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title: "Meet the Maintainer: Hussaina Begum"

subtitle: "An interview series with Layer5 Maintainers"

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author: Vivek Vishal

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import img from "./hussaina-begum-layer5-maintainer.png";

import { MeetTheMaintainer } from "./MeetTheMaintainer.style.js";

import { Link } from "gatsby";

import ForkLift from "../../../../assets/images/app/hero/forklift.svg";

<BlogWrapper>

<MeetTheMaintainer>

<div class="intro"><p>Continuing in our Meet the Maintainer series, we have Hussaina Begum. Hussaina is a…

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

Hussaina, thank you for joining me today. Many people inside and outside of the Layer5 Community have seen the effects of your contributions, but may not know the backstory as to who Hussaina is and how you arrived at your maintainer role. Indulge us. How did you discover the Layer5 community? What made you stay?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"I wanted to contribute to Open source for a long time and finally made up my mind to get into the world of Open Source during Hacktoberfest 2020. Meshery was one of the projects I contributed to and it had a well defined structure and meetings for everyone - Newcomers call, Developers call, Websites(FrontEnd development) call, CI/CD call and community call, etc. Also, the meshmate program where the existing Meshery maintainers help the newest members to get started. Meshery project aligned with my networking background and my goal towards backend development using golang. Last but not the least, bad jokes from Lee during the development call."

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>You’re a Meshery Maintainer and have been for some long time now. What does being a Meshery maintainer mean to you?</p></div>

<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Lots of learning. Though I started out small in Meshery with a documentation PR, Meshery community had so much knowledge to share. With their support, I could start on mesheryctl UX improvements. I have seen many bright engineers implementing great features in Meshery. I draw inspiration from them and try to pay it forward by helping new members of the community."

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

<Link to="/projects">Layer5 projects</Link> has a number of active, open source projects. You’ve been consistently contributing to a few of them. Which one(s) are you currently focusing on?

<i>Psst.</i> Also, which one’s your favorite? I won’t tell.

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"I have contributed to mesheryctl, meshkit and meshery.io projects so far, It's hard to pick one."

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

What’s the coolest Meshery demo you have done/seen?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Meshed playground demo is awesome. I also remember the mesheyctl system perf CLI demo I have done on the Meshey office hours from one of the Kubecon events. Kudos to all the contributors of mesheyctl system per command development and refactors."

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

What do you anticipate will be Meshery’s biggest announcement this year?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Meshey project moving to Incubating status🙂"

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

What is your favorite Meshery CLI command?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

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"mesheryctl system start"

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

What is your hot tip for working with Meshery that others may not know?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Use slack effectively and leverage discuss forum, talk to Meshmates and maintainers, they are all ears to the issues you face while starting out. "

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

What are some personal goals for the next year with respect to the Meshery and the Layer5 community?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Work on the long pending system config CLI improvements and contribute to other Meshey projects"

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span><p>

Interesting. Do expand on that: What do you think Meshery could offer in addition to what it already does?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Labs designed in a way that they work with local resources."

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span>

<p>

Your most often used emoji? Your preference: movie or book? Morning person or night owl? What have you worked on in the past six months that you’re particularly proud of?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"eyes emoji. My preference is a book compared to a movie. I am a Night Owl w.r.t. work, however, I use my early mornings for my fitness goals. I have not been active lately, however removing dependency on CLIs in `mesheryctl system config` would be something I would consider a good milestone item for me."

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Vivek: The cloud native ecosystem moves quickly. Keeping up with all the developments can be challenging. How do you stay up-to-date?

<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"I like listening to kubernetes podcasts and I follow the internal slack channels for upstream activities at VMware. Also, attending the local KCD events helped me understand the latest developments across various k8s projects. Being a program committee member has given me good understanding of developments across a specific technology area, let it be security and identity area or the world of service meshes"

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<div class="interviewer">

<span>Vivek:</span><p> Do you have any advice for individuals hopeful to become Layer5 contributors or potentially maintainers?

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<div class="interviewee">

<span>Hussaina:</span>

<p>

"Show up and attend the meetings which align with your expertise and areas you would like to learn or contribute to. Make use of the Meshmates and Meshery slack and discuss forums are pretty active and everyone is eager to help."

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<div class="note"><img src={ForkLift} height="100px" /><p>The Meshery project moves at an impressive pace thanks to maintainers like Hussaina. Be like Hussaina. Join the <a href="https://slack.layer5.io">Layer5 Slack</a> and say “hi”.

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</MeetTheMaintainer>

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