Azure SQL Server Database Export and Import Overview

In this tutorial I'm going to show how to:

- Export Azure Database through Azure Portal
- Export Azure Database through SQL Server Management
- Import Azure Database backup file through Azure Portal
- Import Azure Database backup file through SQL Server Management

Patrick Sameera Jayalath

Step 01: Export Azure Database through Azure Portal

Under the existing Resource Group we have a SQL Server and a SQL Database.

- Resource group: rg-NetworkServices
- Azure SQL Server: patsam-finance-server
- Azure SQL Database: patsam-finance-database

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We need a Storage Account in Azure to store the Exported Database file. So first we need to create a storage account.
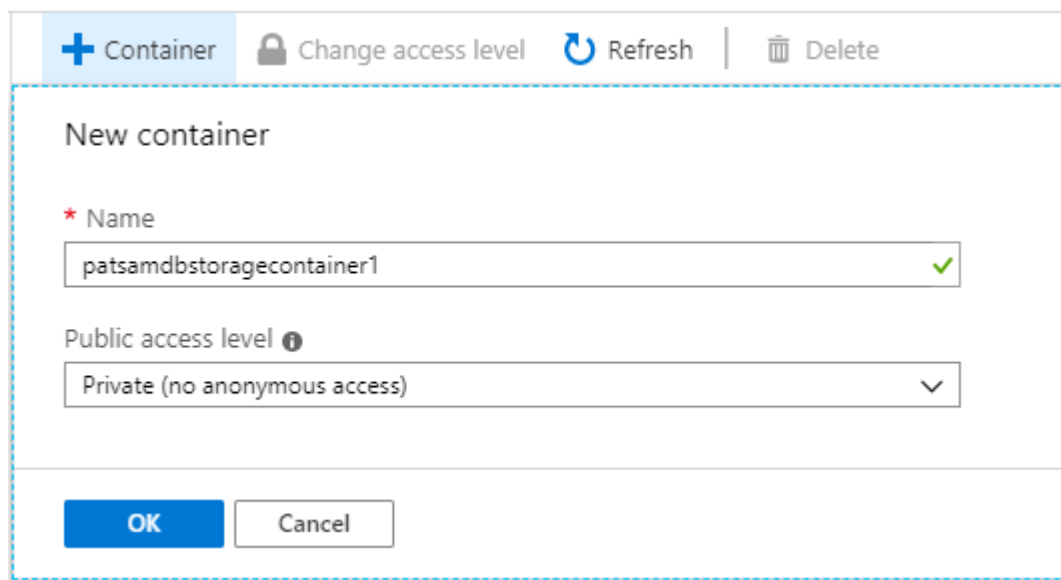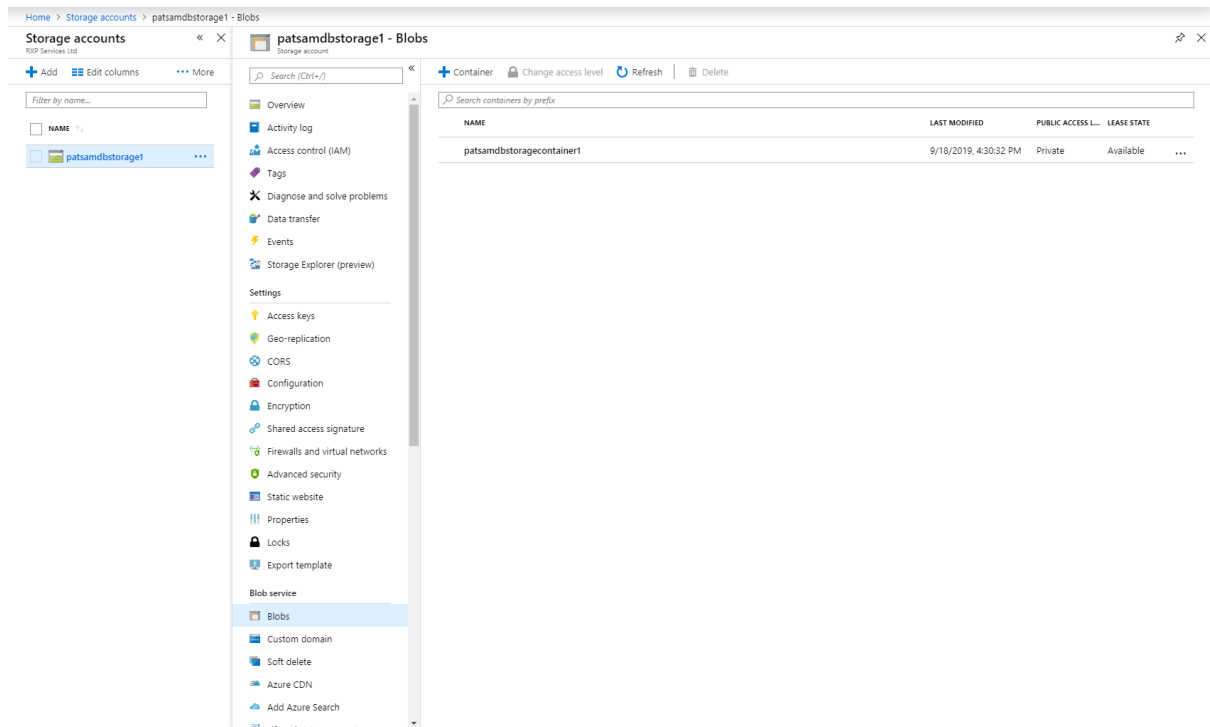
Once finished creating a Storage Account Click on Blobs and create a Container.
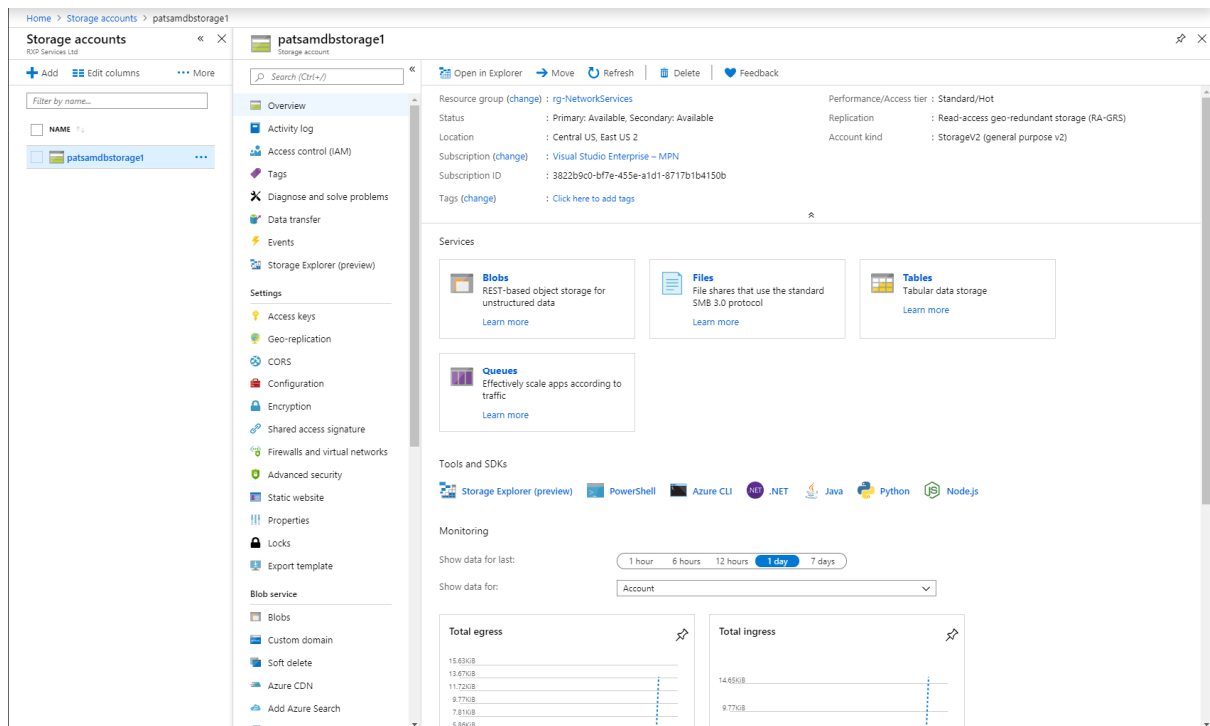
Provide a name for the Container.

