

Natnael Gesiab Yohannes

Software Engineer | Web & API Security | Penetration Tester

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🐙 github.com/Natnael-crypto

Professional Experience

2023 – 2024 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Software Engineer & Security Consultant (Freelance Contractor) As a freelance , I've spent the last two years designing, developing, and securing web, mobile, and API applications for diverse clients. My work involved implementing robust security features from the ground up, conducting thorough code reviews to identify and remediate vulnerabilities, and integrating secure development practices into the Software Development Life Cycle (SDLC). I also developed automated tools for testing and validation, ensuring the reliability and security of deployed systems.
2024 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Security Engineer Intern <i>Development Bank of Ethiopia</i> As a Security Engineer Intern at the Development Bank of Ethiopia (Feb-May 2024), I monitored and analyzed security incidents, performed incident triage, and responded to threats by analyzing logs and network traffic. I conducted penetration testing on internal web applications, identified vulnerabilities, and recommended mitigation strategies. Additionally, I assisted in firewall configuration reviews and developed automated scripts for reconnaissance and threat detection, contributing to the bank's cybersecurity resilience.

Education

2021 – 2025 Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering and Computing Technology Cybersecurity Stream <i>Addis Ababa University</i>
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Skills

DevSecOps

- Secure Coding
- Threat Modeling
- Docker
- CI/CD Security
- AWS

Penetration Testing

- Web & API Security
- Network Security

Database

- MySQL, PostgreSQL

Programming

- Go, Python, Node.js, JavaScript, TypeScript
- Flutter and react native
- Bash, Powershell

Certificates

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| • Certified Cybersecurity – ISC2, 2025 | • API Penetration Testing – API University, 2025 |
| • Red Hat System Administration I – Red Hat, 2024 | • Penetration Testing and Ethical Hacking – Issuing Organization, 2024 |
| • CCSK v4.1 Foundation Training – Cloud Security Alliance (CSA), 2024 | • Security Operations Center in Practice – IBM, 2025 |

Projects

Penetration Testing of AAU Web Applications

- Conducted a comprehensive security assessment on Addis Ababa University's (AAU) web applications, discovering critical vulnerabilities including authentication bypass and outdated services that lead to RCE and privilege escalation.
- Collaborated with the university's IT team to mitigate risks and improve security protocols.

Securing Enterprise-Level Web Applications Using Web Application Firewalls (WAF)

- Integrated the WAF with the organization's existing infrastructure for seamless protection without performance degradation

AI-Powered Web Application Firewall

- Designed and developed an intelligent, AI-driven Web Application Firewall (WAF) to detect and mitigate advanced web-based threats in real-time.
- Implemented machine learning algorithms for anomaly detection and signature-less threat identification, significantly improving protection against zero-day exploits.
- Integrated the WAF with existing infrastructure, ensuring seamless protection without performance degradation and achieving high accuracy in blocking malicious traffic.