

I believe on the saying ‘Dream is not that we see in sleep but that does not let us sleep’. I have a dream for my career, and the dream is to make a meaningful contribution to society through impactful research.

I am the eldest son of a leading rural family in Satkhira, Bangladesh. My only brother has been studying at a secondary level, and all of my sisters got married and settled down in my country. My father is a businessman who has a shop in the local market, and my beloved mother, a proud housewife who is now 50, has been living in our sweet home. My family has been an essential support for me since my childhood, and I want to maintain these bonds lifelong.

I completed my Secondary School Certificate (SSC) in 2010 from Moutala Secondary School, Satkhira. In 2012, I completed my Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC) from Khan Bahadur Ahsanullah College, Khulna. Ever since my early years, I have been captivated by the transformative power of technology. I have always been intrigued by how computers and software have revolutionized various industries and transformed the way we live and work. This fascination led me to pursue a Bachelor of Science in Engineering (B.Sc Engg.) degree in Information and Communication Technology from Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Bangladesh, where I gained a solid foundation in programming, algorithms, and machine learning. During my undergraduate studies, I maintained an excellent academic record, achieving an overall CGPA of 3.93 out of 4.00 by securing the 1st position in our department. I accomplished this by successfully completing 160 (156 theory and lab + 4 thesis) credits of coursework. The title of my B.Sc thesis was "Dependable Intrusion Detection System for IoT: A Deep Transfer Learning-Based Approach." However, the final examination of the last semester was scheduled for 2017, but due to a session jam at my university, the final examination was held in April-June 2019, and my B.Sc. degree was awarded on November 19, 2019. Also, I obtained my Master of Science in Engineering (M.Sc Engg.) degree by research in Information and Communication Technology from the same university. Achieving an outstanding overall CGPA of 4.00 out of 4.00, I consecutively secured the 1st position in our department. This accomplishment involved completing 36 credits of coursework, consisting of 18 credits in theory and 18 credits in research. The title of my M.Sc thesis was “A Privacy-Preserving and Dependable Identification Model of new Infections.” The final examination of the last semester was scheduled for 2019, but due to the COVID-19 pandemic situation, the final examination was held in May 2023. Consequently, my M.Sc. degree was officially conferred on July 15, 2023.

I have several years of work experience. After finishing my B.Sc coursework on August 29, 2019, I got an opportunity for three months (September 15 - December 14, 2019) to work as an IT Engineer Trainee at Fujitsu Research Institute, Tokyo, Japan, where I worked on several real-time machine-learning projects. Also, I led a small team and worked closely to support data scientists. This invaluable opportunity was fully funded by the Bangladesh Hi-Tech Park Authority and the ICT Division of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. After returning to my country on December 14, 2019, I prepared for my M.Sc admission and endeavored to commence my academic career. Fortunately, I got the opportunity to be admitted to the Masters

of Science in Engineering (M.Sc Engg.) program at Mawlana Bhashani Science and Technology University, Tangail, on March 1, 2020. I chose MBSTU as the education provider for my postgraduate studies as it is a globally reputed university. Simultaneously, I was appointed as a part-time Lecturer at the University of Information Technology and Sciences in Dhaka, serving from March 18, 2020, to January 10, 2023, until I completed my M.Sc thesis work. After completing my M.Sc thesis work, I joined as a full-time Lecturer at the University of Asia Pacific, a top-ranked private university in Bangladesh, on January 12, 2023 and I will be on study leave during my PhD at my university. I will rejoin the university after finishing my study and it will give me the next promotion in my workplace. In my country, a PhD research degree from a first-world country such as Australia is evaluated with a high rank. Therefore, this degree will allow me to grow my career rapidly here in my country.

I am highly involved in research, with a publication list of 7 journal articles and 2 international-level conference papers with around 182 citations in Google Scholar so far. I have published articles in top-ranked journals, including IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics (Q1), IEEE Access (Q1), MDPI Sensors (Q1), Biology Methods and Protocols (Q1), Electronics (Q2), Silicon (Q2), etc. I want to move forward with the research activities. It gives me immense pleasure, passion, and a realization as well when I go over the research area of my interest. So, it was very obvious that eventually I would go for higher studies; therefore, I decided to pursue a PhD degree as the next step of my career path.

There is no mentionable gap between my most recent study and my potential PhD enrollment. However, there is a small gap of around 15 days in my resume after my postgraduate completion to the lodgement of my QUT PhD application. I completed my M.Sc on July 15, 2023, and applied to QUT for my potential PhD application on July 30, 2023.