- Name: patsamdbstoragecontainer1
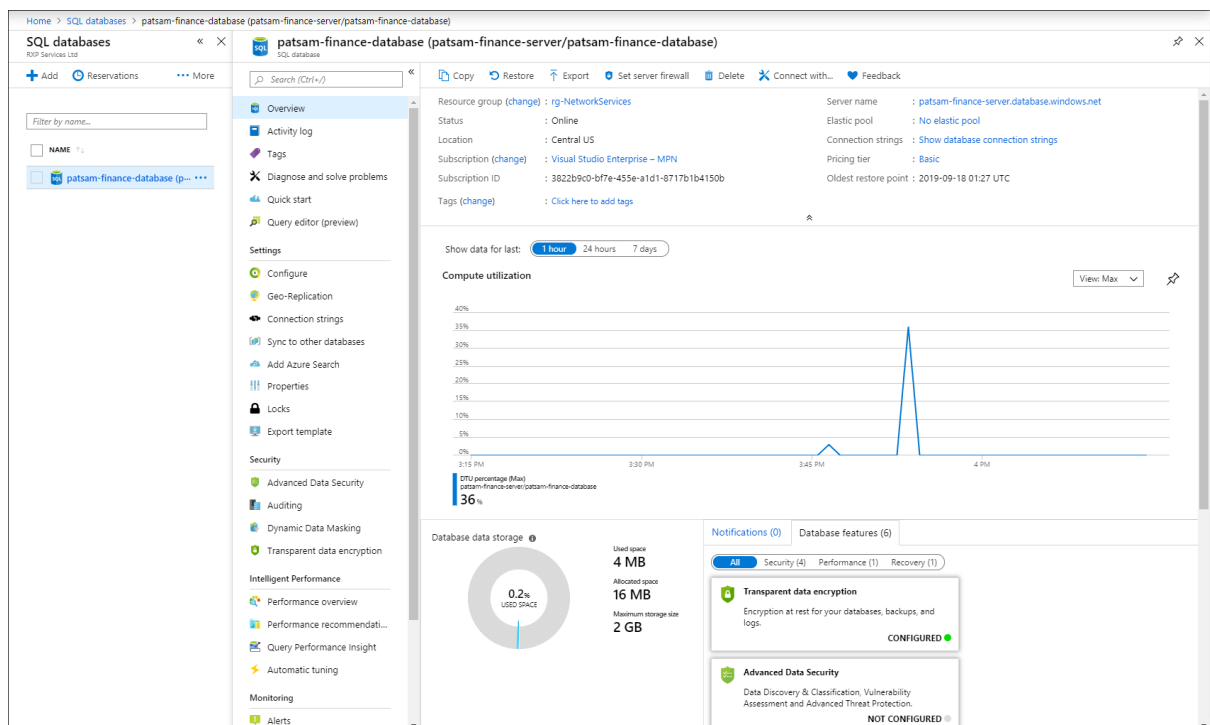

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We can see the newly created Storage Account.
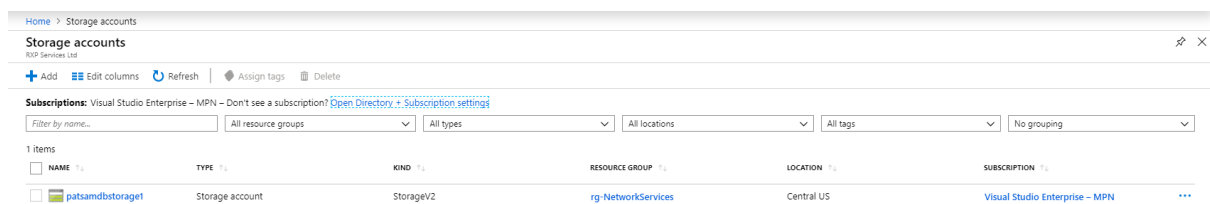
Now we are going to Export the Database. Go inside the SQL Database and Click on Export button.

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Provide the relevant data.

- File name: patsam-finance-database-2019-9-18-16-31.bacpac
- Server admin login/Password: Login details that we provided when creating the Database
- Storage: Click "Configure Required Settings" and provide storage account details

Storage configuration:

Click on "Configure Required Settings" and select the Storage Account we created earlier.

Select the Container we created earlier under the selected Storage Account.

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Click OK.

Home > SQL databases > patsam-finance-databa

Export database   □ ✕
patsam-finance-database

* File name

patsam-finance-database-2019-9-18-16-31

* Subscription

Visual Studio Enterprise – MPN   ⌄

* Storage (Premium not supported)   ›
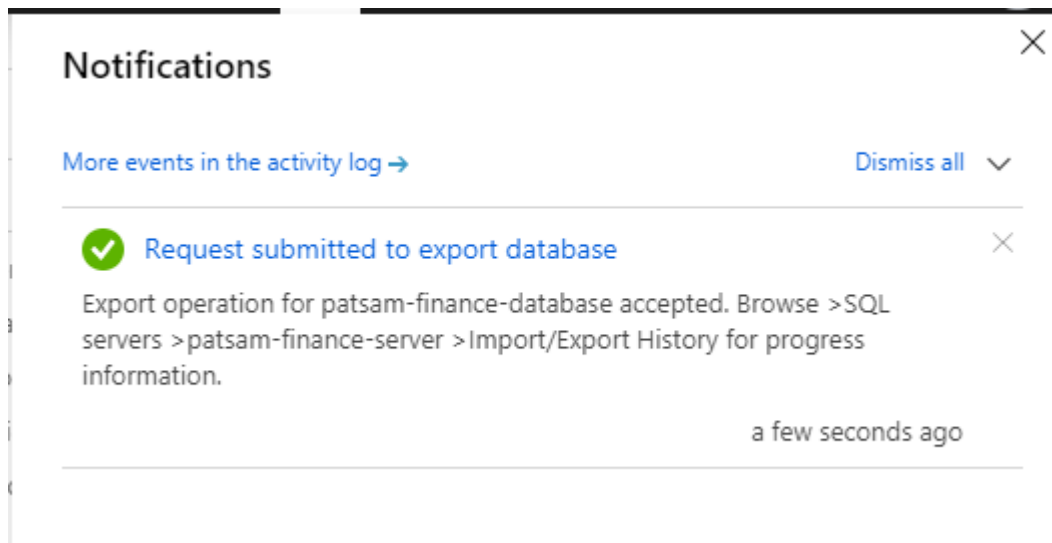patsamdbstoragecontainer1

