



MINHAJ SHAMEER AHAMED

PENETRATION TESTER & CYBER SECURITY ANALYST

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Penetration Tester & Security Analyst with hands-on experience in Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT), Web and Network Security, and Threat Analysis. Skilled in tools such as Metasploit, Burp Suite, Nmap, and Wireshark, and proficient in Python and Bash scripting. CEH v13 trained with practical exposure through labs, internships, and real-world cybersecurity projects. Developed MetaWarden, a metadata detection and privacy risk analysis tool, as part of a BSc (Hons) Cyber Security degree completed with First-Class Honours, demonstrating strong capabilities in secure application development, forensic analysis, and privacy risk assessment. Experienced in conducting assessments aligned with the OWASP Top 10, Active Directory, and OS-level exploits. Strong in documentation, reporting, and analytical skills, with a continuous drive to advance both offensive and defensive cybersecurity expertise.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Penetration Testing Intern - RedTeam Hacker Academy Dubai, UAE

Jun 2025 - Present

- Conducted penetration testing on virtual lab environments to identify vulnerabilities and misconfigurations
- Developed structured checklists for vulnerability assessment and security testing procedures
- Documented technical findings, including CVEs, exploitation steps, and risk levels
- Generated detailed penetration test reports with remediation recommendations
- Gained hands-on experience with tools like Nmap, Burp Suite, Metasploit, and Wireshark

Freelance Penetration Tester – Self Employed United Arab Emirates

Apr 2025 - Present

- Perform penetration testing on networks, systems, and web applications using tools such as Metasploit, Nmap, Nessus, and Burp Suite.
- Identify and report critical vulnerabilities with detailed remediation guidance.
- Deliver security assessments and re-testing services for organizations, including a multi-branch educational group in Dubai and Ajman..

IT Help Desk – Step Conference Dubai, UAE

Feb 2025

- Provided technical support and troubleshooting for hardware, software, and network issues to conference attendees and staff.
- Ensured smooth operation of event technology, promptly addressing and resolving any technical difficulties.

Full Stack Web Development Intern – TCR Innovation Mumbai, India

Jun 2023 - Oct 2023

- Developed websites using HTML and CSS, ensuring responsive and user-friendly interfaces.
- Collaborated with team members on web development projects, contributing to design and functionality improvements.

SKILLS

- Offensive Security:** VAPT (Web, System, Network, Cloud)
- Defensive Security:** SIEM (QRadar, Splunk), Log Analysis, Secure Configuration, Hardening.
- Scripting & Languages:** Python, Bash, PowerShell (basic), SQL for automation and security tooling.
- Tools & Technologies:** Nmap, Burp Suite, Sqlmap, Metasploit, Nessus, Wireshark, Hydra, CrackMapExec, Mimikatz, PowerView, BloodHound, OpenVAS, John the Ripper, Dirb, Kali Linux.
- Security Frameworks & Standards:** Familiar with NIST CSF, NIST SP 800-30, ISO/IEC 27001.
- Soft Skills:** Analytical Thinking, Problem-Solving, Attention to Detail, Communication, Team Collaboration, Adaptability.

PROJECTS

MetaWarden: Metadata Detection & Privacy Risk Analysis Tool – Final Year Project – [GitHub](#)

- Developed a Python and Flask app to detect, analyze, and remove sensitive image metadata.
- Built a web interface with metadata extraction, privacy scoring (EXIF: GPS, device info, timestamps), and downloadable reports.
- Tested edge cases for robustness, achieving 97.14% detection accuracy.

DDoS Attack Simulation & Mitigation – [GitHub](#)

- Simulated DDoS attacks using hping3, LOIC, and Wireshark to study network behavior under stress.
- Analyzed packet-level traffic and tested mitigation strategies for effectiveness.
- Documented results and recommended optimal countermeasures to improve network security.

Hands-on Penetration Testing Lab (HackTheBox, [TryHackMe](#), VulHub, PortSwigger)

- Simulated real-world attacks across web, network, and system layers in a controlled lab.
- Web Pentesting: Identified SQLi, XSS, and RCE using Burp Suite and Sqlmap. Manually exploited session management flaws.
- Active Directory: Performed Kerberoasting, Pass-the-Hash, and lateral movement using BloodHound, Mimikatz, and PowerView.
- System Exploitation: Gained root/system access on misconfigured Linux/Windows hosts using Metasploit and manual privilege escalation.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) v13 – EC-Council (Trained)
- Advanced Penetration Tester (APT) – RedTeam Hacker Academy (In Progress)
- CompTIA Security+ (Upcoming)
- Introduction to Cybersecurity – [Cisco](#)
- Penetration Testing with Metasploit – [LinkedIn](#)
- Networking Basics – [Cisco](#)
- SOC Fundamentals – [LetsDefend](#)
- Penetration Testing Professional Certificate – [Cybrary](#)
- Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) – [LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science (Hons) Cyber Security Engineering
University of West London, RAK

Oct 2022 - Jul 2025

- Classification: First-Class Honours
- Final Year Project: MetaWarden – Metadata Detection & Removal using Flask
- Key Modules: Cybersecurity Principles, Web Security, Digital Forensics, Computer Networks, Applied Cryptography, Machine Learning, Cyber Threat Analysis

COURSES

Cybersecurity Training – EC-Council’s CEH v13 & Advanced Penetration Testing (APT)
RedTeam Hacker Academy

Jun 2025 - Oct 2025

- Training in Ethical Hacking, Red Team Operations, and Advanced Exploitation Techniques
- Hands-on labs covering Web, Network, Active Directory, and OS-level attacks using industry-standard tools (Metasploit, Burp Suite, Nmap, Nessus, etc.)

CompTIA Security+ (Planned)
INE & RedTeam Hacker Academy

Oct 2025 - Nov2025

- Comprehensive training on core security concepts, threat management, risk mitigation, and incident response
- Delivered through collaboration between INE and RedTeam Hackers Academy, with emphasis on both theoretical knowledge and practical application

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- **Languages:** English (Fluent), Malayalam (Native), Hindi (Basic), Tamil (Proficient), Arabic (Elementary).
- **Licenses:** LMV Driving License