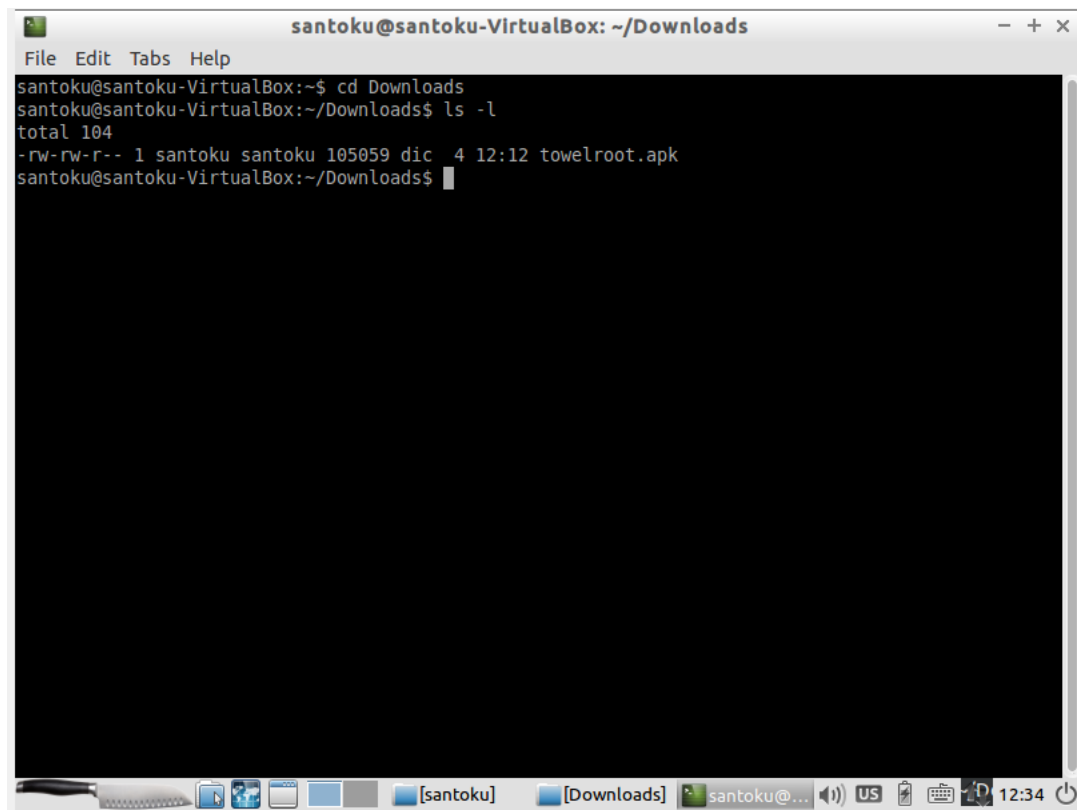


Digital Forensics (Security on Android applications)

Report

Malware Type:

