

Mburu Karanja

Cybersecurity Specialist | Blue Team Junior Analyst | SOC | CTF Player

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Summary

I'm a highly detailed recent graduate with BSc Information Technology with a passion for both breaking and building secure computer systems. Demonstrated leadership in organizing cybersecurity workshops, CTFs, and awareness events. Skilled in reverse engineering, steganography, and digital forensics, with active participation in CTF competitions as part of team [Fr334aks-mini](#). Eager to apply technical skills and continue growing in a dynamic cybersecurity role.

Skills

Cybersecurity: Web & Mobile Security, Digital Forensics, Vulnerability Assessment, Penetration Testing, Incident Response, CTFs (Reversing, Forensics, Steganography)

Tools: Burp Suite, Metasploit, Nmap, Ghidra, Setoolkit

Tech: Python, JavaScript, React, Django, HTML/CSS, MySQL, SQLite

OS: Linux (Kali, Ubuntu), Windows, OpenEuler

Soft Skills: Communication, Leadership, Teamwork, Problem-Solving, Critical Thinking

Experience

Cyber Chief Circle – Founder & Community Lead

Feb 2025 – Present

Founded a cybersecurity community currently spanning 23 Kenyan campuses, connecting students through shared learning.

Organized inter-campus workshops, CTFs, and beginner-friendly meetups with 30–60 participants each.

Built a multi-campus presence in 3 months with early engagement.

Zetech University, Ruiru – Cybersecurity Student Lead & GDG Cybersecurity Lead

Apr 2024 – Present

Led weekly cybersecurity learning sessions simulating CTF challenges for all levels.

Organized a CTF competition with 130 participants across multiple categories.

Hosted 2 Hack Nights with 80-150 participants, promoting team-based learning.

Developed training resources and facilitated workshops, growing the GDGoC community by 42%.

Cyber Secured India – Cybersecurity Virtual Scholarship Intern

Sep 2024 – Nov 2024

Gained hands-on experience in web app, mobile security, and digital forensics.

Used Burp Suite, Metasploit, and Nmap to conduct vulnerability assessments and exploitation.

Education

Zetech University, Ruiru – Bachelor of Information Technology (Sep 2022 – 2025)

Training and Certifications

Microsoft ADC, Cybershujaa – Security Engineer (Apr - Jun 2025)

Power Learn Project, Nairobi – Software Engineering Certificate (Feb – Jul 2024)

- Certified Ethical Hacker – Cisco Academy
- Blue Team Junior Analyst – Security Blue Team
- Cybersecurity Fundamentals – IBM
- Cyber Threat Management – Cisco Academy

- SC-900 – Microsoft
- Student SOC Program Foundations – Microsoft
- Cybersecurity Bootcamp – Cyber Talents

Awards & Recognitions

Top 3 Finalist – Microsoft ADC CTF (2025)

2nd Place – WorldSkills Competition Kenya Cybersecurity Track (2024)

Projects

Scalable SIEM Architecture:

Designed and implemented a scalable SIEM solution using Wazuh, AWS, and Elasticsearch to enable real-time threat detection, log analysis, and cloud infrastructure monitoring. Focused on improving visibility, automating alerting, and enhancing incident response across cloud-based environments.

Two-Factor Authentication System (Flask + SQLite):

Developed a secure 2FA system using Flask, SQLite, bcrypt, and PyOTP. Users scan a QR code to enable TOTP-based verification with authenticator apps (Google Authenticator). Passwords are securely hashed, and 2FA is required to complete the login process.