Authentication type

SQL Server   ⌄

* Server admin login

patsam

* Password
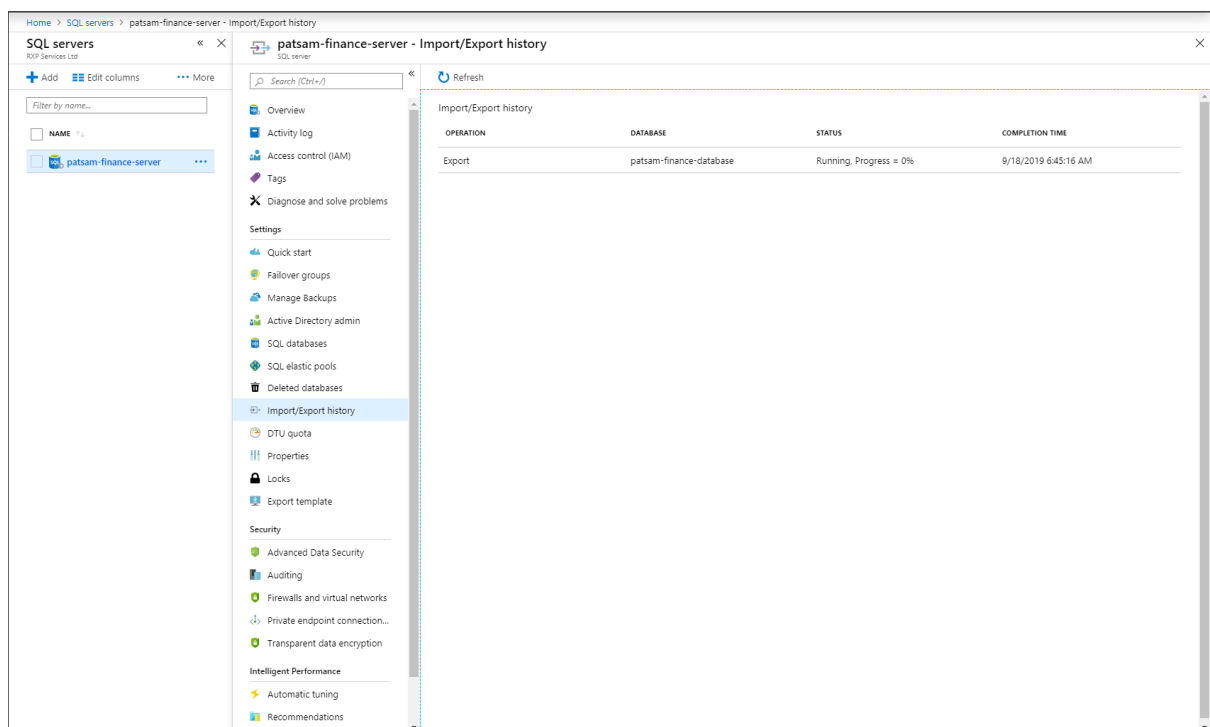
••••••••••   ✓

OK

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It will show a notification saying a request was made for Exporting Database.

If we want to see the progress of the Export go to "Import/Export History" tab under the SQL Server instance, we created.

So, now it is in "Running" status. It will take some time to finish the Export.

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Once it finishes exporting, we can go in to the Storage Account and see the exported file. Mind you that Export file is in ".BACPAC" file extension.


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Step 02: Export Azure Database through SQL Server Management

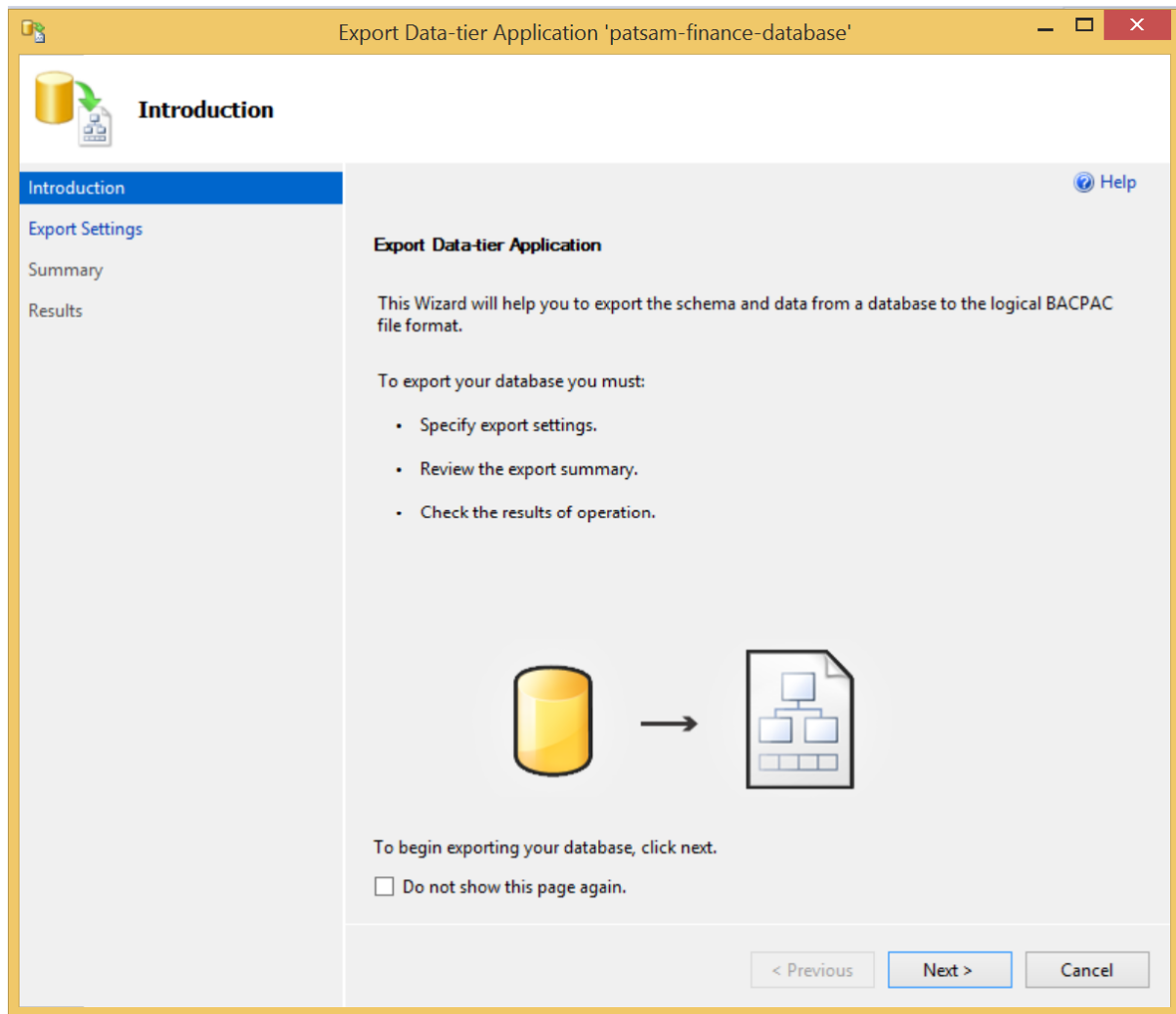Connect to SQL Server instance through SQL Server Management.

