NIKHIL BHANDARI

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Education

MIT World Peace University, Pune   **2022 - 2024**
- Branch: MCA | CGPA: **8.23**

IBSAR, Navi Mumbai   **2019 - 2022**
- Branch: BCA | CGPA: **9.04**

Experience

Internship at **Center for Cyber Security Studies & Research**   **July 2024 – October 2024**

- *Participated in a hands-on digital forensics boot camp, gaining practical experience with tools like FTK Imager and Registry Explorer.*

- *Conducted vulnerability assessments using OpenVAS, Nmap, and Nessus.*

- *Attended expert sessions on cybersecurity topics, including MITRE ATT&CK Framework, ISO 27001, and AI in cybersecurity.*

- *Explored social engineering tactics and IT/OT convergence for critical infrastructure protection.*

Skills

Hardware | Networking | Linux | Python | Web Application Pentesting | Application Security | Network Security | MySQL | Git |

Burpsuite | Nessus | Nmap | Metasploit | Acunetix |

Certifications

Certified Ethical Hacker CEHv12   **EC-Council**
Cisco Cyber Ops Associate   **CISCO**
Cloud Security   **Cloud Security Alliance**
Certified Cyber Security Analyst   **CyberWarefareLabs**

Projects

Pwnagotchi   **2024**
Developed an AI-powered Wi-Fi hacking tool designed to learn and optimize attacks over time using machine learning algorithms.

Key features:
- *Uses reinforcement learning to optimize and evolve Wi-Fi attack strategies, even offline.*
- *Displays status updates, attack statistics, and learning progress via an e-paper interface.*
- *Shares learning data to collectively enhance attack methods within the Pwnagotchi community.*

Home Lab   **2023**
Created a virtualized cybersecurity testing environment using Kali Linux and Windows 10 virtual machines.

Key features:
- *Configured Kali Linux and Windows 10 virtual machines for security testing and training purposes.*
- *Conducted penetration testing and vulnerability assessments in controlled environment.*
- *Improved practical skills in networking, Linux Administration, and ethical hacking techniques*

Academic and Extracurricular Achievements

Mastercard Cybersecurity virtual experience program on Forage - December 2024

- *Completed a job simulation where I served as an analyst on Mastercard's Security Awareness Team*
- *Helped identify and report security threats such as phishing*
- *Analyzed and identified which areas of the business needed more robust security training and implemented training courses and procedures for those teams*

University 4th rank Throughout Bachelors'