## Summary of the Decade

written by Mert SARICA | 15 November 2019 Dear Diary,

In 1996, when I was around 13-14 years old, I heard a news about cyber attacks that were being carried out by computer hackers in the news. I was very interested in who they were? How were they able to penetrate systems? I decided to search for answers to these questions. I wanted to be like them, but I had no idea how. Over the years, by reading many technical books and articles and by practicing, I was able to find answers to all the questions that troubled my mind and I was able to turn my curiosity and hobby into a profession in the field of cyber security.

As someone who had kept what they had learned for years, 10-11 years ago, Hüzeyfe ÖNAL, who shared his knowledge about cyber security and wrote many technical articles, caught my attention. After communicating with him on LinkedIn and having a critical conversation, he asked me "Since you think you have knowledge in these topics, why don't you write technical articles?

Putting exceptions aside, we think that we have a innate knowledge accumulation on most issues in the geography we live in. Sometimes we defend our opinions as true without our knowledge and when asked, we think that there is no one better than us in that specific area. We love to use sharp language in our criticism and we don't shy away from being sarcastic, dismissive or destructive, but when the topic comes to "Why don't you do better?" we start listing excuses. However, in the technical areas of cyber security, excuses can't be hidden because if you think you know better, if you believe in your ability, you can show your knowledge by writing a technical article and/or giving a presentation.

If you are lucky, when you face the question "Why don't you do better?" as a response to your criticism, you will make a decision like me and put your hand under the stone to do better. If you are unlucky, you will learn to empathize with the other side as seen in the video below before criticizing them eventually.

Huzeyfe's question was one of the important turning points in my life. Thanks

to that question, I decided to challenge myself and become a security researcher and blogger, dedicated to sharing what I know and what I've learned. I want to thank Huzeyfe ONAL specially for the 10th anniversary for giving me the opportunity to share my knowledge with cyber security enthusiasts through my blog and presentations.

Since November 2009, as I've been writing my blog, I've witnessed firsthand that knowledge is power, and it grows when shared over the years.

Over the past 10 years, through my blog;

- I began to receive positive feedback for my security research writings and in 2011, I was invited to give my first security research presentation at a security event (Netsec) in front of dozens of people. Since then, I have spoken at over 30 cyber security events.
- 2. In 2012, I was invited by Gökmen GÜREŞÇİ, a student of Namık Kemal University Çorlu Engineering Faculty, to give a presentation on Penetration Testing Expertise/Ethical Hacking and Career. Since then, I have had the opportunity to share my passion for the profession and how I began my career in this field to thousands of students interested in offensive security at over 40 universities.



3. At the cyber security events I have attended, I have met dozens of people who have come to me and said "I switched to cyber security field because of the presentation you gave at our university years ago, thank you." and I was

overwhelmed with happiness.

- 4. In 2018, I was honored to be selected as the most successful cybersecurity blogger of 2017 by the jury of Hacktrick Cyber Security Conference, consisting of important figures from various fields such as academicians, sector experts, managers, and public officials.
- 5. I have received many job offers and I haven't had to explain my technical proficiency in job interviews.
- 6. I have had the opportunity to meet many of you by receiving numerous messages and e-mails from you.

Bu arada verdiğiniz öneriler kendimi geliştirme konusunda çok yardımcı oldu ve sektöre girebilmemde inanın blog yazılarınızın çok yararı oldu özellikle malware analizi vb. konularında.

İyi günler dilerim.

## **Aranılan Terimler** ■ bad Ghidra ■ WAF ARKASINA ATLARIM, BAYRAMINIZI **KUTLARIM ^^** Merhaba Mert Abi Çok güzel bir iletişim aracı Black hat Selamun aleyküm hayırlı işler

Konu: umutlar

İleti:

MERHABA:)

aslında herhangi bir sorum yok. Sadece şunu söylemek istiyorum.

Çok başarılı bir insansınız ve benim gibi kişilere umut oluyorsunuz. Yazılarınız çok öğretici ve bizlere hacking ile

ilgili konularda bu denli yardımcı olmanız çok muazzam bir şey.

