



Mukhlas Ghafoor

Penetration Tester & Security Researcher

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Summary

Certified Penetration Tester (eCPPTv2, CPENT) with 5 years securing Punjab Police IT assets. Expert in vulnerability assessment, exploit development, and incident response. Ranked top 1% on TryHackMe and holder of multiple ECCouncil and Cisco certifications. Passionate about hardening critical systems and building secure automation tools.

Education

University of The People

BS in Computer Science • 4.0

2026

- Key Coursework: Systems & Applications Security, Advanced Networking & Data Security, Operating Systems I & II, Communications and Networking, Computer Architecture, and Database Systems.
- Core Focus: Operating system internals, network protocols, system security architecture, software engineering principles, and database management.
- Academic Excellence: Maintained a 4.0 GPA while balancing degree completion with technical IT experience and industry certifications.

Experience

Punjab Police

Rawalpindi

Systems Administrator & Security Engineer

April 2021 - Present

- Administered hardware and software for 130+ workstations/servers, achieving 99.9% uptime.
- Managed 250+ surveillance cameras and 12 NVRs, cutting unauthorized access incidents by 30%.
- Found 7 highseverity HRMIS vulnerabilities, reducing exploit risk by 40% within 3 months.

Circular Byte

Rawalpindi

Android Developer

May 2019 - March 2021

- Developed and tested Android applications while conducting internal security assessments to identify and remediate vulnerabilities, ensuring a secure software development lifecycle (SDLC).
- Conducted API security testing with Burp Suite and Postman, fixing 8 highrisk issues and improving data encryption.
- Audited Android code for insecure storage and intent handling, applying hardening techniques that reduced exploit surface by 25%.

Projects

TryHackMe & Hack The Box (Offensive Security Labs)

Active

- Ranked in the top 1% of TryHackMe globally and a highly active member of Hack The Box. - Solved complex virtual labs and CTF challenges covering Active Directory exploitation, privilege escalation, web application hacking, and network pivoting.

[TryHackMe Profile](#)

Lokiboad-mod (Advanced Android Keylogger)

- Engineered an advanced Android keylogger modification (Lokiboad-mod) to analyze mobile input method framework vulnerabilities, keystroke logging mechanics, and payload persistence.

Ping Smuggler

Engineered a Python ICMP tunneling tool that transmitted 10 GB of encrypted data without triggering IDS alerts, reducing covert channel detection time by 40%.

[GitHub](#)

dnsSmuggler

- Engineered a Python clientserver utility demonstrating DNSbased data chunking and transmission mechanisms to analyze network monitoring, protocol behavior, and covert channel detection.

[GitHub](#)

Skills

Offensive Security & Penetration Testing

Penetration Testing (eCPPTv2/CPENT), Red Teaming, Exploit Development, Web Application Security, Burp Suite, Vulnerability Assessment & Management

Digital Forensics & Incident Response

Digital Forensics (CHFI), Computer Forensics, Cyber Operations (CyberOps), Security Operations (SecOps), NIST Cybersecurity Framework

Network & Infrastructure Security

Active Directory Security, Network Security (CCNA), Firewalls, Domain Name System (DNS), IPv4 Routing & Subnetting, Wireshark / Packet Analysis

Software Development & Scripting

Python (for Pentesters), PowerShell & Bash Scripting, C (Programming Language), Java & Kotlin, Android Framework (Malware Analysis), Git Version Control

Systems Administration & Core Operations

Technical Report Writing, Systems Administration (Windows/Linux), Troubleshooting & Helpdesk Support, Project Management

Certifications

Certified Penetration Testing Professional (CPENT) EC-Council	2025
Computer Hacking Forensic Investigator(CHFI) EC-Council	2025
Certified Professional Penetration Tester (eCPPTv2) INE Security	2024
Google IT Automation with Python Coursera	2024
CompTIA Linux+ CompTIA	2024
Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) Cisco	2024
Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH) Master EC-Council	2024
Google IT Support Coursera	2024

Awards

OffSec The Gauntlet: Echo Response CTF OffSec	2024
Finished 66th globally in the high-intensity Echo Response CTF.	