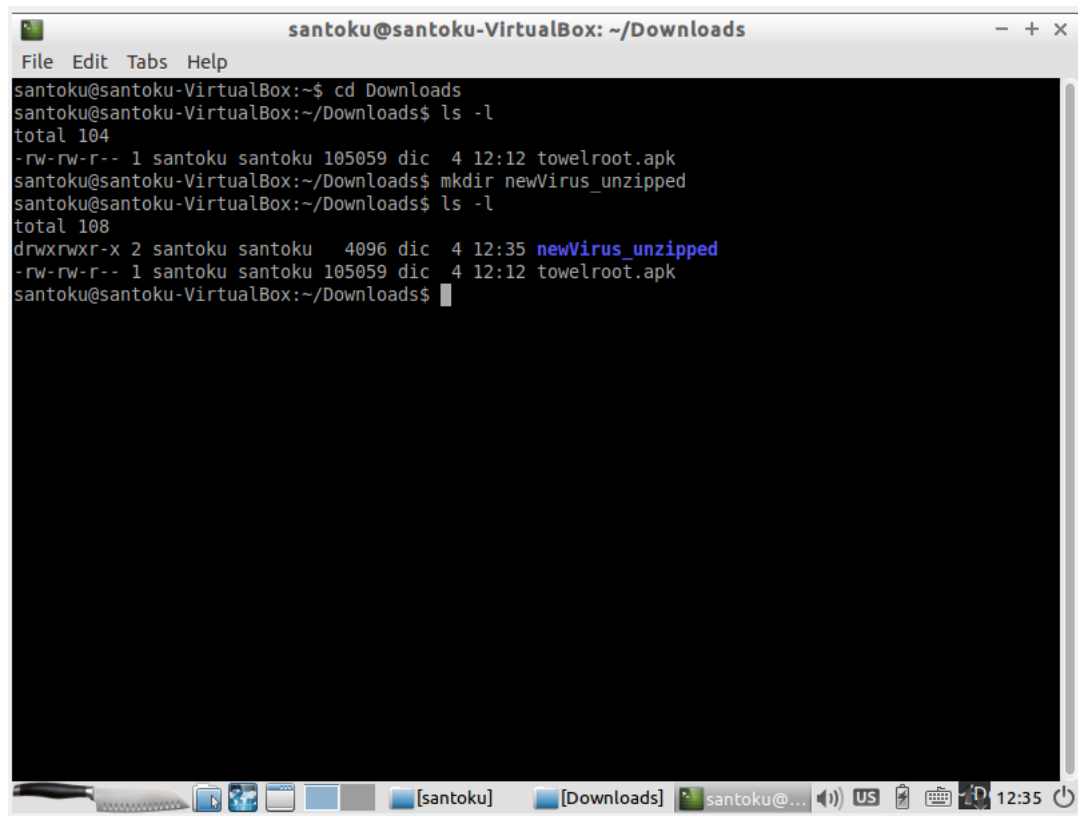
<http://github.com/ashishb/android-malware/blob/master/towelroot/towelroot.apk>



```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads
File Edit Tabs Help
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~$ cd Downloads
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ ls -l
total 104
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 105059 dic  4 12:12 towelroot.apk
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$
```

The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads". The terminal output shows the user navigating to the Downloads directory and listing the contents. A file named "towelroot.apk" is listed with permissions "-rw-rw-r--", owner "santoku", group "santoku", size "105059", and timestamp "dic 4 12:12". The terminal window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Tabs", and "Help". The bottom of the window shows a taskbar with icons for a keyboard, mouse, and several application windows, including one labeled "santoku". The system clock in the bottom right corner indicates "12:34".

We made new directory



The image shows a terminal window titled "santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads". The terminal output shows the user navigating to the Downloads directory, listing its contents, creating a new directory named "newVirus_unzipped", and listing the contents again. The new directory is shown with permissions "drwxrwxr-x" and size "4096". The original file "towelroot.apk" is still present with permissions "-rw-rw-r--".

