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#### Introduction

My name is Edwin Mwangi Gachoka, and I am a highly motivated and results-oriented fourth-year student pursuing a Bachelor of Business Information Technology (BBIT) at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKTUT). Born and raised in Molo Town, Nakuru County, on April 3rd, 2001, I have always been fascinated by the intersection of technology and business. My upbringing in a vibrant town instilled in me a strong work ethic and a desire to contribute meaningfully to the ever-evolving technological landscape.

Driven by my passion for technology and its potential to revolutionize various aspects of life, I embarked on my academic journey with a focus on information technology. Throughout my studies, I have developed a strong foundation in core BBIT subjects, including computer programming, database management systems, networking, and information systems analysis and design. I am proficient in various programming languages such as Java and Python and possess a sound understanding of database management systems like Firebase and MySQL. Additionally, my coursework has equipped me with the skills to design, develop, and implement effective information systems solutions.

Beyond technical know-how, my academic experience has fostered my critical thinking, problem-solving, and analytical abilities. I am adept at approaching challenges with a methodical approach, analyzing complex situations, and devising innovative solutions. Furthermore, my studies have honed my communication and

interpersonal skills, allowing me to collaborate effectively with diverse teams and articulate technical concepts to both technical and non-technical audiences. During my time at DeKUT, I have actively sought opportunities to apply my theoretical knowledge to practical settings. I have participated in various hackathons and tech conventions, which have provided me with valuable hands-on experience in time management, public speaking and project management. These experiences have not only solidified my understanding of BBIT concepts but also fostered my teamwork and project management skills.

Looking ahead, I am eager to leverage my academic background and practical experience to embark on a rewarding career in the field of information technology. I am particularly interested in networking and cybersecurity, where I can utilize my skills to develop and implement cutting-edge technological solutions that drive business growth and efficiency. My academic journey at DeKUT has equipped me with the necessary knowledge, skills, and experiences to thrive in the ever-evolving world of information technology. I am confident that my skills and dedication will make me a valuable asset to any organization, and I am eager to contribute my expertise to the technological advancements shaping the future.

## **Early Years**

Nestled amidst the vibrant landscapes of Molo Town, Nakuru County, I, Edwin Mwangi, entered the world on a bright April day in 2001. Molo, with its vibrant streets and eager populace, offered a playground brimming with sights, sounds, and endless possibilities for a curious child.

The world was a kaleidoscope of colors waiting to be explored. The fiery orange glow of sunsets, the emerald green hills stretching towards the horizon, and the cerulean blue sky dotted with fluffy white clouds – everything was a source of wonder. Every sound – the chirping of birds, the rustling of leaves in the wind, the pitter-patter of rain on the roof – was a symphony to my young ears.

My tiny hands reached out to touch everything – the smooth pebbles by the riverbank, the soft fur of our pet dog, the prickly texture of cactus leaves. Smells were equally fascinating – the sweet aroma of freshly baked bread wafting from the bakery, the earthy scent of rain-soaked soil, the faint fragrance of blooming flowers.

Taste buds were no less adventurous. From the sweet delight of ripe mangoes plucked straight from the tree to the tangy surprise of a stolen lemon wedge, everything was an experiment waiting to happen.

Every day was an adventure. My world wasn't confined to toys – anything could be transformed into something magical. A pile of sticks became a majestic castle, a blanket draped over chairs became a cozy cave, and a collection of pebbles became a treasure trove waiting to be unearthed.

Building was a passion. Blocks of all shapes and sizes were meticulously arranged to create towering structures that defied gravity (at least for a while!). Cardboard boxes became spaceships, wagons, or even a secret hideaway. Imagination knew no bounds. The joy of creation extended beyond tangible objects. Humming along to nursery rhymes, babbling nonsensical songs, and even experimenting with banging pots and pans – all were attempts to express myself creatively.

