

## **Experience connecting 20 people on LinkedIn**

Connecting with 20 professionals on LinkedIn turned out to be an invaluable learning experience for me. The task focused on building my network by reaching out to HR professionals and key individuals in companies where I was interested in exploring job opportunities. Initially, I attempted to connect directly with people at various companies, but the response rate was lower than I expected. This led me to refine my strategy. I began by searching for job listings on platforms like Indeed and then verifying the companies through a quick Google search to ensure they were legitimate. After that, I located these companies on LinkedIn and identified HR professionals or developers in senior roles. I sent them connection requests, accompanied by a thoughtful and personalised message.

In my messages, I introduced myself as Anfas Muhammed, expressing a genuine interest in their company and a desire to connect and learn more. To my surprise, several people responded positively, leading to meaningful conversations that provided valuable insights. Even when some simply accepted my connection request without further interaction, it was still a win for me, as it helped expand my professional network. In a few cases, individuals even offered to refer me if any job openings became available in their companies, which was an unexpected but welcome outcome.

This experience taught me the importance of a well-thought-out approach when reaching out to professionals. It wasn't just about adding numbers to my connections list; it was about making meaningful connections that could potentially lead to opportunities. This exercise has significantly improved my networking skills, and I'm now more confident in reaching out to professionals in my field.