

## Step 1:

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### Problem Statement – Advanced Database Programming and Auditing

In a biometric-based ticketing and payment system like **PalmPayment**, which manages transactions, authentication, and user records, **data integrity and operational control are critical**. The system handles sensitive operations such as financial transactions and biometric authentications, which—if manipulated maliciously or accidentally during business hours—could lead to **fraud, inconsistency, or system failure**.

#### The Problem:

Our system is vulnerable to unauthorized or unintended **INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE** operations—especially by employees during **weekday business hours** or on **designated public holidays**. Such actions, if not properly restricted, could compromise transaction accuracy, tamper with audit trails, and impact user trust.

#### ✓ Why Advanced Programming Is Needed:

To mitigate these risks, we must implement **advanced PL/SQL techniques** that introduce automation, control, and accountability into our system:

- **Triggers** are required to enforce restrictions and prevent DML operations during:
  - Weekdays (Monday–Friday)
  - Upcoming month's public holidays (stored in a reference table)
- **Packages and functions** will modularize reusable logic such as:
  - Checking whether a date is restricted (weekday or holiday)
  - Centralizing validation and security logic
- **Auditing mechanisms** are necessary to:
  - Track and log every DML attempt on sensitive tables
  - Capture metadata such as the user who attempted the change, timestamp, type of operation, and whether it was **allowed or denied**
  - Enable accountability and review of user activity

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#### Restriction Rule Summary:

To enforce secure and policy-compliant operations:

- **Employees are restricted** from making changes (INSERT/UPDATE/DELETE) on:
  - Weekdays (Monday to Friday)
  - Public holidays in the upcoming month (stored in a static reference table)

- **All operations will be monitored** using:
  - **Triggers** to block DML
  - **Audit table** to record allowed/denied actions
  - **Packages/functions** to manage reusable auditing logic

## **STEP 2: TRIGGER IMPLEMENTATION**

### **A. Creating and inserting data in the Reference Table for Holidays**

```
CREATE TABLE Holidays (
  HolidayDate DATE PRIMARY KEY,
  Description VARCHAR2(100)
);

INSERT INTO Holidays (HolidayDate, Description) VALUES (TO_DATE('2025-06-01', 'YYYY-MM-DD'),
'Independence Day');
INSERT INTO Holidays (HolidayDate, Description) VALUES (TO_DATE('2025-06-07', 'YYYY-MM-DD'),
'National Heroes Day');

COMMIT;
```

### **B. SIMPLE TRIGGER – Prevent INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE on Weekdays & Holidays**

Here's a **BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE OR DELETE** trigger on a sensitive table like **Transaction**:

#### **SYNTAX**

```
CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER trg_prevent_dml_weekday_holiday
BEFORE INSERT OR UPDATE OR DELETE ON Transaction
FOR EACH ROW
DECLARE
  v_today DATE := SYSDATE;
  v_day VARCHAR2(10);
  v_holiday_count INT;
BEGIN
  v_day := TO_CHAR(v_today, 'DY', 'NLS_DATE_LANGUAGE=ENGLISH');

  SELECT COUNT(*) INTO v_holiday_count
  FROM Holidays
  WHERE HolidayDate = TRUNC(v_today)
    AND HolidayDate BETWEEN TRUNC(SYSDATE)
      AND TRUNC(ADD_MONTHS(SYSDATE, 1));
```

```

IF v_day IN ('MON', 'TUE', 'WED', 'THU', 'FRI') OR v_holiday_count > 0 THEN
    RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR(-20001, '✗ DML operations are blocked on weekdays or
holidays within the upcoming month.');
```

END IF;

END;