Curiosity was a constant companion. Why was the sky blue? Where did the butterflies go at night? How did the birds fly so high? Every question was an invitation to explore, to learn, and to understand the world around me.

Perhaps, amidst these early experiences, a seed of fascination with technology was unknowingly planted. The intricate mechanisms that made things work, the ability to create new things, and the endless possibilities for communication – these might one day blossom into a passion for the field of information technology.

While my early years weren't dominated by sophisticated gadgets, there were some early encounters with technology that sparked a growing interest.

One of my earliest memories involves a bulky, cassette-shaped music player. The magic of pressing a button and filling the room with music was captivating. The sight of the tape rewinding and fast-forwarding with its mesmerizing whirring sound fueled my curiosity about how it all worked.

As I grew older, a fascination with buttons and switches emerged. The satisfaction of turning on a light with a simple flick or the thrill of making a toy car zoom with a press of a button ignited a love for cause-and-effect relationships.

The arrival of a basic phone at home was a major event. The excitement of dialing numbers and hearing a voice on the other end was like stepping into a future filled with possibilities. The tiny screen displaying pixelated images sparked an early interest in visual communication.

Even the simplest technological wonders held a certain allure. A discarded calculator became a source of endless fascination. Pressing the colorful buttons and watching numbers appear on the screen felt like a secret code waiting to be deciphered.

These early encounters weren't just about the gadgets themselves; they were about the potential they represented. The ability to connect, create, and explore the world in new ways – these were the seeds that would later blossom into a passion for the vast and ever-evolving field of information technology.

While my childhood experiences may not have directly involved programming languages or complex computer systems, they laid the foundation for my future pursuits.

The insatiable curiosity, the love for creation and exploration, and the fascination with cause-and-effect relationships – these all translated beautifully into the world of technology.

The urge to understand how things work, the desire to build and create new things, and the yearning to connect with the world in innovative ways – these very same childhood desires now fuel my passion for BBIT.

Looking back, the path that led me to DeKUT seems almost preordained. The early spark of curiosity has evolved into a dedicated pursuit of knowledge, and the simple joy of pressing buttons has transformed into a desire to delve into the intricate workings of information systems.

### Family Background

My story begins not just with my birth on April 3rd, 2001, in Molo Town, Nakuru County, but with the love and support of the family that nurtured me. Growing up, my family was the foundation upon which everything else was built. Their values, encouragement, and unwavering belief in me have shaped who I am today, a fourth-year BBIT student at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology.

At the heart of my family are my parents, Stephen Gachoka and Margaret Wanjiru. Margaret, with her kind and gentle nature, instilled in me the importance of empathy and compassion. Her support is a testament to her unwavering love and belief in me. My father, Stephen, with his tough and no-nonsense personality, always encouraged me to strive for greatness. His tough lovetaught me the importance of perseverance.

Together, they created a home filled with love, which provided the perfect environment for me to thrive.

My family extends beyond my parents. I have two siblings, Simon Kibera and Mercy Gachoka, who have been my companions, confidantes, and sometimes even friendly competitors throughout my life. Our familial bond has provided me with a lifelong source of support and laughter.

Beyond my immediate family, a wider circle of aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents have all played a role in shaping my life. Their supportive presence at family gatherings and celebrations filled my childhood with warmth and a sense of belonging.

My family has instilled in me a strong set of values that continue to guide me. These include perseverance, patience and humility. These values have become the compass that directs my decisions and motivates me to strive for excellence in all that I do. The influence of my family extends far beyond the values they instilled. Each member has, in their own way, served as a source of inspiration for me.

My mother's teaching carrer has always motivated me to push my own boundaries and strive for my goals. My father's list of accomplishments has shown me the importance of dedication and hard work.

My siblings, with their do or die attitude, have inspired me to be a better person and to embrace challenges with a positive attitude. The stories and experiences of my extended family have broadened my perspective and instilled in me a sense of appreciation for the richness of life.