- Server name: patsam-finance-server.database.windows.net
- Authentication: SQL Server Authentication
- Login/Password: Login/Password details we provided when creating the Database

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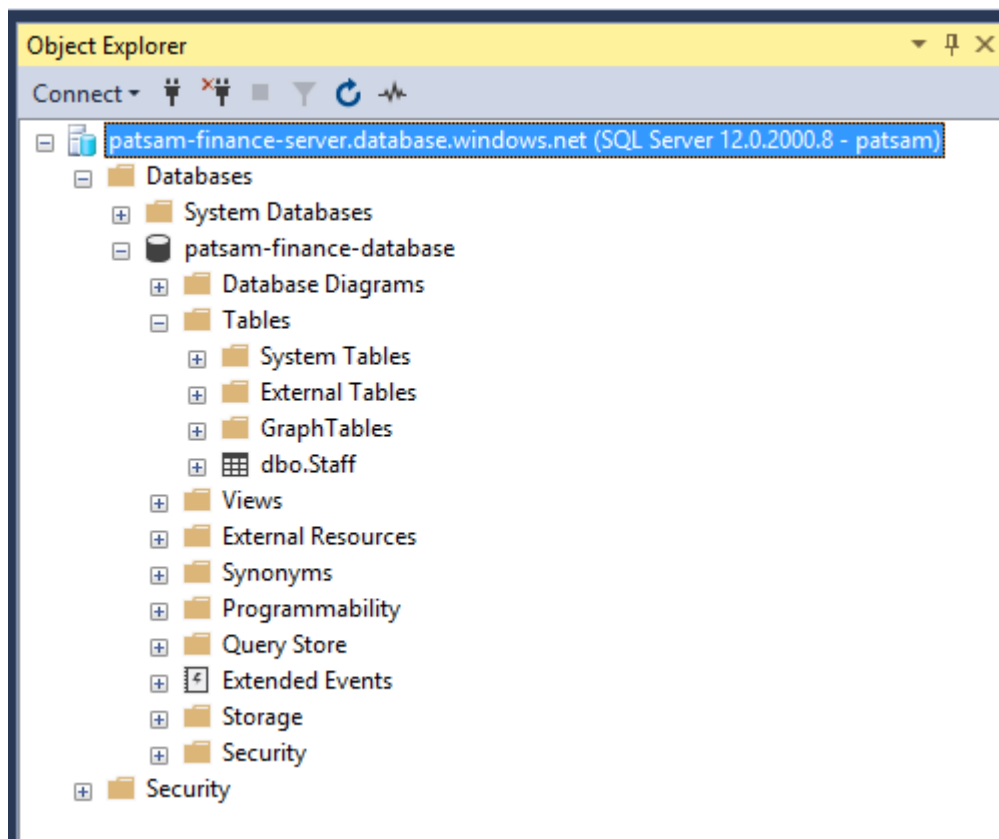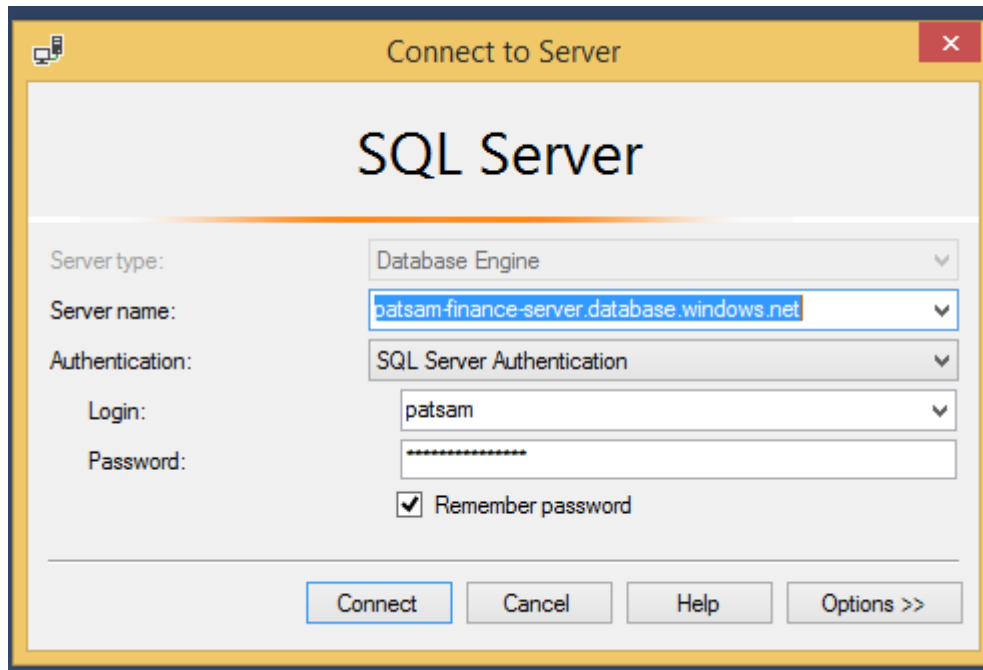
Right click on the Database, Click on Tasks → Export Data-tier Application.
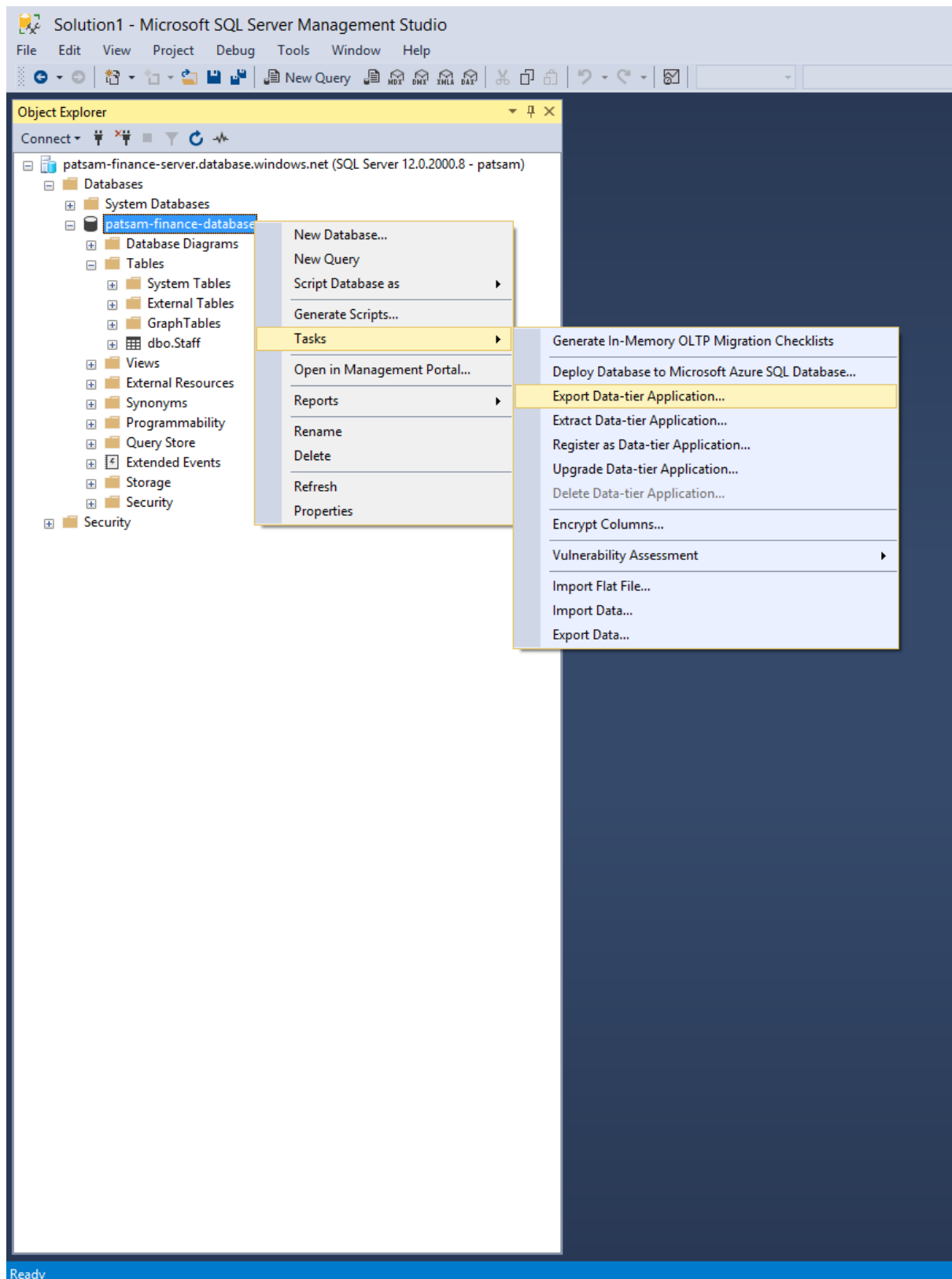
Click Next.

