

AFSANA MUSTAFAZADA

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📍 Baku ,Azerbaijan

PROFILE

IT Team Lead and Research Engineer combining hands-on systems administration, network engineering and cybersecurity with applied AI research. Experienced with Linux/RHCSA, VMware/Proxmox, Docker, firewalls, access control and red-team/phishing analysis; proven in leading helpdesk and IT operations, mentoring teams, and building secure, resilient infrastructure.

Currently completing an M.Sc. in Artificial Intelligence and focused on applying AI-driven detection and behavioral analysis to strengthen operational security.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

RST GLOBAL BUSINESS & LOGISTICS CENTER, IT TEAM LEAD

Jan 19 ,2026 -present

Lead IT operations and support, supervising the helpdesk and a team of IT professionals to ensure reliable service delivery. Maintain and optimize network infrastructure, servers (VMware/Proxmox) and container platforms (Docker); administer firewalls and access control systems (Face ID, fingerprint). Drive incident response and business-continuity planning, enforce information-security policies, and manage hardware/software deployments. Mentor staff, streamline processes, and coordinate cross-department IT projects to improve system availability and user satisfaction.

INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND EDUCATION OF AZERBAIJAN , RESEARCHER

Feburary,2026 -present

Collaborating on interdisciplinary research at the intersection of cybersecurity and artificial intelligence, with a focus on phishing, social engineering and AI-based threat detection. Design experiments, contribute to data collection and analysis, participate in scientific discussions and co-author technical papers and research outputs. Share findings with research teams to inform defensive strategies and future studies.

ARAB EAST COLLEGE,RESEARCH ENGINEER

Riyadh,KSA

Oct, 2025- present

Conduct applied research on phishing and social-engineering techniques to improve detection and behavioral analysis. Design, implement and evaluate ML/AI-based detection models using Python within an Anaconda environment. Analyze attack patterns and psychological manipulation vectors, prepare and preprocess datasets, and document experimental results and methodologies for research outputs and collaboration.

BAKU STATE UNIVERSITY, MIDDLE SYSTEM ADMINSTRATOR

Sept, 2023-Jan, 2026

Provided day-to-day system administration and internal IT support across the university environment. Administered Linux servers, virtual environments and backup systems; monitored server performance and applied updates to ensure stability and security. Managed user accounts, permissions and system configurations; troubleshoot hardware, network and application issues. Analyzed PHP/Laravel web applications to identify defects and performance bottlenecks; supported admin dashboards and assisted with platform maintenance and optimization.

MILLISEC CYBERSECURITY COMPANY, BUSINESS MANAGER

Jul, 2024-Aug, 2025

Developed and managed strategic partnerships with corporations, institutions, investors, NGOs and public bodies to expand organizational reach and program delivery. Acted as primary liaison for external stakeholders, negotiating agreements, structuring collaborations, and coordinating joint initiatives. Led sponsor relationship management and ensured partner satisfaction through regular communication, performance tracking and continuous engagement. Supported cross-functional planning to align partnerships with company strategy and operational goals.

EDUCATION

Istanbul Gedik University , MSc -Artificial intelligence (AI)

MASTER, 2025-2027

Research Focus:

Cybersecurity applications in Occupational Health and Safety, Risk assessment and threat detection in safety-critical environments, Integration of AI for enhancing workplace safety and security systems

Baku State University , BSc -Mathematics

BACHELOR, 2019-2023

Bachelor of Science in Mathematics. Coursework emphasized probability, statistics, linear algebra, numerical methods and optimization providing strong analytical and quantitative foundations for data science and machine learning work.

IdTech Academy, RHCSA LINUX

Oct, 2025-Feb, 2026

MilliSec Cybersecurity Company, RED TEAM TRAINING

Apr, 2024-Oct, 2024

CodeAcademy, GAME DEVELOPMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Feb, 2023-Jun, 2023

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Cybersecurity

- Phishing Analysis
- Social Engineering
- Access Control Systems
- Security Awareness

Tools & Technologies

- VMware, Proxmox, Docker, Virtualbox
- Grandstream, ZKTeco, Dahua Systems
- Dahua Camera, Firewall & Access Control
- Github, Gitlab
- Anaconda
- IT Helpdesk Support
- Technical Support (Level 1 / Level 2)
- Incident Management
- Ticketing Systems Management
- User Support & Troubleshooting

Networking & Systems

- TCP/IP, VLAN, Firewall
- Windows Server, Linux (RHCSA level)
- Network Monitoring & Troubleshooting
- System Engineering

Programming / AI (Basic)

- Python
- C# ,Unity
- Php, Laravel
- Html, Javascript
- Operating Systems

CERTIFICATIONS AND RESEARCH

- Cisco - Ethical Hacker
- Certified Red Team Analyst (CRTA)
- Social Engineering Research
- Github
- Mobile Application Security
- C3SA