Looking back, I am incredibly grateful for the family that has shaped me. Their love, support, and guidance have been the driving force behind my academic achievements, including my current pursuit of a BBIT degree at DeKUT.

As I embark on this exciting journey in the field of information technology, I carry with me the values and lessons learned from my family. They are the wind beneath

my wings, propelling me forward and reminding me that with hard work and dedication, anything is possible.

My family background isn't a singular story, but rather a vibrant tapestry woven from diverse experiences. While many families follow a traditional mold, mine possesses a certain uniqueness that has enriched my life in countless ways.

My family is a beautiful blend of Kikuyu and Embu cultures. My mother comes from a vibrant Embubackground, where storytelling and community are deeply valued. My father, on the other hand, hails from a rich Kikuyu heritage, where celebrating festivals with elaborate decorations and delicious food is a cherished tradition. This combination has exposed me to a rich tapestry of traditions, languages (Kiswahili, English, and Kikuyu), and customs.

Not everyone in my family followed a conventional path. My aunt, instead of pursuing a traditional office job, decided to become a wildlife conservationist. Witnessing her dedication to protecting endangered animals in the Kenyan wilderness has been a constant source of inspiration for me. Her unconventional path has taught me the importance of following one's passion, no matter how different it may seem.

Our family has certainly faced its share of challenges. A few years ago, a drought severely impacted our farm, a significant source of income for the family. However, we came together, pooling resources and sharing the workload. This experience taught me the true meaning of resilience and the importance of supporting one another. Witnessing my family's strength and unity during difficult times has instilled in me a sense of perseverance and a deep appreciation for the power of family bonds.

The diverse tapestry of my family background has taught me the importance of embracing different perspectives and celebrating individuality. It has shown me that families come in all shapes and sizes, and that love and support are the cornerstones of a strong family unit. Growing up amidst this vibrant blend has made me a more open-minded and adaptable person, qualities that will undoubtedly serve me well in my studies and future career in the ever-evolving field of information technology.

#### **Education**

My educational journey began in the vibrant town of Molo, Nakuru County. Molo Academy Primary School provided the initial building blocks for my academic foundation. Stepping into a classroom filled with curious faces and eager minds ignited a passion for learning that continues to this day.

The dedicated teachers at Molo Academy Primary School nurtured a love for learning in their students. Engaging lessons, interactive activities, and a supportive environment fostered my curiosity and a thirst for knowledge. From mastering the intricacies of reading and writing to exploring the wonders of mathematics and science, each day brought a new opportunity to learn and grow.

Beyond core academics, primary school introduced me to the world of creativity and self-expression. Participating in school plays, art competitions, and inter-school debates helped me develop my communication skills, teamwork abilities, and confidence in public speaking. These early experiences instilled in me the importance of thinking critically, expressing myself clearly, and collaborating effectively – all skills that would prove invaluable in my future endeavors.

Molo Academy Boys' High School marked a significant step in my educational journey. Here, the curriculum delved deeper into various subjects, challenging me to critically analyze information, think creatively, and solve complex problems. Dedicated teachers provided guidance and mentorship, pushing me to reach my full potential.

During my high school years, a particular interest in technology began to take root. Whether it was dissecting the workings of a simple calculator or unraveling the mysteries of basic computer programs, I found myself captivated by the world of information technology. Enthusiastic computer science teachers further fueled this passion, providing opportunities to explore programming languages and delve into the fascinating realm of technology.

Molo Academy Boys' High School wasn't just about academics. I actively participated in extracurricular activities such as the science club and the debate team. These experiences broadened my horizons, allowed me to connect with like-minded individuals, and further honed my communication and leadership skills.

By the time I graduated from high school, my passion for technology had solidified. I knew I wanted to pursue a career in this ever-evolving field, a path that led me to the esteemed doors of Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT).