You get the option to store the export file locally or on the Storage Account. In this case I select Storage Account.

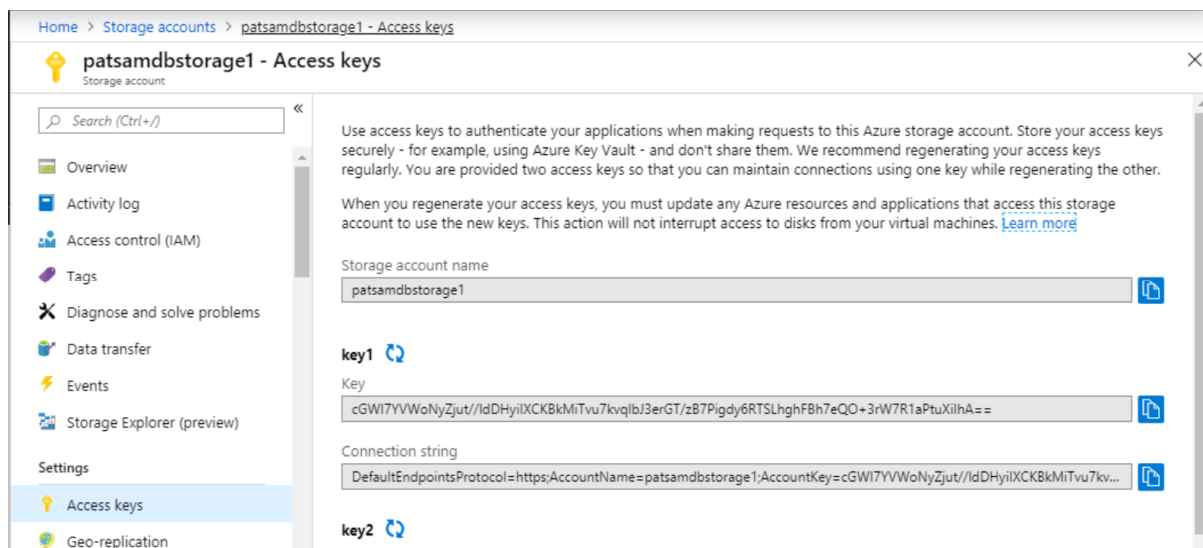Select Save To Microsoft Azure option.

Click on Connect button and provide the relevant Storage Account details.

- Storage account: patsamdbstorage1
- Account key: This key can be retrieved from Storage Account → Access Keys tab

Click Connect.
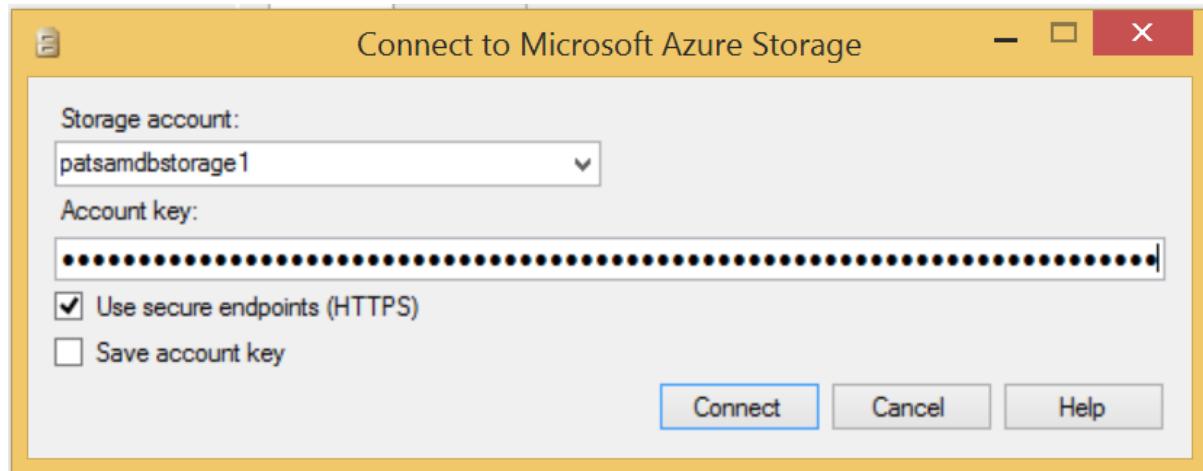
Storage Account's Access Keys can be revived from the Access Keys tab.

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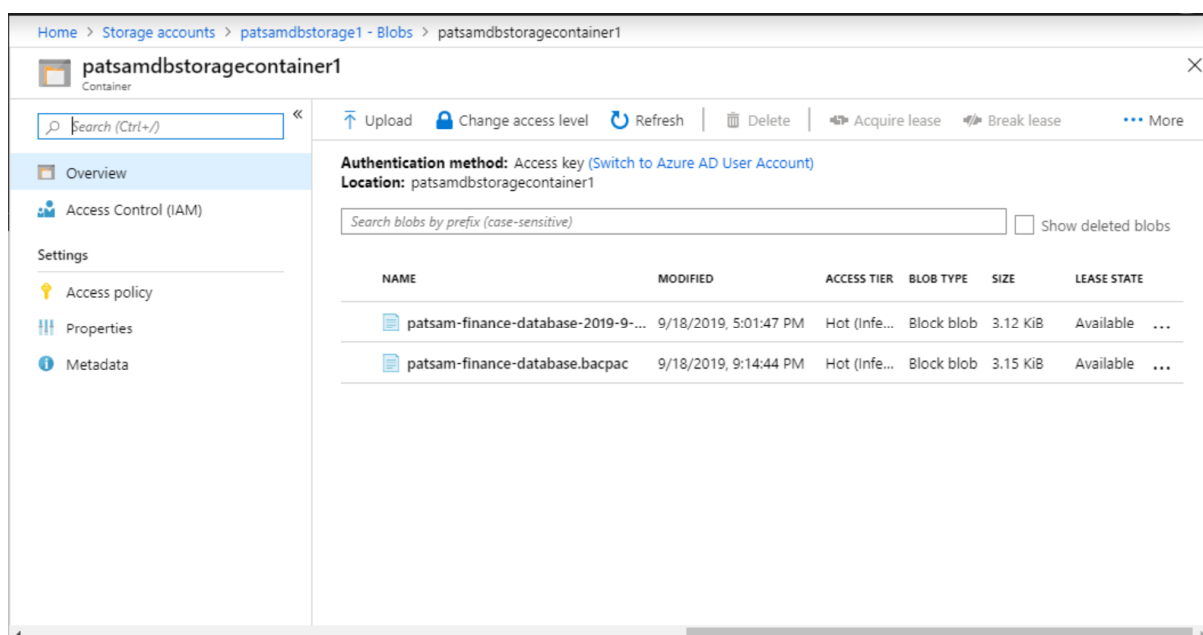
Select the Container name and Click Next.