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~$ cd Downloads
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ ls -l
total 104
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 105059 dic  4 12:12 towelroot.apk
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ mkdir newVirus_unzipped
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ ls -l
total 108
drwxrwxr-x 2 santoku santoku  4096 dic  4 12:35 newVirus_unzipped
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 105059 dic  4 12:12 towelroot.apk
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$
```

We unzip the apk file and copy that unzipped file to new directory we created

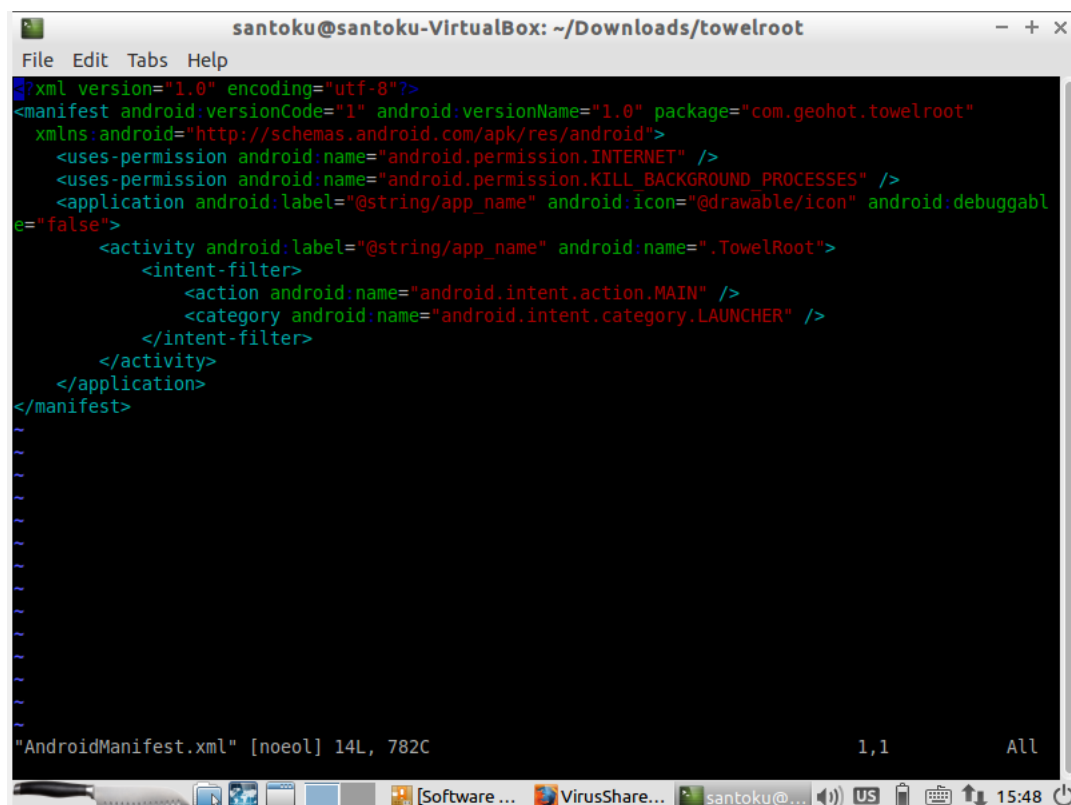
```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped
File Edit Tabs Help
inflating: META-INF/MANIFEST.MF
inflating: META-INF/GEOHOT.SF
inflating: META-INF/GEOHOT.RSA
inflating: res/layout/mainlayout.xml
inflating: AndroidManifest.xml
extracting: resources.arsc
extracting: res/drawable-xxhdpi/icon.png
inflating: classes.dex
inflating: lib/armeabi/libexploit.so
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ unzip towelroot.apk -d newVirus_unzipped
Archive:  towelroot.apk
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/META-INF/MANIFEST.MF
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/META-INF/GEOHOT.SF
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/META-INF/GEOHOT.RSA
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/res/layout/mainlayout.xml
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/AndroidManifest.xml
  extracting: newVirus_unzipped/resources.arsc
  extracting: newVirus_unzipped/res/drawable-xxhdpi/icon.png
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/classes.dex
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/lib/armeabi/libexploit.so
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd newVirus_unzipped
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$ ls -l
total 28
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1836 jun 20  2014 AndroidManifest.xml
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 5532 jun 20  2014 classes.dex
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 lib
drwxrwxr-x 2 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 META-INF
drwxrwxr-x 4 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 res
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1480 jun 20  2014 resources.arsc
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$
```

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped
File Edit Tabs Help
Archive: towelroot.apk
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/META-INF/MANIFEST.MF
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/META-INF/GE0H0T.SF
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/META-INF/GE0H0T.RSA
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/res/layout/mainlayout.xml
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/AndroidManifest.xml
  extracting: newVirus_unzipped/resources.arsc
  extracting: newVirus_unzipped/res/drawable-xxhdpi/icon.png
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/classes.dex
  inflating: newVirus_unzipped/lib/armeabi/libexploit.so
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd newVirus_unzipped
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$ ls -l
total 28
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1836 jun 20  2014 AndroidManifest.xml
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 5532 jun 20  2014 classes.dex
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 lib
drwxrwxr-x 2 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 META-INF
drwxrwxr-x 4 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 res
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1480 jun 20  2014 resources.arsc
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$ ll
total 36
drwxrwxr-x 5 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 ./
drwxr-xr-x 6 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:36 ../
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1836 jun 20  2014 AndroidManifest.xml
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 5532 jun 20  2014 classes.dex
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 lib/
drwxrwxr-x 2 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 META-INF/
drwxrwxr-x 4 santoku santoku 4096 dic  4 12:38 res/
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1480 jun 20  2014 resources.arsc
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$
```