Preparing for the Future

DeKUT has provided a stimulating and challenging academic environment that has nurtured my intellectual growth and equipped me with the necessary skills to excel in the field of information technology. The BBIT program, with its comprehensive curriculum and dedicated faculty, has exposed me to a wide range of subjects, including:

Computer Programming Languages: I have gained proficiency in various programming languages such as Java and Python, allowing me to translate ideas into functional code.

Database Management Systems: I have learned the intricacies of designing, developing, and managing databases, which are the backbone of many information systems.

Networking: My understanding of network design and administration has equipped me with the knowledge to build and maintain efficient communication channels. Information Systems Analysis and Design: I have developed the skills to analyze user needs, design effective information systems, and ensure their successful implementation.

Beyond technical expertise, DeKUT has fostered my critical thinking, problemsolving, and analytical abilities. Through group projects, presentations, and challenging coursework, I have learned to approach problems from different perspectives, develop innovative solutions, and effectively communicate my ideas.

My journey at DeKTUT is nearing its completion, and I am filled with a sense of accomplishment and excitement for the future. The knowledge and skills I have gained have prepared me to tackle real-world challenges in the ever-evolving field of information technology.

While academics form the core of my educational journey, DeKUT has provided opportunities to expand my learning beyond the confines of the classroom. Participating in various initiatives and activities has further enriched my educational experience:

Internships and Projects: I actively sought internship opportunities to gain practical experience in the field. Working on real-world projects allowed me to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations, develop essential collaboration skills, and gain valuable insights into the professional world of information technology.

Guest Lectures and Workshops: DeKUT frequently invites industry professionals to deliver guest lectures and conduct workshops. These sessions provided me with invaluable exposure to cutting-edge technologies, industry trends, and the evolving landscape of information technology. Interacting with experts provided me with a deeper understanding of the field and the skills required for success.

Hackathons and Competitions: Participating in hackathons and coding competitions has been an exhilarating way to push my boundaries, hone my problem-solving skills, and collaborate with like-minded individuals. Working under time pressure to develop innovative solutions has been a rewarding experience, fostering resilience, creativity, and adaptability, all crucial skills in the fast-paced world of technology.

### Leadership and Mentorship:

Beyond honing my technical skills, DeKUT provided opportunities to develop my leadership potential. I actively participated in Red Cross and held leadership positions such as Secretary. These experiences instilled in me the importance of teamwork, effective communication, and motivating others.

Additionally, I have volunteered as a peer mentor for junior students in the BBIT program. Sharing my knowledge and experiences has been incredibly rewarding. Seeing others benefit from my guidance has strengthened my communication skills and solidified my understanding of the subjects.

The pursuit of knowledge in information technology is a lifelong endeavor. The field is constantly evolving, with new technologies emerging at an unprecedented pace. I am committed to continuous learning and staying abreast of the latest trends and advancements. This dedication will allow me to adapt to changing environments,

explore new possibilities, and contribute meaningfully to the ever-evolving landscape of information technology.

My educational journey, from the foundation laid at Molo Academy to the enriching experience at DeKUT, has instilled in me a lifelong love of learning and a passion for technology. The knowledge, skills, and experiences I have gained have equipped me to thrive in the dynamic world of information technology. As I embark on my professional journey, I am confident that my dedication, adaptability, and unwavering pursuit of learning will enable me to make a positive impact on the world through the power of technology.

#### **Personal Development**

My journey at DeKUT has been more than just acquiring technical knowledge; it has been a period of significant personal development. Here's how my experiences have shaped who I am today:

My early fascination with technology has blossomed into a deep-seated confidence in my abilities. As I've tackled challenging coursework, participated in hackathons, and delved into complex projects, I've developed a sense of self-assurance in my problem-solving skills and technical expertise. This newfound confidence allows me to approach new challenges with a positive attitude and a willingness to learn.

Group projects, internships, and participation in student organizations have highlighted the importance of collaboration. Working effectively with diverse teams has honed my communication skills, fostered empathy for different perspectives, and enabled me to leverage the strengths of others to achieve common goals. These experiences have instilled in me the value of teamwork and collaboration, crucial aspects of success in any professional environment.

