MINHAJ SHAMEER AHAMED
PENETRATION TESTER & CYBER SECURITY ANALYST

Al Ain, Abu Dhabi, UAE

+971 55 530 9355 • mhjshmrahmd@gmail.com

Portfolio • LinkedIn • TryHackMe

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Penetration Tester and Security Analyst with hands-on experience in Vulnerability Assessment and Penetration Testing (VAPT), Web and Network Security, and Threat Analysis. Proficient with tools such as Metasploit, Burp Suite, Nmap, and Wireshark, and skilled in Python and Bash scripting. CEH v13 certification in progress, with practical exposure through labs, internships, and real-world projects. Developed MetaWarden, a metadata detection and privacy risk analysis tool, as part of my final year project for the BSc Cyber Security, which I completed with First-Class Honours, demonstrating expertise in secure application development and forensic analysis. Strong in documentation, reporting, and continuously advancing both offensive and defensive cybersecurity skills. Plans to pursue CompTIA Security+ post-CEH.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Penetration Testing Intern - RedTeam Hacker Academy
Dubai, UAE   Jun 2025 - Oct 2025
- 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 – Woodlem Education
Dubai & Ajman, UAE   Apr 2025 - Sep 2025
- Conducted penetration testing on networks, systems, and web apps using Metasploit, Nmap, Nessus, and Burp Suite.
- Identified XSS, SQLi, file upload, access control, and other common vulnerabilities and documented findings in reports.
- Proposed remediation plans to improve the overall security posture.

IT Help Desk – Step Conference 2025
Dubai, UAE   Feb 2025
- Conducted penetration testing on networks, systems, and web apps using Metasploit, Nmap, Nessus, and Burp Suite.
- Identified XSS, SQLi, file upload, access control, and other common vulnerabilities and documented findings in reports.
- Proposed remediation plans to improve the overall security posture.

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
- 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)
- 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 (In Progress)
- 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

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)   **Jun 2025 - Oct 2025**
RedTeam Hacker Academy

- 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)   **Oct 2025 - Nov2025**
INE & RedTeam Hacker Academy

- 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