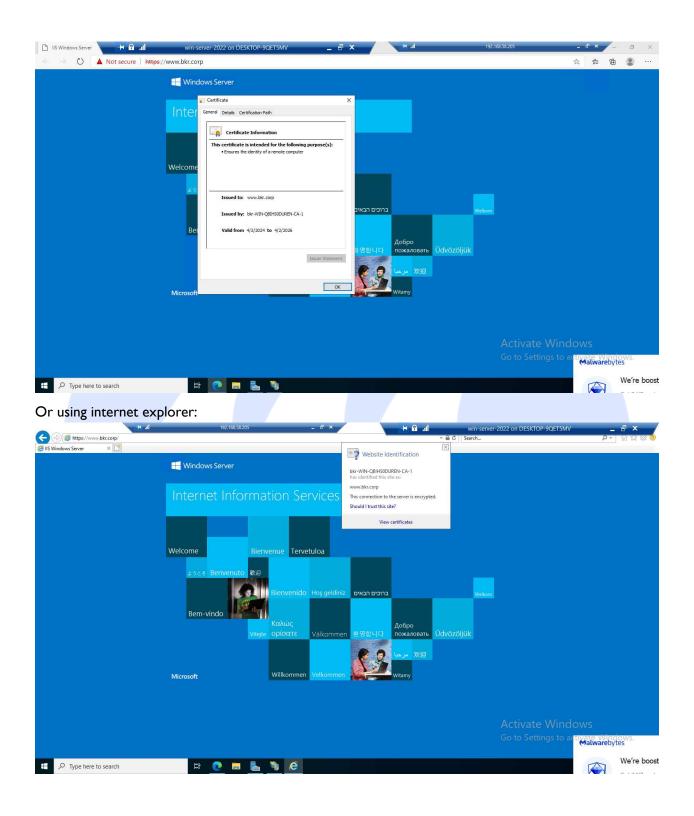












#### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, the configuration process involved several key steps:

Creation of a Domain and Transformation into a Domain Controller: This step involved setting up a domain and promoting a machine to act as a domain controller. It ensured centralized management of resources and security policies within the network.

Adding the Client to the Domain: The client machine was joined to the domain to allow access to domain resources and services. This step facilitated user authentication and centralized administration.

**Installation of the Web Server (IIS):** IIS was installed on the client machine to host web pages. While initially using the HTTP protocol, the subsequent configuration for HTTPS was planned to ensure secure communication.

**Installation of Active Directory Certificate Services (AD CS**): AD CS was installed on the server to manage digital certificates. This ensured secure communication via SSL/TLS by providing cryptographic services, including issuing and managing certificates.

**Configuration of Active Directory Certificate Services:** During the configuration, the selected options aligned with security best practices, such as choosing SHA512 as the hash algorithm and selecting appropriate role services.

**Verification of Web Server Functionality:** After configuring IIS, the web server's functionality was verified by accessing hosted web pages, though initially over HTTP.

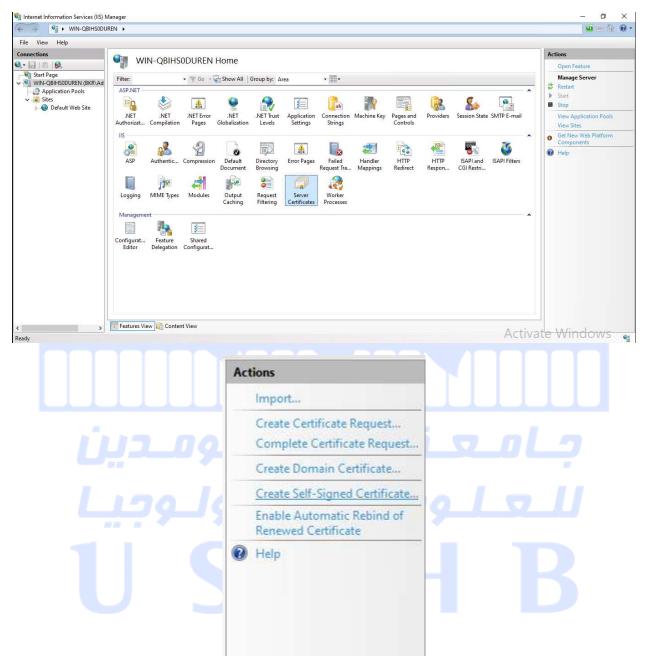
**Viewing Certificate Properties:** Properties of certificates were inspected to ensure correct configurations, including details like version, subject, issuer, validity period, and cryptographic properties.

**Utilizing the Certificate:** Lastly, the created and exported certificate was utilized by adding it to the webpage, thus ensuring secure communication via HTTPS.