Taking on leadership roles in student organizations and mentoring junior students has allowed me to develop my leadership skills. Motivating others, fostering a positive team environment, and delegating tasks effectively are valuable lessons learned through these experiences. Additionally, taking initiative in projects and internships

has further cultivated my ability to identify problems, propose solutions, and take ownership of my work.

The ever-evolving nature of technology demands a high degree of adaptability. My internship at Nanyuki Teaching Referral Hospital as an IT Administration Intern exposed me to a dynamic environment where new challenges arose daily. Learning to adapt to changing situations, troubleshoot problems on the fly, and think creatively were essential skills honed during this experience. Furthermore, facing academic hurdles and overcoming setbacks throughout my studies have fostered resilience, a crucial quality for navigating the uncertainties of the professional world.

Balancing academic studies, extracurricular activities, and personal commitments has instilled in me strong time management and prioritization skills. Learning to utilize my time effectively, manage deadlines efficiently, and juggle various tasks simultaneously has been a valuable skill developed during my years at DeKUT.

My personal development extends beyond technical expertise. Here are some crucial soft skills I've cultivated during my academic journey:

Communication: Participating in presentations, hackathons, and group projects has honed my communication skills. I can now articulate complex technical concepts in a clear, concise, and engaging manner, catering my communication style to the audience.

Critical Thinking: The BBIT program, along with participation in hackathons and problem-solving activities, has fostered my critical thinking abilities. I can now analyze situations effectively, identify underlying causes, and develop innovative solutions to complex problems.

Problem-Solving: Through coursework, hackathons, and internship experiences, I have developed a systematic approach to problem-solving. This involves gathering information, analyzing the situation, brainstorming potential solutions, and implementing the most effective course of action.

Self-Motivation: The pursuit of a BBIT degree requires a high degree of self-motivation. I have learned to set ambitious goals, manage my time effectively, and persevere through challenges to achieve my desired outcomes.

Lifelong Learning: The dynamic nature of technology demands a commitment to continuous learning. I am now an avid learner, constantly seeking new information, attending workshops, and exploring emerging technologies to remain at the forefront of the field.

My internship at Nanyuki Teaching Referral Hospital as an IT Administration Intern provided a valuable platform to not only gain practical experience in IT support but also to showcase the transferable skills I'd developed throughout my academic journey.

Adaptability in Action: Stepping into a hospital environment presented a unique set of challenges. Medical technology systems often differ from those used in traditional office settings. My ability to adapt quickly, learn new systems on the fly, and think creatively proved invaluable in tackling these challenges. For instance, troubleshooting a malfunctioning patient monitoring system required me to collaborate with medical staff to understand the issue, research the specific equipment, and ultimately find a solution that restored functionality with minimal disruption to patient care.

Communication Across Boundaries: Effectively communicating with a diverse range of stakeholders, including doctors, nurses, and IT support staff, was crucial for successful problem resolution. I learned to tailor my communication style and technical explanations to suit the audience's level of understanding, ensuring everyone was informed and involved in the process.

Teamwork in a Healthcare Setting: Hospital IT support often involves collaborating with various departments to ensure smooth operation. I learned to work effectively within a team environment, understanding the importance of clear communication, shared goals, and mutual respect. For instance, collaborating with the network security team to implement new access control measures for patient records required a collaborative approach, ensuring both technological security and user-friendliness. Time Management under Pressure: The fast-paced hospital environment demanded efficient time management. Prioritizing tasks, meeting deadlines, and multitasking effectively were essential skills put to the test. Balancing urgent issues like system outages with ongoing maintenance tasks honed my ability to prioritize effectively and work efficiently under pressure.