Australia is one of the most desired countries for international students compared with other English-speaking nations. Universities there promise to offer a global standard of education, which is reflected in the recent world rankings made by QS and Time Higher Education. Besides that, the Australian Government has taken several awe-inspiring measures to attract overseas students, for example, introducing modern technologies in the academic yard, offering full funding for higher degrees by research degrees, and so on. Australian universities have been able to ensure a truly multicultural environment with an immensely diverse and student-friendly academic environment. Moreover, the degrees awarded by them are widely accepted and usually honored by different globally reputed employers. It has a nearby position in Asia, the most developing continent of the world, which is also not very far from my home country. In addition, living and education expenses are also not that untenable compared with other developed countries. I have come to know that people from there are friendly and affable with the international community. The impact of recent research made by different Australian universities as well as the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) is attractive and widely recognized among the research community. The Australian government has been able to drop the

unemployment rate to a minimum, which is noteworthy and inspiring for those who intend to study and work abroad to settle down. The weather in different Australian cities is pretty hygienic, especially in Brisbane, which is one of the most livable cities in the world. All I have heard is that they have the least record of social and political unrest, unlike the Middle East and even the United States.

Though the tuition fees and living costs for higher studies are comparatively cheaper in my home country, it is generally admitted by academicians that the quality of higher education is not as standard as it should be. It has achieved economic strength during the last decades and has taken initiatives to introduce technologies in its academies, but still, there has been a huge need for quality research and the required laboratory appliances and student amenities. In some cases, technical devices cannot be properly operated due to a lack of skilled personnel and good governance. In addition, still, higher study such as PhD opportunity is limited to a few students. Bangladesh, in comparison to Australia, has achieved few education standards, especially in contributing and effective higher education. There is no single university from Bangladesh that ranks among the top 500, whereas many Australian universities rank among the top 200 universities as per the world ranking.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT) is one of the best universities in the world with high rankings (179th in the world per QS World University Rankings, 2023). QUT is located in the heart of Brisbane, the world's most livable cosmopolitan city. It is a lively, multicultural institute with several amazing landmarks and distinguishing sights situated in different parts of the world. Being one of Australia's largest universities, QUT continually promises to make a difference in both local and international communities, providing research and training for their professional and hands-on approach to the globally reputed impact research work. Also, QUT is well known for its highly potential scholarly faculties. The support staff and services are very helpful for international students. The support I have gotten so far from my supervisor and the international student services is very appreciable. These are the reasons I have always wanted to pursue my PhD degree from QUT, and now I am very excited that the university has given me the opportunity to make my dream come true.

QUT has been taking the lead in making significant research with high impact through facilitating extensive scholarship opportunities that bring in an impressive international student success rate. QUT has confirmed my offer of enrollment with the required tuition fees, living costs, and health insurance coverage to do my PhD research. I have an excellent academic background and research experience. As I mentioned above, I have also industrial experience at Fujitsu Research Institute, Japan, in the same field. Therefore, the potential field of my PhD research overlaps the field of my interest and previous research experiences. I hope the program I have been intending to start will be one of the most important factors in my future career.

After completing my PhD, I will have to come back and resume my higher study leave that has been offered by the university in my home country. The profession I am in has a provision for upgrading positions if one has a research degree. In that case, there will be a satisfactory hike in salary and remuneration as well. I want to

dedicate myself to sharing my knowledge among the apprentices who wish to enlighten the world with the effective application of computer science. I believe promoting the capacity to receive new things is as important as developing the depth of a particular skill. So, to survive and sustain, it is important to get equipped with the proper application. I hope my ability to grab new things quickly will keep me more updated to cope with next-generation technology.

As I mentioned, I would love to come back home and join in the same position where I have been serving. I might be expecting the standard salary after completing my PhD at QUT. I have come to know that it varies from city to city. For Dhaka, the average salary I would like to presume could be figured as around BDT 36,50,000.00 per year, which is equivalent to AUD \$50,250.00 per annum. The salary I withdraw currently is around BDT 8,40,000.00 per year, which equals AUD \$11,565.00 per year only. The amount I have drawn in my country in BDT is not that negligible but rather seems to be a handsome amount to live a normal lifestyle. This degree will allow me to grow my career rapidly here in my country, and there will be a satisfactory hike in salary and remuneration to live a standard lifestyle here eventually with savings for the future.

I traveled to India from March 14 to March 19, 2019, for a final-year group study tour from my university. Also, I worked as an IT Engineer Trainee at the Fujitsu Research Institute in Japan from September 15 to December 14, 2019. It was a fully-funded opportunity by the Bangladesh Govt. These experiences have not only contributed to my academic and professional development but also broadened my cultural perspectives. During both trips, I ensured strict compliance with all visa conditions and adhered to the applicable regulations, departing each country within the specified time frame. I have not applied for an Australian visa previously, and there is no history of visa refusals from any country in the world.

My intention to study in Australia is sincere, and I am committed to returning to Bangladesh to contribute my skills and knowledge to my country.

Thank you.