Zain Amjed

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SUMMARY

Cloud & Virtualization Architect with 13+ years of hands-on experience designing, deploying, and managing complex IT infrastructure across cloud and on-premises environments. Expert in server virtualization, cloud architecture, storage systems (SAN, NFS, iSCSI, FC), and enterprise platforms such as AWS, Azure, VMware, and Linux/Windows. Proficient in AWS infrastructure migration using services like MGN . Skilled in scripting (Bash), automation, network security, disaster recovery, and performance optimization. Known for delivering scalable, secure, and cost-effective solutions for high-availability environments supporting digital transformation and enterprise growth.

EXPERIENCE

Associate Cloud Architect - AWS Infrastructure Migration Expert
Northbay Solutions   **March 2025 – Present, Lahore, Punjab, Pakistan**

- Leading full-scale AWS infrastructure migration projects, transitioning servers, databases, and applications from on-premises environments to the AWS cloud.
- Utilizing AWS Application Migration Service (MGN) to ensure minimal-downtime migrations and successful cutover.
- Designing secure, scalable AWS architectures leveraging EC2, VPC, IAM, RDS, S3, and other core services.
- Automating migration workflows and environment setup using Bash scripts for consistent, repeatable deployments.
- Collaborating with cross-functional teams to create detailed migration wave plans, validate dependencies, and manage rollback contingencies.
- Implementing robust monitoring and compliance strategies using AWS CloudWatch, Systems Manager, and best practices.
- Preparing runbooks, documentation, and operational SOPs to ensure continuity, scalability, and knowledge transfer.
- Supporting regulated industries, including finance, by aligning cloud solutions with security and compliance frameworks.

Deputy Manager Virtualization and Cloud Services
Interloop LTD   **July 2022 – March 2025, Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan**

- Managed a VMware vCenter 7 environment comprising 200+ virtual machines, optimizing performance and resource allocation to improve system efficiency by 25%.
- Administered mission-critical Linux servers (Ubuntu, CentOS, Red Hat), improving system performance by 30% through automated patching and performance tuning.
- Designed and implemented Veeam Backup & Replication across production workloads, reducing recovery time by 40% and increasing backup reliability by 50%
- Led firmware upgrade cycles across 18 servers, 4 network switches, and 4 enterprise storage systems, ensuring 100% compliance and reducing security vulnerabilities by 20%.
- Deployed Trend Micro Cloud One Workload Security with XDR, achieving a 70% reduction in malware threats within one week through proactive threat mitigation.
- Directed cross-functional efforts to integrate cloud and on-premises infrastructures, cutting disaster recovery time by 40% and enhancing service continuity.
- Implemented unified monitoring using PRTG, Grafana, and Prometheus, boosting system reliability by 30% and improving compliance alignment by 20%.
- Built and maintained an automated DevOps CI/CD pipeline using GitLab, reducing deployment cycles by 70% and software defects by 90%.
- Architected and deployed a scalable three-tier AWS application using ALB, EC2, and RDS, alongside a 6-node Docker Swarm cluster to enhance availability by 25% and scalability by 40%.
- Mentored 10+ IT professionals and led 5 IT infrastructure projects, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and achieving 95% project success rate.
- Deployed and managed Kubernetes clusters using Rancher to orchestrate containerized workloads, ensuring high availability and simplified management across environments
- Implemented Elastic Stack (ELK) for network observability, infrastructure monitoring, and APM, improving incident detection and response time by 40%.
- Conducted hardware sizing and performance benchmarking for new technology upgrades, ensuring cost-effective and future-proof infrastructure planning.
- Performed comprehensive cloud vs. on-premises cost-benefit analysis to guide strategic IT decisions; advised leadership on suitability based on TCO, scalability, and security posture.
- Automated multi-server deployments and patching workflows using Ansible, streamlining configuration management across hybrid environments.
- Led a cloud performance and stress testing comparison across Garaj, Jazz Cloud, Khazana Cloud, and Octans Cloud to identify optimal IaaS solutions for enterprise workload
- Acted as Section Head for first-level support on VMware and Veeam platforms, coordinating rapid response and resolution during production outages across plant locations.
- Contributed to ISO 27001 compliance efforts by implementing system hardening standards for virtualized environments and Linux/Windows servers.
- Oversaw deployment of enterprise-grade infrastructure on-site, including Dell PowerEdge servers, enterprise storage systems, and the complete VMware virtualization stack.