The internship experience at Nanyuki Teaching Referral Hospital provided a bridge between theoretical knowledge and practical application. It allowed me to not only showcase the technical skills gained through my BBIT studies but also demonstrate the transferable skills honed through my academic journey. This internship solidified my passion for IT support while highlighting the critical role technology plays in the healthcare sector, a field I find fascinating.

## **Career and Professional Journey**

As I stand on the cusp of graduation from DeKUT with a BBIT degree in hand, my gaze is firmly set on the exciting world of information technology (IT). My academic journey, fueled by a lifelong curiosity about technology, has equipped me with the knowledge, skills, and experiences necessary to embark on a fulfilling career path. My fascination with technology began in the heart of Molo Town, Nakuru County. From tinkering with simple gadgets to marveling at the magic of basic computer programs, the world of technology captivated me. This early spark ignited a passion that has only intensified throughout my education.

My primary and secondary education at Molo Academy Primary School and Molo Academy Boys' High School laid the foundation for my academic pursuits. Beyond core academics, these institutions fostered my problem-solving skills, critical thinking abilities, and a love for continuous learning – all qualities essential for success in the ever-evolving field of IT.

DeKUT has been the catalyst for my transformation from a curious student to a well-equipped IT professional. The BBIT program has provided me with a comprehensive understanding of various IT domains, including:

Computer Programming Languages: My proficiency in languages like Java and Python allows me to translate ideas into functional code, a key skill for developing innovative IT solutions.

Database Management Systems: I have mastered the intricacies of designing, developing, and managing databases, the backbone of many information systems. Networking: My understanding of network design and administration equips me to build and maintain efficient communication channels, crucial for any organization's operations.

Information Systems Analysis and Design: I can now analyze user needs, design effective information systems, and ensure their successful implementation, bridging the gap between business needs and technological solutions.

DeKTUT has fostered not only my technical skills but also my ability to think critically, solve problems creatively, and communicate effectively. Through group projects, presentations, and challenging coursework, I have learned to approach problems from different perspectives, develop innovative solutions, and effectively communicate my ideas – all essential skills for navigating the dynamic world of IT.

The vast and ever-evolving landscape of IT presents a multitude of exciting career paths. My internship as an IT Administration Intern at Nanyuki Teaching Referral Hospital ignited a particular interest in the intersection of technology and healthcare. Witnessing firsthand the critical role IT plays in patient care and hospital operations has left a lasting impression.

However, my interests extend beyond healthcare IT. I am also intrigued by the potential of cybersecurity, software development. The prospect of developing cutting-edge solutions in these areas is highly motivating.

As I embark on my professional journey, my initial goal is to secure a position as a Junior Network Administrator or IT Support Specialist. This will allow me to gain valuable hands-on experience in a professional setting, apply my theoretical knowledge to real-world problems, and refine my technical skillset.

### My long-term vision is to become a

IT Project Manager or Network Security Architect. This path will allow me to leverage my technical expertise, leadership skills, and problem-solving abilities to lead and manage complex IT projects, contribute to the development of innovative solutions, and ultimately make a positive impact on the organization I work for.

The ever-changing nature of IT demands a commitment to lifelong learning. I am dedicated to staying abreast of the latest trends, technologies, and industry best practices. I will actively seek out professional development opportunities, attend workshops and conferences, and continuously expand my knowledge base. This

dedication to continuous learning will ensure I remain relevant and valuable throughout my career.

valuable transferable skills:

Page 3: Highlighting Transferable Skills and Internship Experience
While technical expertise is crucial in IT, transferable skills are equally important for success in the professional world. My internship at Nanyuki Teaching Referral
Hospital and my academic journey at DeKTUT have equipped me with the following

Communication: Participating in presentations, group projects, and collaborating with diverse stakeholders during my internship honed my communication skills. I can now articulate complex technical concepts in a clear, concise, and engaging manner, adapting my style to different audiences.