/

## 1. Testing the Simple Trigger: trg\_prevent\_dml\_weekday\_holiday

### Purpose:

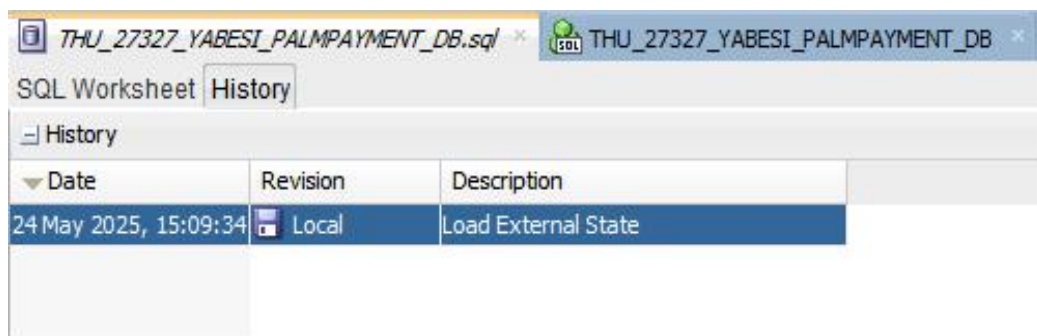
Block **INSERT, UPDATE, or DELETE** on the **Transaction** table:

- On weekdays (Monday–Friday)
- On any date found in the **Holidays** table

### TEST 1 :Check Today's Date and Day

```

SELECT TO_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'DAY', 'NLS_DATE_LANGUAGE=ENGLISH') AS Today FROM
DUAL;
```



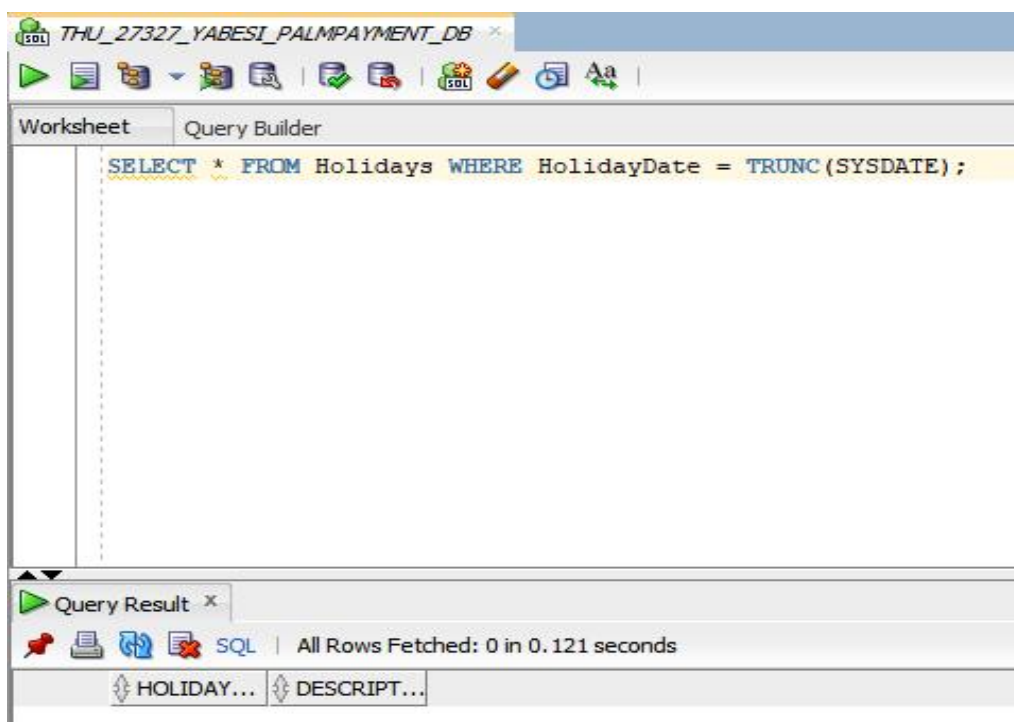
The screenshot shows the 'History' tab of an SQL Worksheet. It contains a table with the following data:

Date	Revision	Description
24 May 2025, 15:09:34	Local	Load External State

### TEST 2 :CHECK IF TODAY IS A HOLIDAY

```

SELECT * FROM Holidays WHERE HolidayDate = TRUNC(SYSDATE);
```



The screenshot shows the 'Worksheet' tab of an SQL Worksheet. It contains a query and its result.

**Query:**

```
SELECT * FROM Holidays WHERE HolidayDate = TRUNC(SYSDATE);
```

**Query Result:**

HOLIDAY...	DESCRIPT...
------------	-------------

The result table is empty, indicating no holidays were found for the current date.