We try to decompile the file using apk tool

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/towelroot
File Edit Tabs Help
I: Baksmaling...
I: Loading resource table...
I: Loaded.
I: Decoding AndroidManifest.xml with resources...
I: Loading resource table from file: /home/santoku/apktool/framework/1.apk
I: Loaded.
I: Regular manifest package...
I: Decoding file-resources...
I: Decoding values */* XMLs...
I: Done.
I: Copying assets and libs...
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ ls
AndroidManifest.xml
classes.dex
-f
f4c9715b4dbcfa893ee439699c81a933912759a20822fc6a5352d494d2afe2bd
Infected_unzipped
lib
META-INF
newVirus_unzipped
res
resources.arsc
towelroot
towelroot.apk
VirusShare_94c6aa0cd3718b784b3b2540e60fbdf2.zip
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ ls
AndroidManifest.xml  apktool.yml  lib  res  smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ vim AndroidManifest.xml
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$
```

Using vim command, we try to open the Android manifest.xml file which shows the permission the malware used.



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/towelroot". The window contains the following XML code for an AndroidManifest.xml file:

```
?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<manifest android:versionCode="1" android:versionName="1.0" package="com.geohot.towelroot"
  xmlns:android="http://schemas.android.com/apk/res/android">
  <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.INTERNET" />
  <uses-permission android:name="android.permission.KILL_BACKGROUND_PROCESSES" />
  <application android:label="@string/app_name" android:icon="@drawable/icon" android:debuggabl
e="false">
    <activity android:label="@string/app_name" android:name=".TowelRoot">
      <intent-filter>
        <action android:name="android.intent.action.MAIN" />
        <category android:name="android.intent.category.LAUNCHER" />
      </intent-filter>
    </activity>
  </application>
</manifest>
```

At the bottom of the terminal, a status bar indicates the file is "AndroidManifest.xml" with "[noeol] 14L, 782C". The bottom of the screen shows a taskbar with various icons and the time "15:48".

We can see inside the smali which is assembly language code which may contain several files

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot
File Edit Tabs Help
Infected_unzipped
lib
META-INF
newVirus_unzipped
res
resources.arsc
towelroot
towelroot.apk
VirusShare_94c6aa0cd3718b784b3b2540e60fbdf2.zip
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ ls
AndroidManifest.xml  apktool.yml  lib  res  smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ vim AndroidManifest.xml
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ vim AndroidManifest.xml
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ cd smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali$ ls -l
total 4
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic  5 15:41 com
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali$ cd com
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com$ ls -l
total 4
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic  5 15:41 geohot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com$ cd geohot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot$ ls
towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot$ cd towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ ls
BuildConfig.smali  R$drawable.smali  R$layout.smali  R$string.smali
R$attr.smali       R$id.smali        R.smali         TowelRoot.smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$
```