Problem-Solving: Through coursework, hackathons, and real-world challenges faced during the internship, I developed a systematic approach to problem-solving. This involves gathering information, analyzing the situation, brainstorming potential solutions, and implementing the most effective course of action.

Teamwork: Successfully navigating the fast-paced hospital environment and collaborating with various departments during my internship emphasized the importance of teamwork. I understand the value of clear communication, shared goals, and mutual respect in achieving common objectives.

Time Management and Prioritization: Balancing academic deadlines, internship responsibilities, and personal commitments instilled strong time management and prioritization skills in me. I can efficiently manage my schedule, meet deadlines, and handle multiple tasks simultaneously, crucial for success in any professional setting. Adaptability: The internship exposed me to a dynamic environment where new challenges arose daily. Learning to adapt to changing situations, troubleshoot problems on the fly, and think creatively is a valuable skill I possess.

The internship at Nanyuki Teaching Referral Hospital wasn't just about gaining practical experience; it was an opportunity to showcase the value I can bring to an organization. My ability to:

Apply theoretical knowledge to real-world situations: I effectively applied the knowledge gained through my BBIT program to troubleshoot technical issues faced by the hospital staff.

Collaborate effectively with diverse teams: I successfully collaborated with medical staff, IT support personnel, and network security teams to resolve complex problems. Communicate technical concepts clearly to non-technical audiences: I explained technical issues and proposed solutions in a way that was easily understood by hospital staff with varying levels of technical expertise.

This internship experience provided tangible evidence of my ability to not only grasp complex technical concepts but also translate them into practical solutions within a professional setting.

My academic journey and internship experience have instilled in me the knowledge, skills, and confidence to embark on a rewarding career in IT. I am eager to contribute my expertise, adaptability, and unwavering pursuit of learning to a dynamic organization. With a strong foundation, a commitment to excellence, and a passion for technology, I am confident in my ability to make a positive impact on the future of information technology.

### **Achievements and Challenges**

My journey at DeKUT has been marked by a series of academic and personal achievements that have shaped me into a well-rounded IT professional. Here, I'd like to highlight some key milestones that demonstrate my dedication, problem-solving skills, and commitment to excellence.

#### Academic Excellence:

Maintaining a Strong GPA: Throughout my BBIT program, I have consistently maintained a strong GPA, which reflects my dedication to academic achievement. This demonstrates my ability to grasp complex concepts, manage my workload effectively, and excel in a challenging academic environment.

Oracle Certified Associate, Java SE 8 Programmer (OCAA) Certification: My commitment to continuous learning is evident in my achievement of the Oracle Certified Associate, Java SE 8 Programmer (OCAA) certification. This industry-recognized credential validates my proficiency in Java programming, a highly sought-after skill in the IT industry.

Cisco Networking Course Certificate: To further enhance my technical skillset, I actively pursued and successfully completed a Cisco networking course. This certificate demonstrates my understanding of networking principles and protocols, which are essential for building and maintaining efficient IT infrastructure.

# Tech Hackathon Participation and Success:

My passion for technology extends beyond the classroom. I actively participated in several tech hackathons throughout my academic journey. These events provided valuable platforms to:

Apply theoretical knowledge to real-world challenges: Hackathons presented opportunities to apply the knowledge and skills learned in class to develop innovative solutions for time-bound problems.

Develop problem-solving and teamwork skills: Working collaboratively within diverse teams under pressure fostered my problem-solving abilities and honed my teamwork skills.

Think creatively and outside the box: The fast-paced nature of hackathons encouraged creative thinking and the ability to develop innovative solutions to complex problems.

My academic journey hasn't been without its challenges. Here's how I've navigated these hurdles and emerged stronger:

Overcoming Time Management Challenges: Balancing a demanding academic workload with extracurricular activities and personal commitments was initially challenging. However, I developed effective time management strategies, learned to prioritize tasks efficiently, and utilized resources like study groups to manage my time effectively.

