**Letter of Recommendation**

It is with immense pleasure which I write this letter of recommendation in favour of **Mr Mayank Jain**. I have known him through my years of teaching during his ongoing undergraduate period (November 2020 - December 2022, expected 2024). I taught him Big Data and found his grasp of the subject to be strong, and his personality drove him to learn more within and outside the confines of the Computer Science curriculum.

Over the years, I have seen consistent growth in his academic performance. Aside from being in the top 5% of his class, his inquisitive nature, articulate presentation skills, and excellent performance during assessments and class discussions all speak for his interest in academia. Mayank’s ability to manage and work in a team environment was commendable when he undertook the subject presentation assignment. His ability to tackle differences among his teammates was a clear indication of his collaborative spirit.

Mayank did not just restrict himself to academics. Mayank is currently the Creative and Operations Executive at Microsoft Student Community, KIIT Chapter, which is the leading technical community of the University. Mayank helped organise several events both at the University level as well as at the National level. Mayank has experience handling a large team of more than a hundred members. Even when the whole world went through lockdown due to COVID-19, he found a way to engage in building projects, like building a Crypto Dashboard which aimed at bringing all cryptocurrency information at a single place. His project won a special mention and a place in the Top 10 at the global hackathon - Hack This Fall 2.0. Apart from participating in hackathons, Mayank was also involved in organising a global hackathon - Daedarus Hack, which saw participants from different countries. Apart from this, Mayank also holds a position of responsibility as the Senior Executive at the University’s official Entrepreneurship Cell, wherein he strives to foster the spirit of entrepreneurship among students by organizing various events. The patience he possessed to gather information by never being afraid to seek assistance from peers and professors, his commitment to staying on top of the ladder, and his determination to deal with competition and criticism with absolute sportsmanship are all an indication that he is worthy of a place in your institution.

With a strong foothold in the fundamental subjects of Computer Science, and possessing the ability to analyze innovative ideas, I firmly believe that Mayank’s focus surely complements his competency in the domain. I am confident that he will prove to be a valuable asset to your institution and therefore I wholeheartedly recommend Mr. Mayank Jain to be considered as a potential candidate for the SFI Undergraduate Complexity Research (UCR) Program at the Santa Fe Institute, New Mexico. Please feel free to contact me if there is any further information that I might provide.

Thanking You,

**Dr. Abhaya Kumar Sahoo,**

Associate Professor

Department of Computer Engineering

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