Click Finish.

It will take some time export the data to the Storage Account. Once completed Click Close.
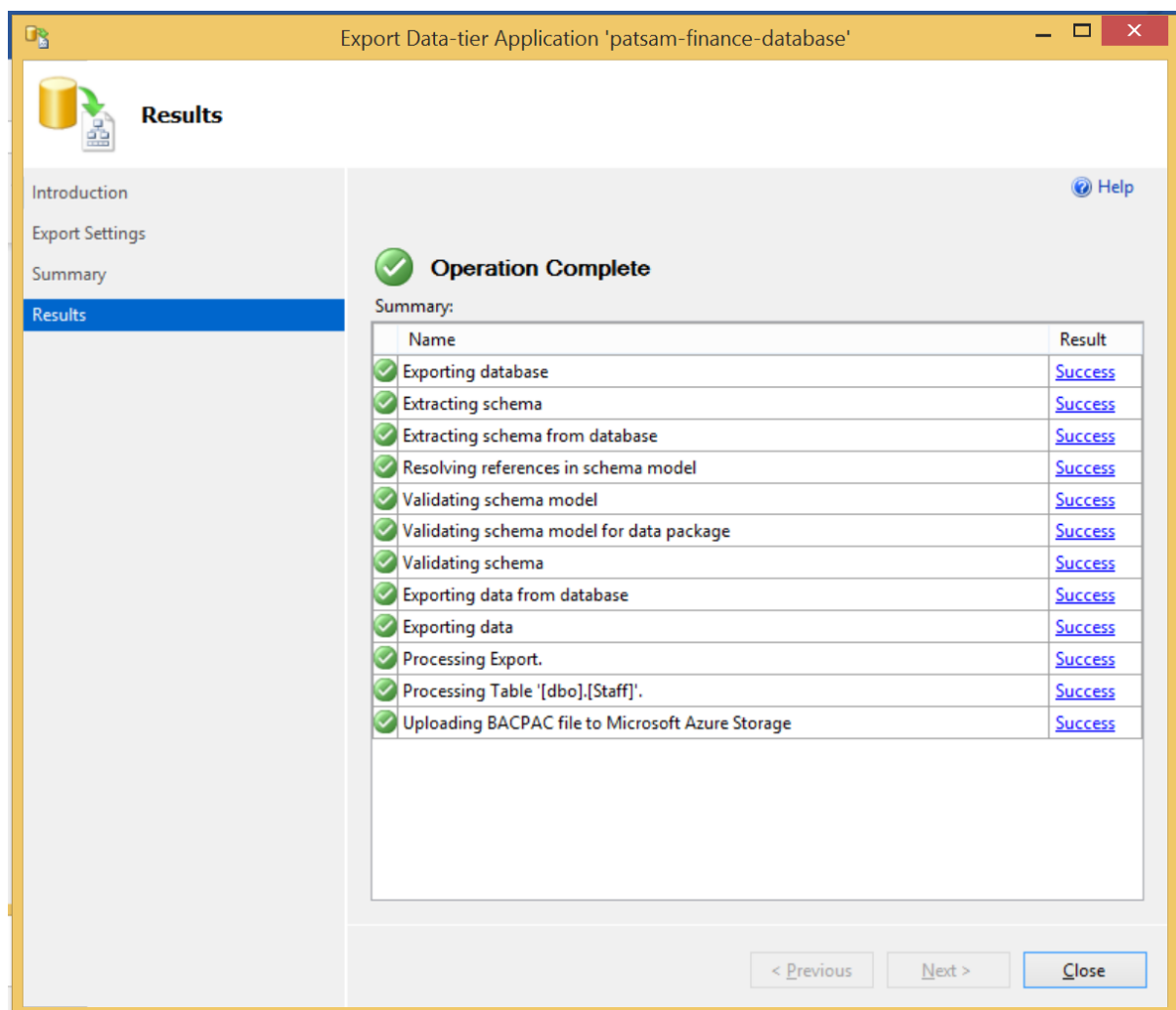
Once it finishes exporting, we can go in to the Storage Account and see the exported file.

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Step 03: Import Azure Database backup file through Azure Portal

In Azure we cannot restore a Azure Backup file (.bacpac) to an existing Azure Database. If you want to do this kind of a process what we can do is,

- Restore the Database with a different name
- Delete old Database
- Rename newly restored Database to old Database name

To Import Database navigate to the SQL Server instance and Click Import Database.

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Provide the relevant deails.

- Database name: patsam-finance-database-restore1
- Storage: Click "Configure Required Settings" and provide storage account details and select the relevant backup file (.bacpac)
- Login/Password: Login/Password details for the Database

Storage configuration:

Click on "Configure Required Settings" and select the Storage Account we created earlier.

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Select the Container we created earlier under the selected Storage Account.

Select the backup (.bacpac) file you want to restore.

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Click OK.

Home > patsam-finance-database (patsam-finand

Import database
patsam-finance-server

* Subscription
Visual Studio Enterprise – MPN

* Storage (Premium not supported)
patsam-finance-database.bacpac

* Pricing tier ⓘ
Basic: 2 GB storage

* Database name
patsam-finance-database-restore1   ✓
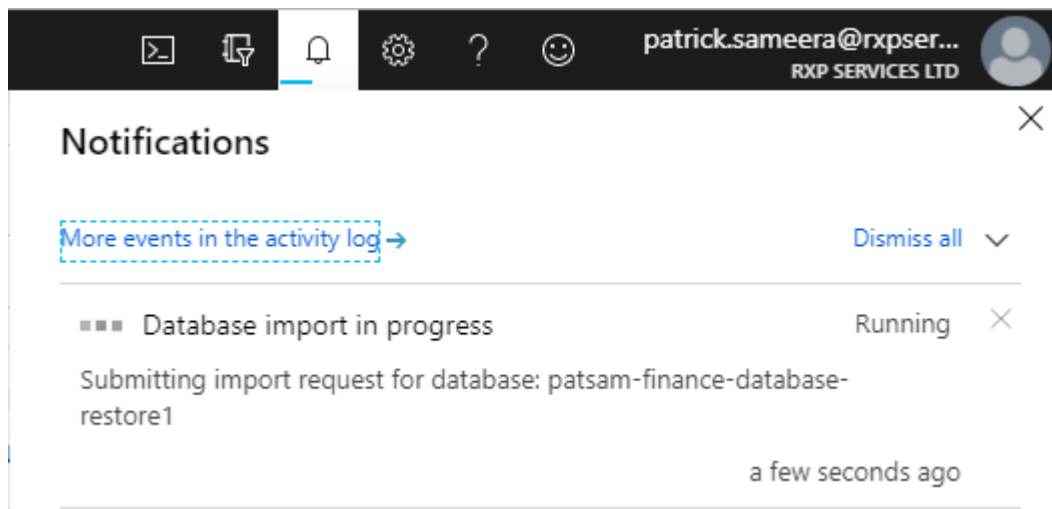
* Collation ⓘ
SQL_Latin1_General_CP1_CI_AS