There is no rows fetched because the day 24/05/2025 is no a holiday in the next month

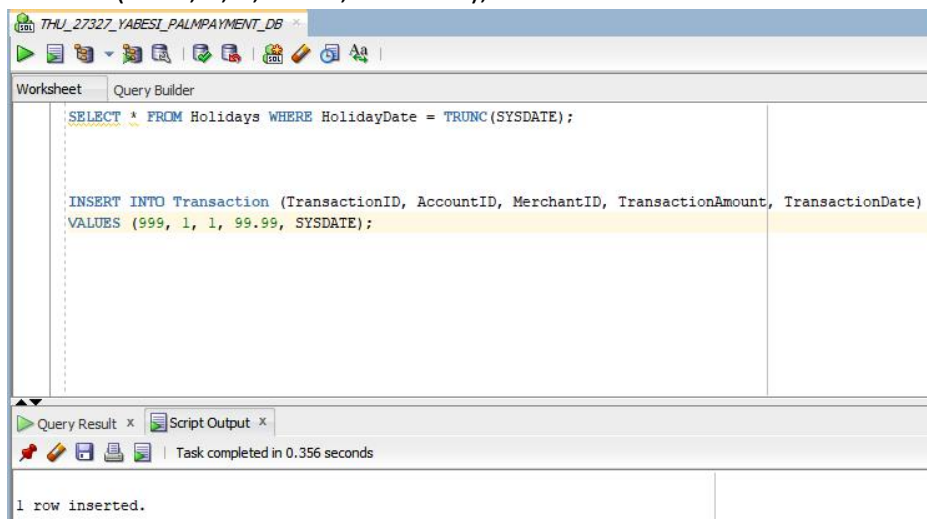
### TEST 3: Try a Blocked Operation (INSERT)

If today is a weekend and not in the Holidays table

#### SYNTAX

INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount, TransactionDate)

VALUES (1000, 2, 1, 49.99, SYSDATE);



**Result:** the test succeded because today is a weekend and not in the Holidays table

### C. COMPOUND TRIGGER

#### SYNTAX

CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER trg\_compound\_dml\_blocker  
FOR INSERT OR UPDATE OR DELETE ON Transaction  
COMPOUND TRIGGER

-- Shared variables across all trigger sections

v\_day VARCHAR2(10);

v\_holiday INT;

v\_status VARCHAR2(10) := 'ALLOWED';

v\_user VARCHAR2(50);

v\_table VARCHAR2(50) := 'Transaction';

v\_block BOOLEAN := FALSE;

v\_reason VARCHAR2(200);

BEFORE STATEMENT IS

BEGIN

```

v_user := SYS_CONTEXT('USERENV', 'SESSION_USER');

v_day := TO_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'DY', 'NLS_DATE_LANGUAGE=ENGLISH');

SELECT COUNT(*) INTO v_holiday
FROM Holidays
WHERE HolidayDate = TRUNC(SYSDATE)
AND HolidayDate BETWEEN TRUNC(SYSDATE) AND TRUNC(ADD_MONTHS(SYSDATE, 1));

IF v_day IN ('MON', 'TUE', 'WED', 'THU', 'FRI') OR v_holiday > 0 THEN
    v_block := TRUE;
    v_status := 'DENIED';
    v_reason := 'DML blocked on weekday or holiday';
END IF;
END BEFORE STATEMENT;

BEFORE EACH ROW IS
BEGIN
    IF v_block THEN
        RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR(-20002, '✗ DML blocked on weekday or holiday');
    END IF;
END BEFORE EACH ROW;

AFTER STATEMENT IS
BEGIN
    -- Log user attempt
    INSERT INTO Audit_Log (Username, Action, ActionTime, Status, TableName)
    VALUES (
        v_user,
        ORA_SYSEVENT,
        SYSTIMESTAMP,
        v_status,
        v_table
    );

END AFTER STATEMENT;

END trg_compound_dml_blocker;
/

```

## TESTS

### **TEST 1: Try a blocked operation (INSERT)**

#### SYNTAX

INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount, TransactionDate)

VALUES (3011, 1, 2, 49.99, SYSDATE);

The screenshot shows the SQL Developer interface. The top pane displays the following SQL code:

```
END AFTER STATEMENT;  
  
END trg_compound_dml_blocker;  
/  
  
INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount, TransactionDate)  
VALUES (3011, 1, 2, 49.99, SYSDATE);
```

The bottom pane shows the 'Script Output' tab with the following text:

Task completed in 0.043 seconds  
Error starting at line : 96 in command -  
INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount, TransactionDate)  
VALUES (3001, 1, 2, 49.99, SYSDATE)  
Error report -  
ORA-00001: unique constraint (PALM\_PAYMENT.SYS\_C007522) violated  
<https://docs.oracle.com/error-help/db/ora-00001/>  
More Details :  
<https://docs.oracle.com/error-help/db/ora-00001/>  
1 row inserted.

