

YOUSIF ABDULWAHAB AL-HAFIDH

Cybersecurity Specialist | Full-Stack Developer | AI Engineer

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Cybersecurity and Cloud Computing student, founder/lead developer, and AI product engineer with experience building secure AI, web, and mobile systems. National first-place winner in both the Ministry of Interior National Cybersecurity CTF and the AIIEC AI Innovation Competition. Ranked in the Top 1% on TryHackMe and eJPT certified. Strong background in penetration testing, digital forensics, reverse engineering, secure backend architecture, RAG/LLM systems, and full-stack development using Next.js, React, Node.js, Python, PostgreSQL, Convex, Docker, and Linux.

HONORS & AWARDS

- 1st Place - National Cybersecurity Champion, Ministry of Interior National CTF, Iraq | 2025
- 1st Place - AI Innovation Award, 3rd Artificial Intelligence & Innovation Exhibition and Conference (AIIEC), Iraq | 2025
- 3rd Place Nationally, NSCE CTF | January 2026
- University Board of Honor / Distinguished Students Board, Northern Technical University | 2025 - Present
- 5th Place, Startup Weekend Mosul | 2026

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Cybersecurity: Penetration Testing; Vulnerability Assessment; Web, Mobile, and System Security; Digital Forensics; Reverse Engineering; Binary Exploitation; Threat Hunting; OWASP Top 10; SOC Analysis; Cryptography; HMAC Webhook Security; AES-256 Encryption; SOC 2 Controls.

Software Development: Next.js 14/15; React.js; React Native; Vue.js; Nuxt.js; Node.js; TypeScript; Python; C++; C; HTML/CSS; PostgreSQL; MySQL; Convex; Turborepo; npm.

AI, Cloud & DevOps: LLM Integration; OpenAI SDK; Gemini API; Groq; RAG; NLP; VAPI Voice AI; Docker; Linux Administration; Git; Playwright E2E.

Languages: Arabic (Native); English (Professional).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Lead DevSecOps Engineer | *Athar Company (formerly Oyaps Studio)* | Mosul, Iraq | June 2023 - Present

- Founded and lead a software engineering and cybersecurity studio delivering AI, web, and mobile solutions for local and regional clients.
- Manage technical planning, architecture, development, and delivery across client-facing projects, including secure web apps, mobile apps, and AI automation tools.
- Built and launched Nineveh Elite App, a 5-role educational institute platform for parents, students, instructors, teachers, and institution managers.
- Conduct security reviews, vulnerability assessments, and penetration testing before deployment to reduce exposure to OWASP Top 10 risks.
- Lead a small development team and coordinate requirements, milestones, client communication, and production releases.

Lead AI Architect & Security Engineer | *Sela AI Support SaaS* | Mosul / Remote | September 2025 - Present

- Architecting Sela, an AI customer support SaaS built as a Turborepo monorepo with web dashboards, admin panels, embed loaders, and Next.js widgets.
- Designed secure Convex backend routes with HMAC webhook validation, signed media URLs, and controlled access patterns.
- Built an AI agent policy and classification layer for intent mapping, threat detection, fallback handling, and dynamic model routing.
- Developed multilingual RAG workflows for Arabic and English using hybrid keyword/vector search, query expansion, conflict resolution, and caching.
- Integrated VAPI Voice AI for low-latency phone assistants and implemented AES-256 protection for sensitive agent and customer data.

Freelance Bug Bounty Researcher & Security Analyst | *Self-Employed* | Remote | January 2024 - Present

- Test web applications for SQL injection, XSS, CSRF, IDOR, broken access control, and other OWASP Top 10 vulnerabilities.
- Complete offensive security labs and CTF-style challenges across web exploitation, forensics, cryptography, and reverse engineering.
- Report vulnerabilities responsibly with clear reproduction steps, impact analysis, and remediation recommendations.

FEATURED PROJECTS

Sela - AI-Powered Support SaaS | *Next.js 15, Turborepo, VAPI, Convex, LLMs, AES-256*

- Developed a full-stack customer support platform with chat and voice agents, multilingual support, admin tooling, and secure media handling.
- Implemented RAG-based response retrieval and routing logic to improve factual grounding and support complex customer workflows.

AIOSH - AI-Powered Adaptive Learning Platform | *React, TypeScript, Groq, Gemini API, PostgreSQL*

- Designed a platform that generates courses, quizzes, and personalized learning paths based on user performance.
- Won 1st Place AI Innovation Award at AIIEC 2025 after national evaluation among 20 finalists.

Nineveh Elite App - 5-Role Educational Institute Portal | *React Native, Next.js, Node.js, PostgreSQL*

- Developed a 5-role portal for institute operations, academic workflows, communication, and role-based access control.
- Implemented token authentication and RBAC to protect student and administrative records.

University Admission Assistance AI | *NLP, AI Chatbot*

- Developed an AI chatbot that provides personalized university recommendations and tracks application deadlines.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Cybersecurity & Cloud Computing | *Northern Technical University | Mosul, Iraq | September 2023 - June 2027 (Expected)*

- Academic standing: High Honors / Top Tier of Class.
- Relevant coursework: Penetration Testing, Cloud Infrastructure, Advanced Cryptography, Network Forensics, Secure Software Development.

CERTIFICATIONS

eJPT (Junior Penetration Tester); CompTIA PenTest+; Jr Penetration Tester (TryHackMe); Pre Security & Web Fundamentals (TryHackMe).