All the file inside smali files seems to contain empty files

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot
File Edit Tabs Help
total 4
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic  5 15:41 geohot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com$ cd geohot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot$ ls
towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot$ cd towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ ls
BuildConfig.smali  R$drawable.smali  R$layout.smali  R$string.smali
R$attr.smali       R$id.smali        R.smali         TowelRoot.smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd BuildConfig.smali
bash: cd: BuildConfig.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R$drawable.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R$layout.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R$string.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ R$attr.smali
R.smali: command not found
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R$sttr.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R$id.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd R.smali
bash: cd: R.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$ cd TowelRoot.smali
bash: cd: TowelRoot.smali: Not a directory
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/smali/com/geohot/towelroot$
```


Now We can check the resource folder under the decompiled apk file which may tell what the application is intended to do

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values
File Edit Tabs Help
total 13940
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1836 jun 20 2014 AndroidManifest.xml
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 5532 jun 20 2014 classes.dex
drwxrwxr-x 5 santoku santoku 4096 dic 4 13:17 -f
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 7343494 oct 3 10:33 f4c9715b4dbcfa893ee439699c81a933912759a20822fc6a5352d494d2afe2bd
drwxrwxr-x 2 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:37 Infected_unzipped
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic 4 12:36 lib
drwxrwxr-x 2 santoku santoku 4096 dic 4 12:36 META-INF
drwxrwxr-x 5 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 newVirus_unzipped
drwxrwxr-x 4 santoku santoku 4096 dic 4 12:36 res
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 1480 jun 20 2014 resources.arsc
drwxrwxr-x 5 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:52 towelroot
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 105059 dic 4 12:12 towelroot.apk
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 6774805 dic 5 10:43 VirusShare_94c6aa0cd3718b784b3b2540e60fbdf2.zip
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ ls -l
total 20
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 782 dic 5 15:41 AndroidManifest.xml
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 231 dic 5 15:41 apktool.yml
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 lib
drwxrwxr-x 5 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 res
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ cd res
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res$ ls
drawable-xxhdpi layout values
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res$ cd values
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values$ ls
ids.xml public.xml strings.xml
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values$
```

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values". The terminal shows the following content:

```
?xml version="1.0" encoding="utf-8"?>
<resources>
    <string name="app_name">towelroot</string>
    <string name="starting">"Click the button to root"
```