- Provided AWS and VMware operational support to Octans, ensuring smooth cloud resource provisioning, performance optimization, and cost control.

Manager Networks
The University of Faisalabad   **February 2018 - June 2022, Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan**
- Led a team to maintain network infrastructure, achieving 99.99% uptime and cutting costs by 50% through hardware upgrades and efficient configurations.
- Managed Web Development, Social Media, and Network teams, achieving a 20% increase in efficiency by setting measurable goals and optimizing workflows.
- Enhanced departmental productivity by 20% through Agile project management, stakeholder engagement, and effective delegation of responsibilities.
- Procured enterprise-grade Cisco hardware and executed timely maintenance, ensuring 99.99% network uptime and enhanced operational efficiency.
- Configured VMware ESXi deployments and virtualized server instances, reducing downtime by 15% and improving network performance by 20% through optimized resource allocation.
- Deployed Mikrotik CCR-1036 at 5 sites with advanced configurations, managing LAN/WAN for 5,000 users and reducing total costs by 50%
- Deployed and configured Cisco 3750/2900 series switches across 5 sites, increasing network performance by 70% and reliability by 99%.
- Implemented FreePBX (Asterisk) voice solution for TUF/GIU call centers, reducing telephony costs by 40% and enabling seamless voice recording.
- Deployed Zabbix for monitoring 40+ servers with an interactive Grafana dashboard and Zammad ticketing, streamlining incident management.
- Deployed multiple workloads on AWS within three months, enabling a 30% increase in scalability to meet growing customer demand.

IT Consultant
GMSA   **January 2018 - May 2023, Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan**
- Designed and deployed a wireless network and firewall solution for the headquarters, achieving 300 Mbps throughput and 5 ms latency with Cisco hardware.
- Monitored and maintained IT hardware, ensuring 99.98% uptime and reducing support costs by 25% through vendor negotiations and proactive maintenance.
- Deployed Vitrix Xen Server for remote access, increasing uptime by 15% and reducing operational costs by 20% through hardware optimization.
- Delivered VMware 6.7 ESXi deployment within one week, reducing project delivery time by 30% and exceeding client expectations.
- Deployed Windows Server 2019 with Active Directory and RDS for 40 users, reducing login times from 60 minutes to under 5 minutes through optimization.
- Cut IT budget by 50% through strategic vendor negotiations, eliminating unnecessary purchases, and ISP contract renegotiation.
- Deployed Layer 3 networks using Mikrotik Routers, achieving 100% site isolation and enhancing security and data flow efficiency across multiple locations.

IT Manager
ROOTS IVY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SYSTEM   **February 2013 - February 2018, Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan**
- Designed and implemented a wireless network and open-source firewall (pfSense), reducing ISP dependency by 50% and tripling bandwidth from 8 MB to 30 MB.
- Managed hardware procurement and vendor coordination, achieving a 98% on-time delivery rate.
- Ensured 99.9% IT infrastructure uptime by implementing proactive maintenance schedules and monitoring tools, minimizing operational disruptions.
- Optimized IT budget by consolidating vendor contracts, implementing cost controls, and weekly inventory management, saving 25%.

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Computer Science
University of Agriculture Faisalabad • Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan • 2018 • 3.11

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science
Government College University Faisalabad • Faisalabad, Punjab, Pakistan • 2015 • 2.89

CERTIFICATIONS

AWS Certified Solution Architect Associate
AWS • 2025
Kubernetes and Cloud Native Associate (KCNA)
Linux Foundation • 2025
AWS Certified SysOps Associate
AWS • 2023
AWS Certified Developer Associate
AWS • 2022
Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Certified Architect Associate
OCI • 2022
AWS Certified Cloud Practitioner
AWS • 2021

Oracle Cloud Infrastructure Foundations Certified Associate
OCI • 2021
Microsoft Azure Fundamental
Microsoft Azure • 2020

SKILLS

- **Cloud Computing: AWS (EC2, S3, VPC, RDS, IAM,MGN), Azure, Oracle Cloud (OCI)**
- **Virtualization: VMware vCenter, Docker, Citrix XenServer, Kubernetes**
- **Networking: SAN, NFS, iSCSI, FC, Cisco Configurations**
- **Security: Trend Micro Cloud One, Firewall Policies, XDR**
- **DevOps & Automation: Jenkins, GitLab, Docker, Prometheus, Bash,Ansible**
- **Monitoring Tools: PRTG, Grafana, Prometheus**