The text '1 row inserted.' is circled in orange.

**RESULT :** THE row was inserted because today (24/05/2025) is a weekend not a week day.

### **TEST 2 : CHECKING THE CURRENT DAY OF THE WEEK**

SELECT

TO\_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'DAY', 'NLS\_DATE\_LANGUAGE=ENGLISH') AS Day\_Name,

TO\_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'YYYY-MM-DD') AS Current\_Date

FROM DUAL;

The screenshot shows the SQL Developer interface. The top pane displays the following SQL code:

```
INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount, TransactionDate)  
VALUES (3011, 1, 2, 49.99, SYSDATE);  
  
SELECT  
  TO_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'DAY', 'NLS_DATE_LANGUAGE=ENGLISH') AS Day_Name,  
  TO_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'YYYY-MM-DD') AS Current_Date  
FROM DUAL;
```

The bottom pane shows the 'Query Result' tab with the following data:

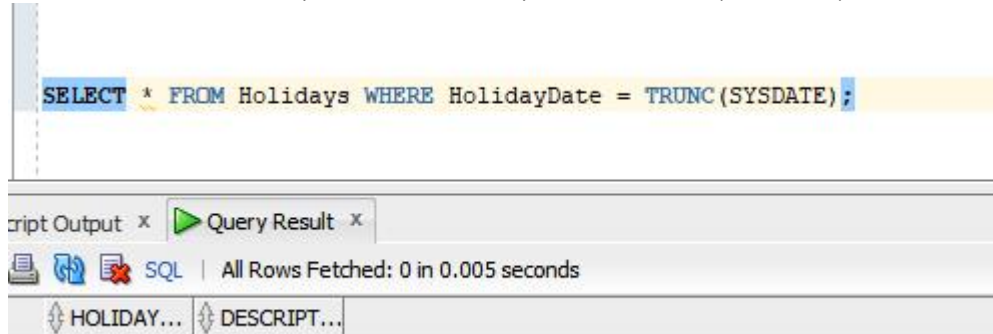
	DAY_NAME	CURRENT_DATE
1	SATURDAY	2025-05-24

## TEST 3 : REFERING TO THE HOLIDAY TABLE

Check If Today Is Already in the Holidays Table

### SYNTAX

```
SELECT * FROM Holidays WHERE HolidayDate = TRUNC(SYSDATE);
```



## Auditing with Restrictions and Tracking

### STEP 1: Create an Audit Table

**Purpose:** This table will store details about every DML attempt — whether allowed or blocked.

```
CREATE TABLE Audit_Log (  
    AuditID    NUMBER GENERATED BY DEFAULT ON NULL AS IDENTITY PRIMARY KEY,  
    UserID     VARCHAR2(50),    -- Who attempted it  
    Action     VARCHAR2(20),    -- INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE  
    ActionTime  TIMESTAMP,      -- When it happened  
    Status     VARCHAR2(10),    -- ALLOWED or DENIED  
    TableName  VARCHAR2(50)     -- Which table was targeted  
);
```

### STEP 2: CREATE THE AUDIT\_PKG PACKAGE

**Goal:** Provide a reusable, centralized procedure to log user actions.

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE Audit_Pkg AS  
    PROCEDURE Log_Audit(  
        p_user  VARCHAR2,  
        p_action VARCHAR2,  
        p_status VARCHAR2,  
        p_table  VARCHAR2  
    );  
  
    FUNCTION Is_Authorized(p_user VARCHAR2) RETURN BOOLEAN;  
END Audit_Pkg;  
/
```

## Package Body