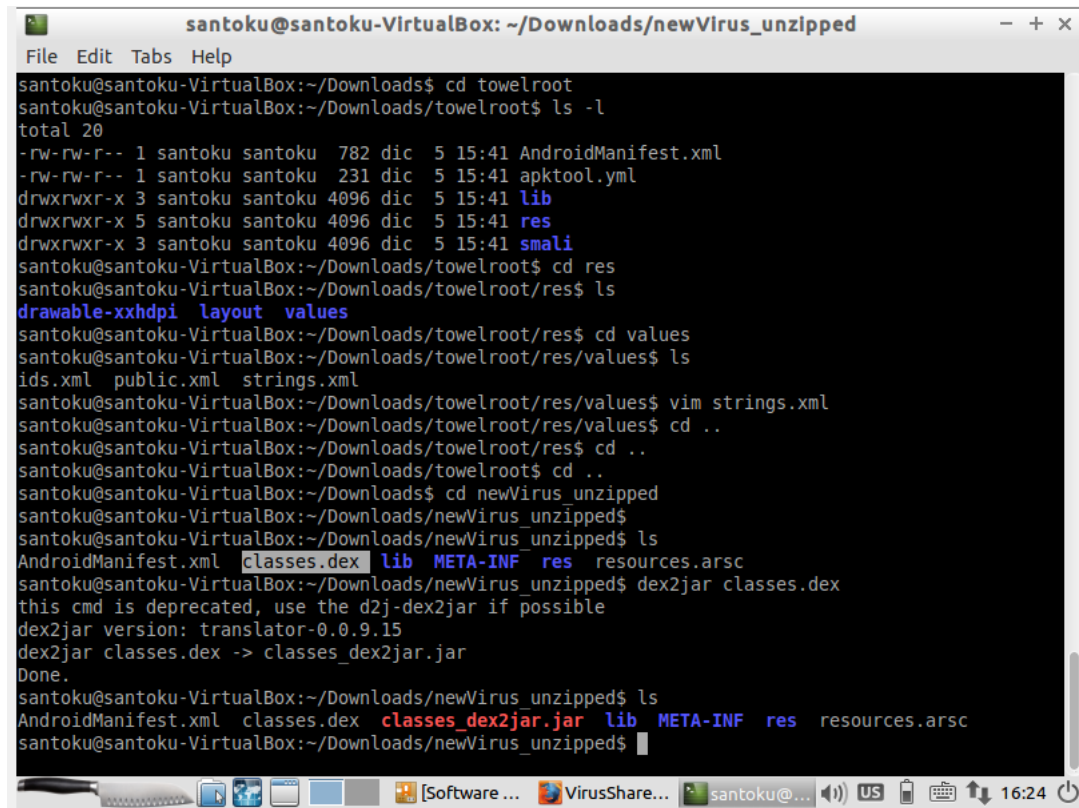

Below the XML code, there are several lines of output or log messages:
No more reboot required

Phone version is sent to server
To improve device support"

```
</resources>
```


The bottom status bar of the terminal displays "`strings.xml`" 9L, 258C" on the left, "1,1" in the center, and "All" on the right. The overall interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, Tabs, Help) and a taskbar at the very bottom with various application icons.

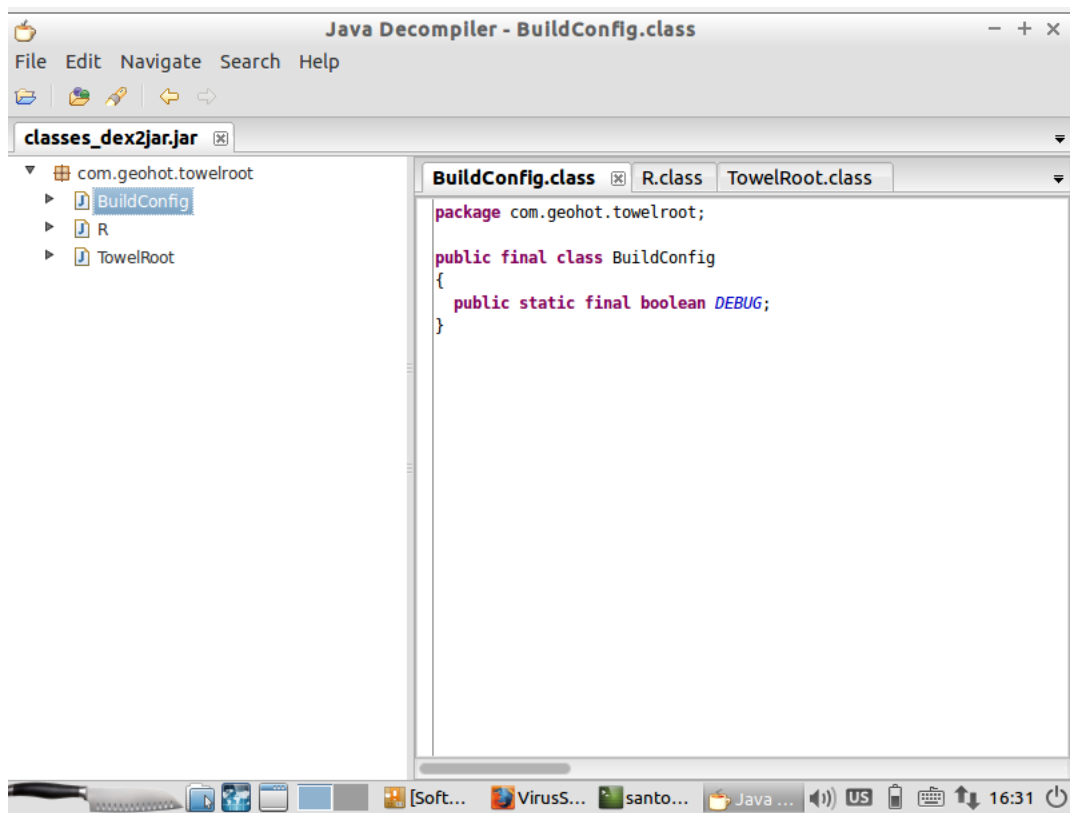
Now we can convert the classes.dex file to jar in the original unzipped file in the malware, which allow us to access the source file. (using JD-GUI inside Santoku)