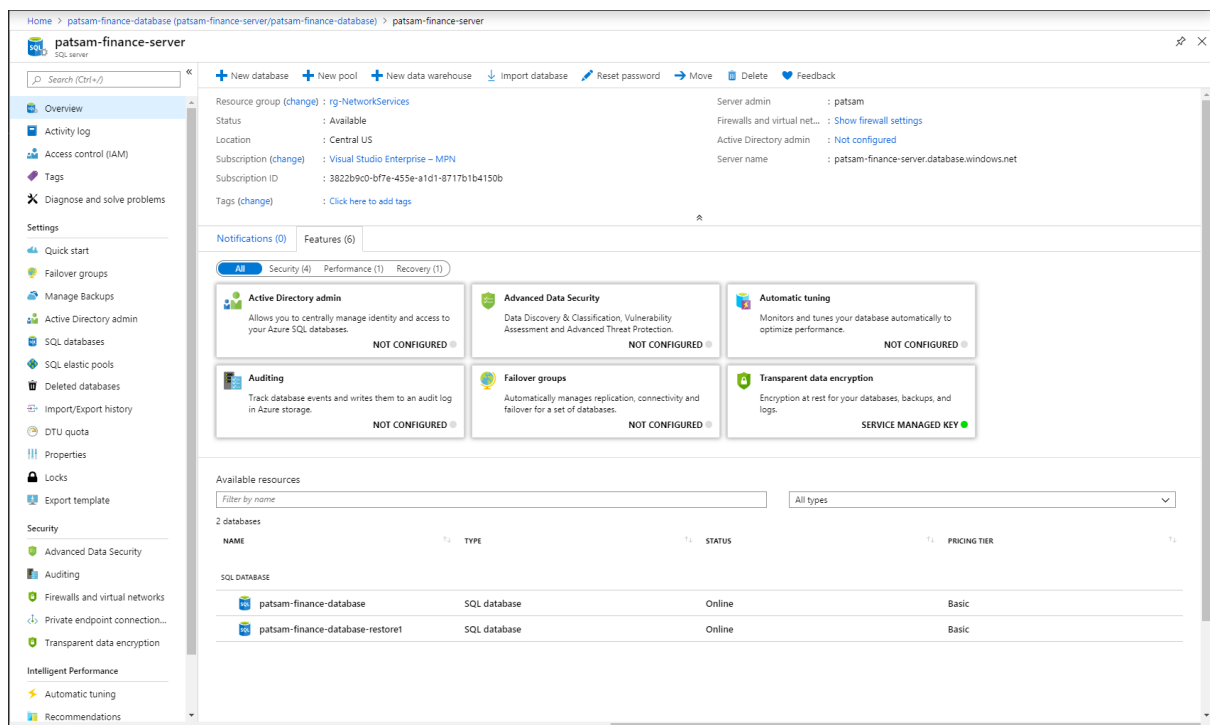Authentication type
SQL Server

* Server admin login
patsam

* Password
••••••••••   ✓

OK

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It will Import the backup file.

Now we see the newly created Database.

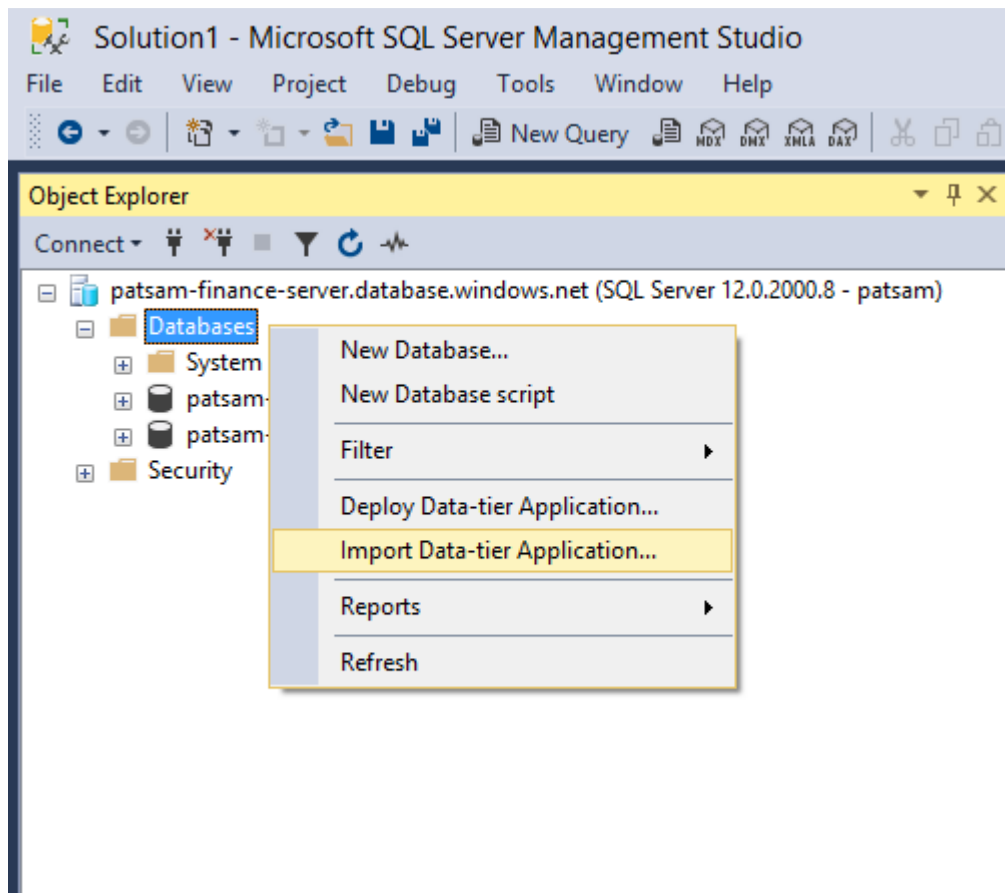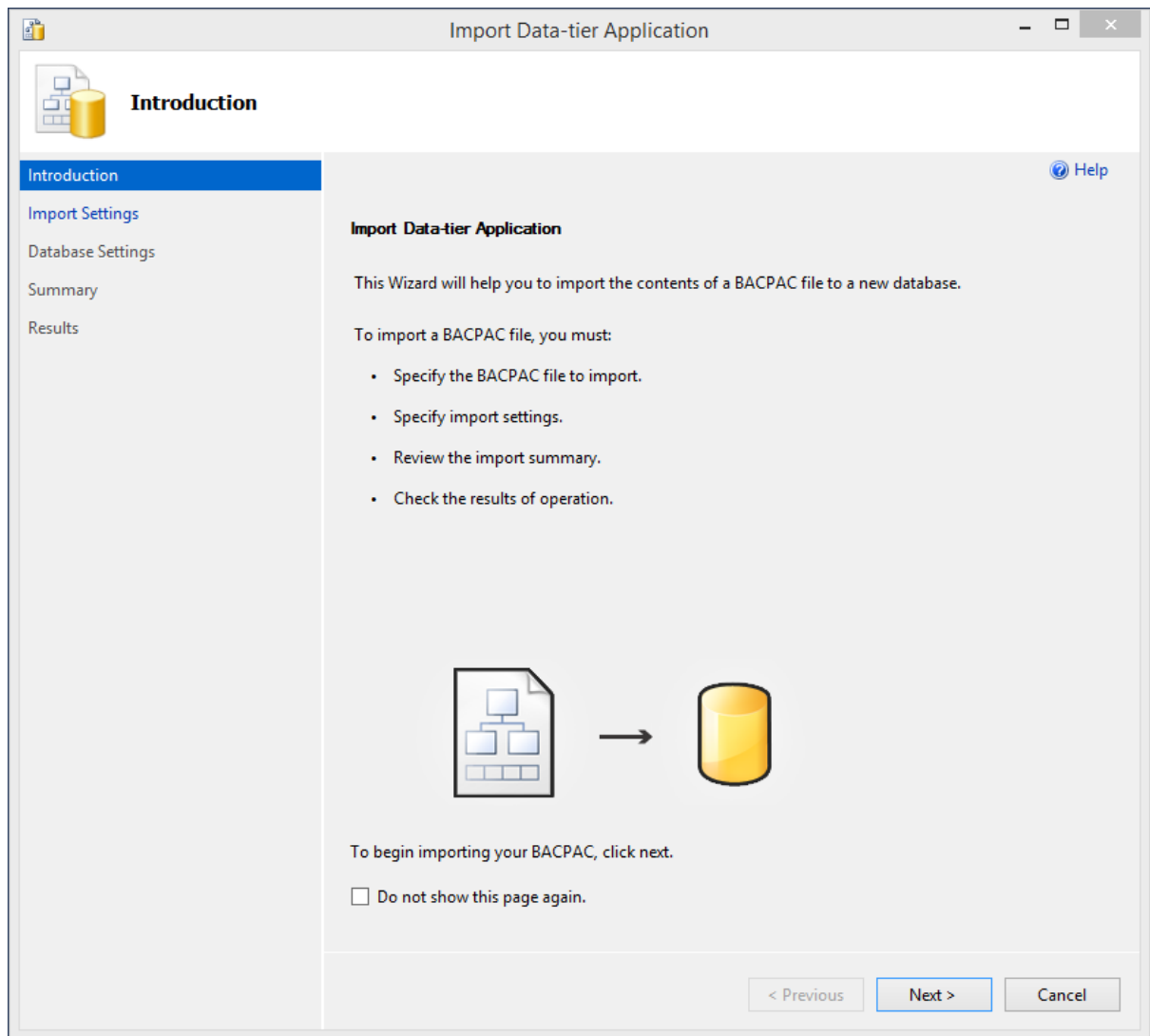Patrick Sameera Jayalath