```
CREATE OR REPLACE PACKAGE BODY Audit_Pkg AS

  PROCEDURE Log_Audit(
    p_user  VARCHAR2,
    p_action VARCHAR2,
    p_status VARCHAR2,
    p_table VARCHAR2
  ) IS
  BEGIN
    INSERT INTO Audit_Log (UserID, Action, ActionTime, Status, TableName)
    VALUES (p_user, p_action, SYSTIMESTAMP, p_status, p_table);
  END;

  FUNCTION Is_Authorized(p_user VARCHAR2) RETURN BOOLEAN IS
  BEGIN
    RETURN UPPER(p_user) IN ('SYS', 'ADMIN');
  END;

END Audit_Pkg;
/
```

## Using Triggers to block unauthorized access or manipulation and Functions and packages to automate audit tracking

### SYNTAX

```
CREATE OR REPLACE TRIGGER trg_secure_transaction_dml
FOR INSERT OR UPDATE OR DELETE ON Transaction
COMPOUND TRIGGER

  -- Shared variables
  v_day    VARCHAR2(10);
  v_holiday INT;
  v_status VARCHAR2(10) := 'ALLOWED';
  v_user   VARCHAR2(50);
  v_table  VARCHAR2(50) := 'Transaction';
  v_block  BOOLEAN := FALSE;

  BEFORE STATEMENT IS
  BEGIN
    v_user := SYS_CONTEXT('USERENV', 'SESSION_USER');

    v_day := TO_CHAR(SYSDATE, 'DY', 'NLS_DATE_LANGUAGE=ENGLISH');
```



```

SELECT COUNT(*) INTO v_holiday
FROM Holidays
WHERE HolidayDate = TRUNC(SYSDATE)
AND HolidayDate BETWEEN TRUNC(SYSDATE) AND TRUNC(ADD_MONTHS(SYSDATE, 1));

IF v_day IN ('MON', 'TUE', 'WED', 'THU', 'FRI') OR v_holiday > 0 THEN
    v_block := TRUE;
    v_status := 'DENIED';
END IF;
END BEFORE STATEMENT;

BEFORE EACH ROW IS
BEGIN
    IF NOT Audit_Pkg.Is_Authorized(v_user) THEN
        v_status := 'DENIED';
        RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR(-20003, '✗ Access Denied: Unauthorized user.');
```

END IF;

```

    IF v_block THEN
        RAISE_APPLICATION_ERROR(-20002, '✗ DML blocked on weekday or holiday.');
```

END IF;

```

END BEFORE EACH ROW;

AFTER STATEMENT IS
BEGIN
    Audit_Pkg.Log_Audit(
        p_user => v_user,
        p_action => ORA_SYSEVENT,
        p_status => v_status,
        p_table => v_table
    );
END AFTER STATEMENT;

END;
/
```

## TESTING

**TEST : CAN THE TRIGGER BLOCK UNAUTHORIZED USERS FROM MANIPULATING DATA?**

### SYNTAX EXECUTED

```

INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount,
TransactionDate)
VALUES (6001, 1, 1, 250.00, SYSDATE);
```

## OUTPUT

```
INSERT INTO Transaction (TransactionID, AccountID, MerchantID, TransactionAmount, TransactionDate)
VALUES (6001, 1, 1, 250.00, SYSDATE);
```

Script Output x Query Result x

Task completed in 0.294 seconds

Error at Command Line : 374 Column : 13

Error report -

SQL Error: ORA-20003: ✗ Access Denied: Unauthorized user.

ORA-06512: at "PALM\_PAYMENT.TRG\_SECURE\_TRANSACTION\_DML", line 32

ORA-04088: error during execution of trigger 'PALM\_PAYMENT.TRG\_SECURE\_TRANSACTION\_DML'

## AUDIT\_LOG RESULTS

SELECT \* FROM Audit\_Log ORDER BY ActionTime DESC;

```
SELECT * FROM Audit_Log ORDER BY ActionTime DESC;
```

Script Output x Query Result x

SQL All Rows Fetched: 1 in 0.007 seconds

AUDITID	USERID	ACTION	ACTIONTIME	STATUS	TABLERNAME
1	1 PALM_PAYMENT	(null)	25-MAY-25 12.52.23.304000000	AM DENIED	Transaction