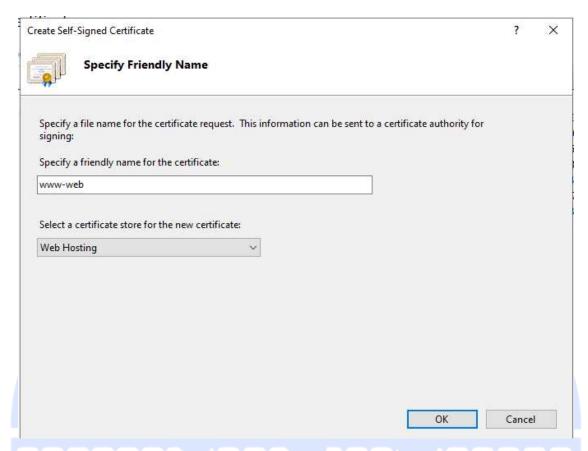


### Installation of an SSL/TLS certificate on the IIS web server (alternative/short version):

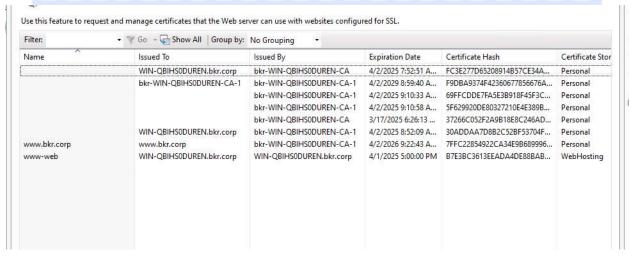
After installing the IIS web server, go to the Internet Information Services (IIS) Manager and Open it.



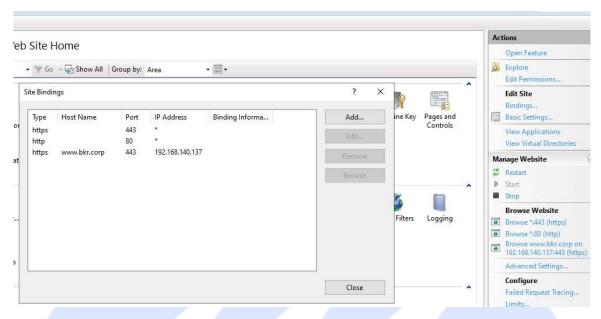
Click on "Server Certificates" and then Under the "Actions" panel on the right-hand side, choose "Create Self-Signed Certificate".



Enter a friendly name and select a certificate store, Provide a user-friendly name for the certificate From the drop-down menu, select "Web Hosting" as the certificate store, then click on "OK"



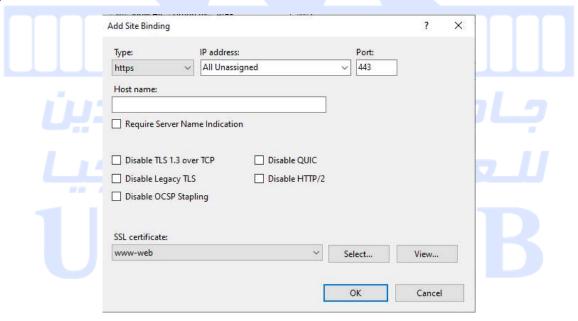
Verify that the certificate has been added successfully



Navigate to the "Bindings" option in the Actions pane on the right, click on "Add" in the 'site bindings' wizard to create a new binding.

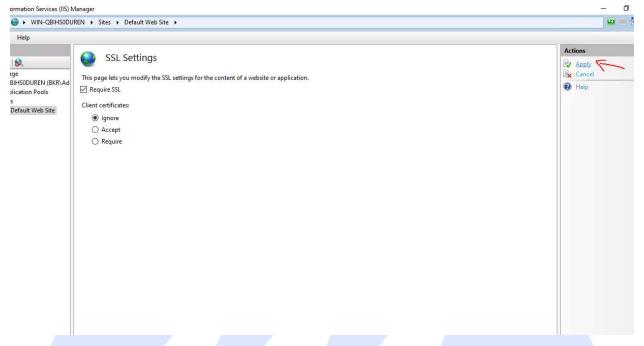
Specify the binding type HTTPS.

Choose the IP address and port for the binding, select the recently created SSL certificate from the drop-down list.



Save the changes by clicking "OK"

Enable "Require SSL" by checking the box and then save the changes by clicking "Apply" in the Actions pane on the right.



Enable "Require SSL" by checking the box.

Save the changes by clicking "Apply" in the Actions pane on the right.

