

Syed Iftikhar Mehdi

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SUMMARY

Computer Scientist and Engineer working on DevOps and production platforms — Kubernetes, CI/CD, GitOps, and observability — including Web3 and high-trust APIs where access, keys, and uptime matter. I care that a release is reversible, security is in the default path, and the platform still holds up after launch.

EXPERIENCE

- DevOps Engineer** Islamabad, Pakistan
Funavry Technologies Feb 2025 – Present
Normies — *DevSecOps Engineer (Client)* Jan 2026 – Present
 - Built a private Istio service mesh on EKS with AWS Private CA, ACM wildcards, a private NLB, and Route 53 private hosted zone so internal traffic never hits the public internet.
 - Implemented Cloudflare edge security on production APIs and ran pentests including IDOR on live services.
 - Evaluated and integrated Wazuh, MISP, and Velociraptor into the EKS stack for detection and incident response.
 - Added OpenTelemetry on NestJS (traces, logs, metrics), Checkly on third-party APIs, and JMeter load/stress tests on production-shaped paths.
 - GitOps with Argo CD, Karpenter, EKS Pod Identity, Pod Security Admission, and External Secrets Operator; reusable GitHub Actions (scan, GitOps, health, rollback); spend tracked with AWS Budgets and tags.
- ChainGPT** — *DevOps Engineer (Client)* Mar 2025 – Present
 - Modernized legacy infrastructure, migrated workloads to Amazon EKS, and cut cloud spend by around \$10K.
 - Managed multiple production EKS clusters with Karpenter, KEDA (including scale-to-zero), and Argo CD GitOps.
 - Administered production databases (pool sizing vs. Aurora/RDS limits) and stood up kube-prometheus-stack and ELK.
 - Built reusable GitHub Actions templates with Trivy, Semgrep, GitOps deploy, health gates, rollback, and notifications.
 - Load-tested with JMeter; cost guardrails via AWS Budgets and tagging; frontends on Cloudflare Pages/Workers and Vercel; edge hardened with WAF, custom rules, and bot/rate limits.
- DevOps Engineer** Islamabad, Pakistan
Metex Labz Pvt. Ltd. Jun 2024 – Feb 2025
 - Deployed and operated AI applications on AWS and GCP; owned CI/CD, Linux, and networking so model releases stayed reliable.
 - Worked with developers through the full lifecycle — performance, troubleshooting, and infrastructure for production AI workloads.
- DevOps Engineer** Islamabad, Pakistan
BiTech Pvt Ltd Jun 2024 – Jan 2025
 - Shipped production workloads on ECS/Fargate and GKE; pipelines on Jenkins and GitHub Actions.
 - Integrated on-prem with cloud, cut waste with autoscaling, and built Prometheus, Grafana, and Loki dashboards.

EDUCATION

- National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (FAST)** Islamabad, Pakistan
Bachelor of Science, Computer Science Aug 2019 – Jun 2023

SKILLS

- Cloud & platforms:** AWS (EKS, ECS/Fargate, IAM, Pod Identity, SES, Route 53, ACM, Budgets), GCP (GKE), Azure, Vercel
- Kubernetes & GitOps:** Kubernetes, Docker, Argo CD, Karpenter, KEDA, Istio, Helm, External Secrets
- Delivery & IaC:** GitHub Actions, Jenkins, Terraform, CloudFormation, Ansible, Trivy, Semgrep, JMeter
- Observability & security:** OpenTelemetry, Prometheus, Grafana, Loki, ELK, Cloudflare (WAF, Pages, Workers), Checkly, PSA
- Languages:** Python, Bash, Go, TypeScript, SQL, C++

PROJECTS

- Legacy → consolidated EKS:** Migrated ECS, EC2, Lambda, and per-account stacks onto two GitOps EKS clusters with Istio, Karpenter, and Defguard VPN.
- Private IPFS Cluster on Wasabi:** Hybrid disk + S3 block store so replicas stay ~100GB local instead of multi-TB volumes.
- Self-hosted BSC full node:** Internal RPC with per-app API keys and rate limits; snapshot restore, pruneancient, snap-sync-aware alerts.

CERTIFICATIONS

- Microsoft Azure Fundamentals (AZ-900):** Microsoft
- DevOps Beginner to Advanced with Projects:** Udemy, 2023