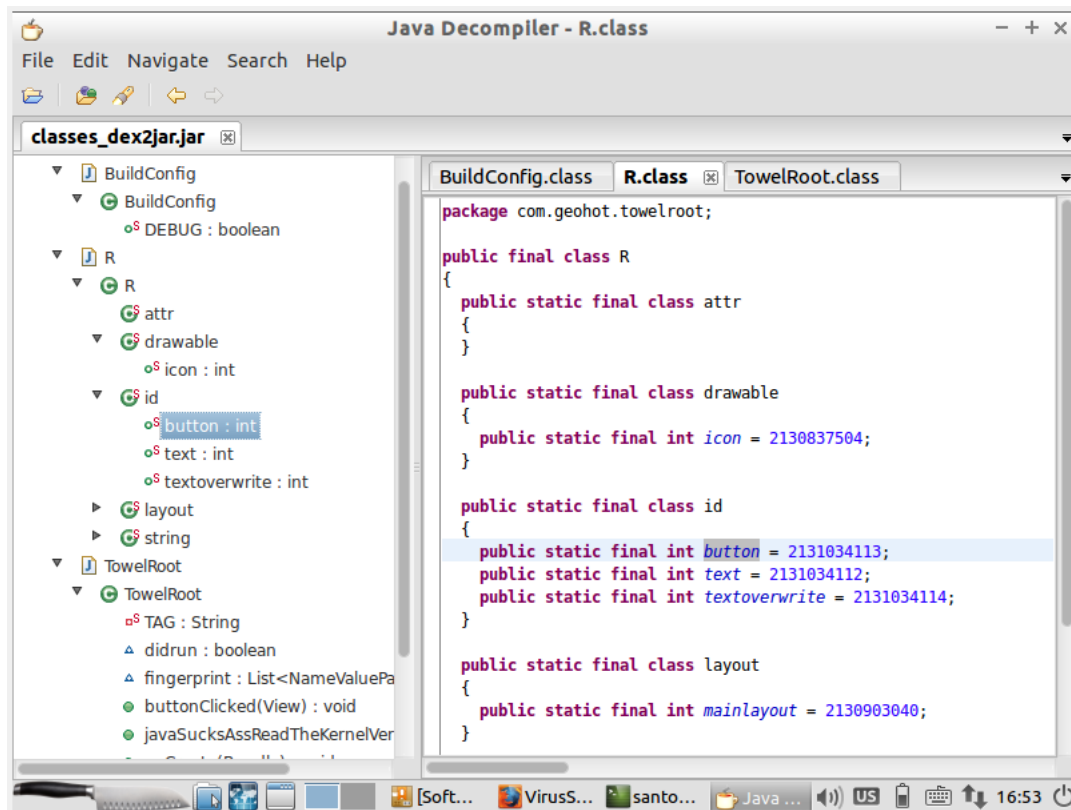


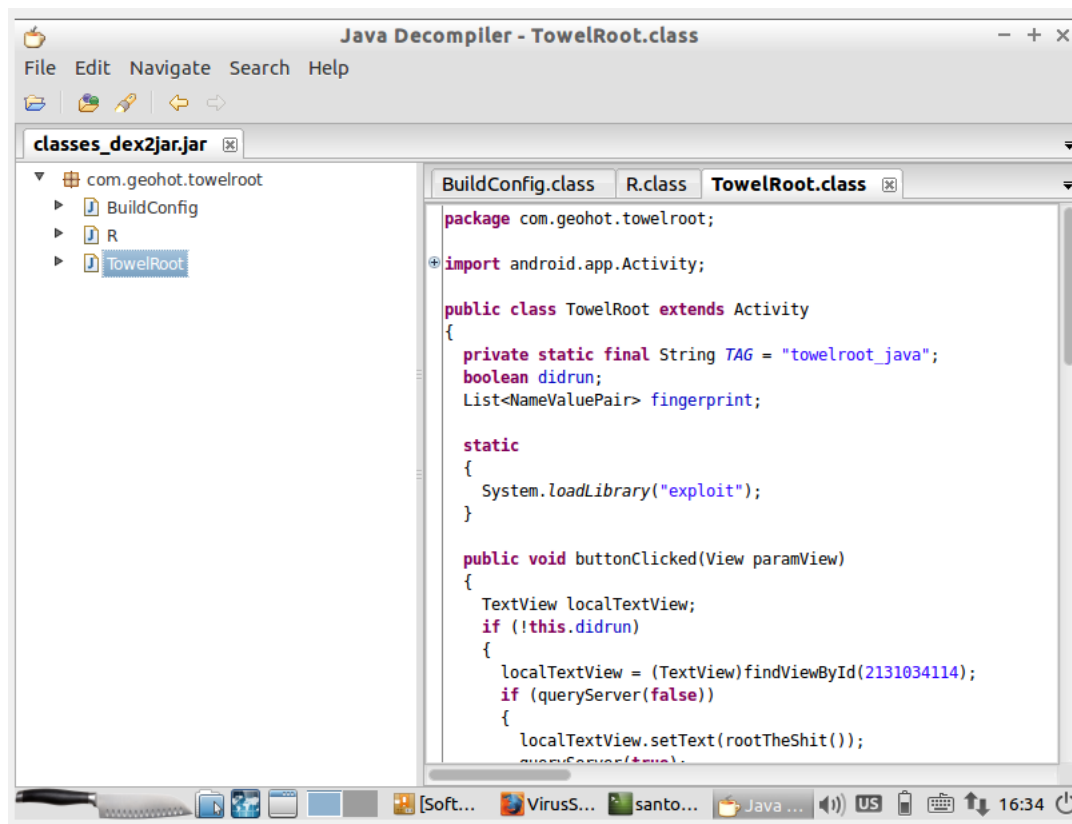
The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "santoku@santoku-VirtualBox: ~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped". The terminal displays a series of commands and their outputs, showing the navigation through the file structure of a malware sample and the conversion of a DEX file to a JAR file.

```
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd towelroot
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ ls -l
total 20
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 782 dic 5 15:41 AndroidManifest.xml
-rw-rw-r-- 1 santoku santoku 231 dic 5 15:41 apktool.yml
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 lib
drwxrwxr-x 5 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 res
drwxrwxr-x 3 santoku santoku 4096 dic 5 15:41 smali
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ cd res
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res$ ls
drawable-xxhdpi layout values
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res$ cd values
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values$ ls
ids.xml public.xml strings.xml
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values$ vim strings.xml
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res/values$ cd ..
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot/res$ cd ..
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/towelroot$ cd ..
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads$ cd newVirus_unzipped
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$ ls
AndroidManifest.xml classes.dex lib META-INF res resources.arsc
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$ dex2jar classes.dex
this cmd is deprecated, use the d2j-dex2jar if possible
dex2jar version: translator-0.0.9.15
dex2jar classes.dex -> classes_dex2jar.jar
Done.
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$ ls
AndroidManifest.xml classes.dex classes_dex2jar.jar lib META-INF res resources.arsc
santoku@santoku-VirtualBox:~/Downloads/newVirus_unzipped$
```

The jar file we created contains lots of random classes and sub classes







The programmer is using localTextView method which is used to perform sensitive operation and data processing on the server side.

Also, We see List and keys on the source code which are part of Hash function , here programmer is trying to interfere the hash function to collide the hash bins.

Clientprotocol is being used which represents the client network and allows to communicate with with SQL server.

Conclusion :

This Application looks suspicious