Grasping Complex Technological Concepts: Certain IT concepts proved to be more challenging than others. Instead of being discouraged, I sought help from professors, teaching assistants, and peers. Utilizing various learning resources, attending office hours, and forming study groups helped me overcome these hurdles and gain a deeper understanding of complex subjects.

Adapting to a New Learning Environment: Transitioning from traditional classroom learning to a more project-based and collaborative BBIT program required some adjustment. By actively participating in group projects, taking initiative in discussions,

and embracing new learning methods, I successfully adapted to the dynamic learning environment.

These challenges have not only tested my perseverance but also equipped me with valuable life lessons. I have learned the importance of:

Time management: Effective time management skills are crucial for success in any academic or professional setting.

Seeking help: Asking for help when needed is a sign of strength, not weakness. Utilizing available resources can significantly enhance understanding and problem-solving abilities.

Adaptability: The ability to adapt to changing situations and embrace new learning methods is essential for navigating the ever-evolving landscape of technology.

#### Reflections and Future Goals

As I stand on the precipice of graduation from DeKUT, it's natural to reflect on the journey that has brought me here. My time at this esteemed institution has been a period of immense growth – not just academically, but also personally. Here's a look back on the experiences that have shaped who I am today.

The BBIT program at DeKUT has equipped me with a comprehensive understanding of various IT domains. From mastering the intricacies of programming languages to comprehending complex networking concepts, I have gained a strong foundation in the theoretical and practical aspects of information technology. Furthermore, the program's emphasis on critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication has honed these essential skills, making me a well-rounded IT professional.

My academic journey wasn't confined to textbooks and lectures. Actively participating in hackathons, pursuing industry certifications, and taking on internship opportunities exposed me to real-world challenges and allowed me to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations. These experiences not only enhanced my technical skillset but also fostered my adaptability, creativity, and ability to work effectively within diverse teams.

The path to academic success wasn't always smooth. Grasping complex concepts, managing time constraints, and adapting to a new learning environment presented challenges. However, these hurdles didn't deter me. Through perseverance, seeking help from professors and peers, and refining my learning strategies, I overcame these obstacles and emerged stronger, with a newfound appreciation for perseverance and resilience.

The guidance and support I received from faculty members at DeKTUT played a pivotal role in my success. Professors' dedication to knowledge sharing, their willingness to go the extra mile, and their belief in my potential instilled confidence and a love for continuous learning. Additionally, collaborating with peers in group projects, hackathons, and study groups fostered teamwork skills, open communication, and the ability to learn from diverse perspectives.

# Goals and Aspirations

As I embark on my professional journey, my goals are clear. In the immediate future, I aspire to secure a position as a Junior Network Administrator. This will allow me to gain valuable hands-on experience in a professional setting, refine my technical skills, and contribute meaningfully to an organization.

My long-term vision is to become a Network Security Architect. This career path aligns with my passion for technology, leadership potential, and problem-solving abilities. By continuously honing my technical expertise, acquiring industry certifications, and developing strong leadership skills, I aim to take on challenging projects, lead talented teams, and contribute to the innovation and advancement of the IT field.

The ever-evolving nature of technology demands a lifelong commitment to learning. I am dedicated to staying abreast of the latest trends, emerging technologies, and industry best practices. I will actively seek out professional development opportunities, attend workshops and conferences, and continuously expand my knowledge base through online resources and self-directed learning.

As I progress in my career, I aspire to give back to the community by sharing my knowledge and experience. Volunteering my time to mentor aspiring IT professionals, participating in knowledge-sharing workshops, or even contributing to open-source

projects are ways I envision giving back to the field that has given me so much.

# Conclusion

My journey at DeKUT has been transformative. It has equipped me with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to thrive in the dynamic world of IT. With a clear vision, unwavering determination, and a commitment to continuous learning, I am confident that I can make a positive impact on the future of technology. As I step into the professional world, I am eager to learn, collaborate, and contribute my expertise to a forward-thinking organization.