Step 04: Import Azure Database backup file through SQL Server Management

Right Click on Databases and Click Import Data-tier Application.

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Click Next.

Provide the Storage Account details.

Click Connect and provide the relevant Storage Account details.

- Storage account: patsamdbstorage1
- Container: patsamdbstoragecontainer1
- File name: relevant backup (.bacpac) file you want to Import

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Click Next.

Provide a name for the Database and select the relevant Pricing Tier option and Click Next.

- Database name: patsam-finance-database-restore2
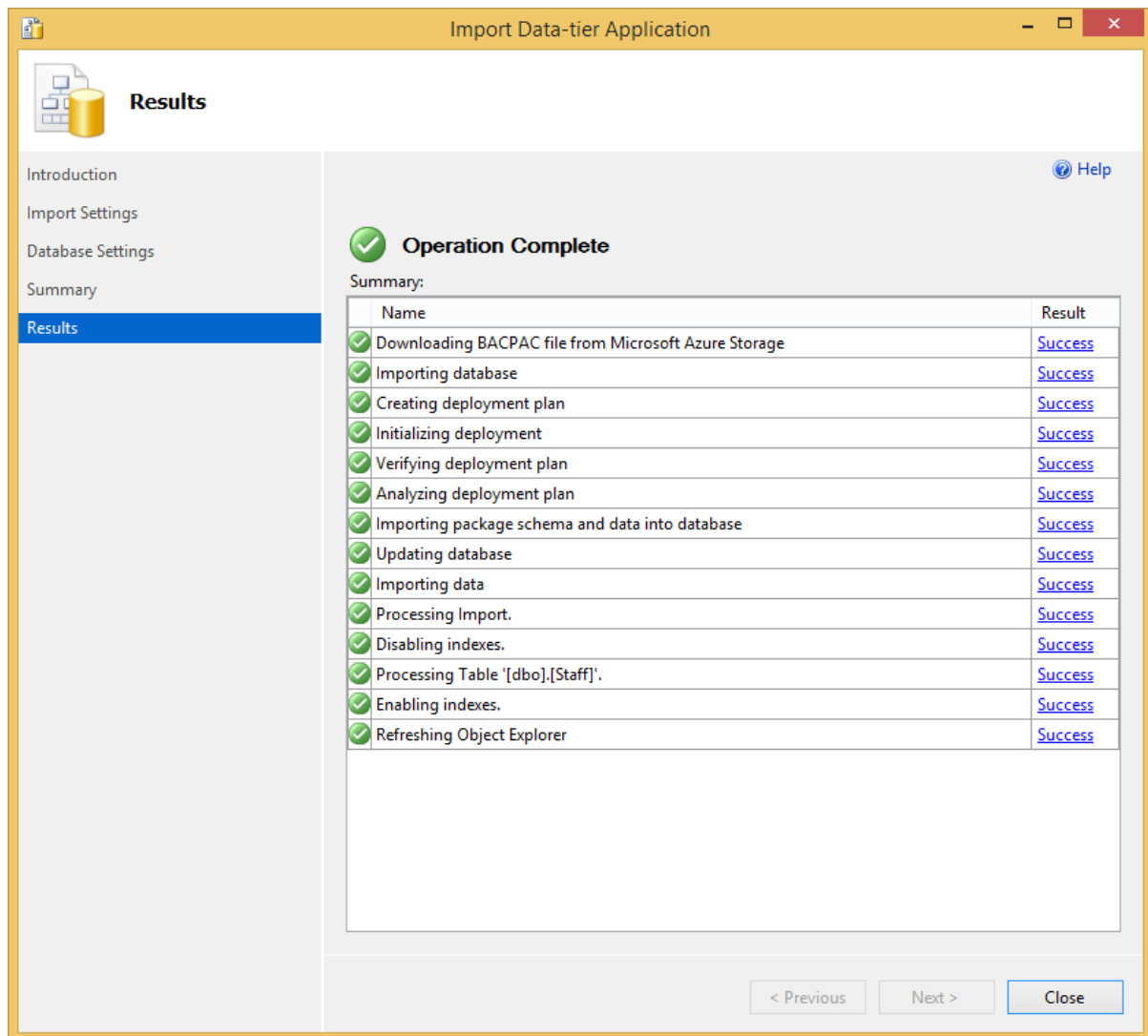
Click Finish.

Once it finishes importing Click Close.

We can see the newly created Database.

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