İlk başta kendi adıma olmak üzere çok çok teşekkürlerimi

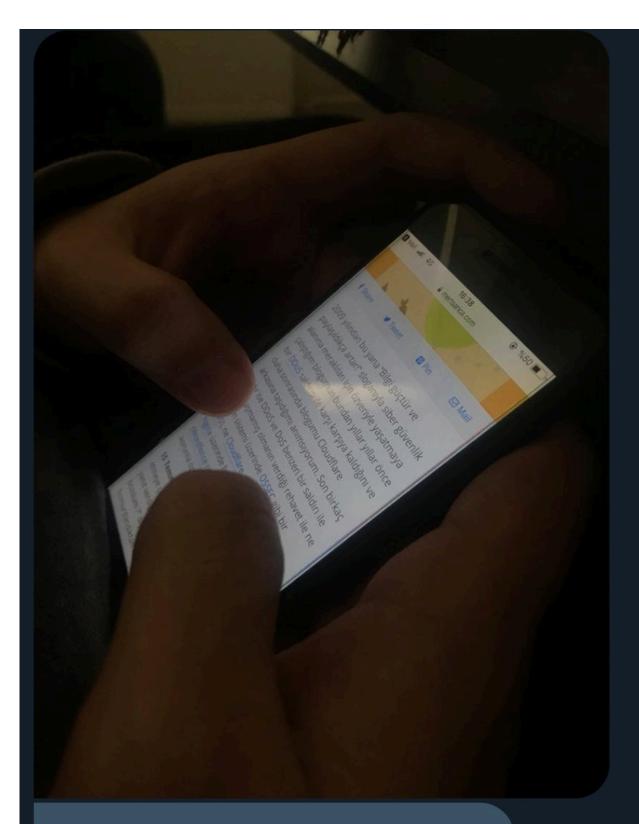
sunarım :). İyi ki varsınız ve iyi ki bu işi yapıyorsunuz. Kendinize çok iyi bakın. Allah şu hayatta ne isteğiniz varsa size

onu nasip etsin. İyi günler dilerim :)

Hocam merhaba, umarım iyisinizdir. Yaklaşık iki yıl önce size danıştığım sorular sayesinde siber güvenliği kendime kariyer yolu olarak belirlemiştim. Edindiğim farklı עו

Merhabalar. Ben lise öğrencisiyim. Çalışmalarınızı takip ediyorum. Çok başarılısınız. Sizin gibi olmak isteyen gençlere ne önerirsiniz?

## **Aranılan Terimler** pytnon pythpn hocam kahve içmeye üniversetimize davet etsek gelir misiniz' or 1=1-- -ban yemem umarım :D antim türkçe siber güvenlik kitap DGA abi nasılsın bir gün akşam çay içmeye beklerim, selamlar...



database dersinde mert sarica

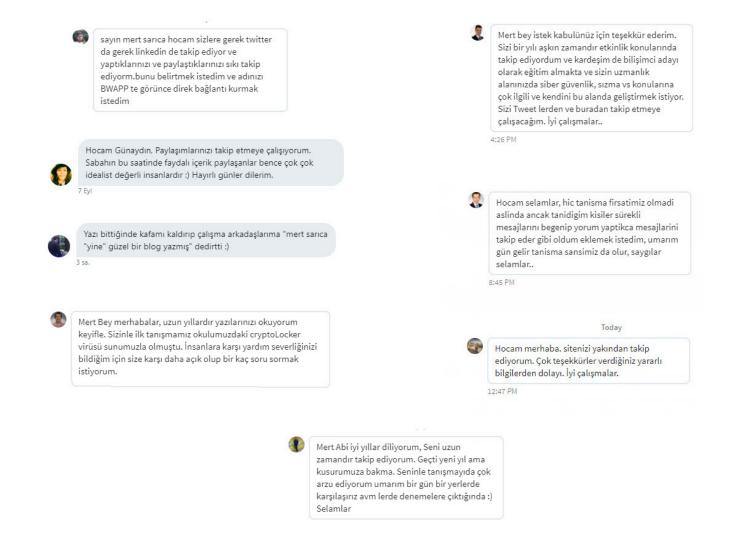
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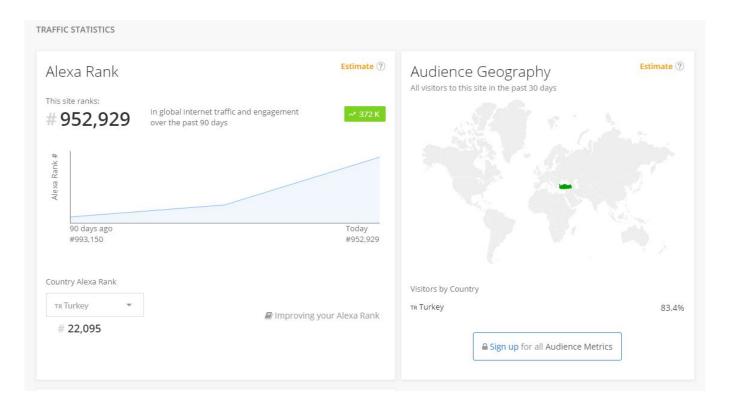
Merhabalar Mert hocam, kendimi siber güvenlik alanında geliştirmek istiyorum kaynak sıkıntısı ve ilerleme konusuda sorabi..... şaka şaka :) :) güvenlik tv'yi ve yazılarınızı severek takip ediyorum . özellikle güvenlik tv videolarınızı daha fazla bekliyoruz, güzel içerikleriniz için teşekkürler etmek için mesaj atmıştım belki böyle mesajlarınıza ihtiyacınız vardır diyerek :)





Over the past 10 years, with my blog;

- 7. I have tried to shed light on the cyber security field for those who are interested in it as a security researcher, and to be a role model for young friends.
- 8. I have learned to work in a disciplined, planned, consistent and dedicated way in order to write a blog post every month.
- 9. I have made reading a lot and practicing a lot a routine in my life.
- 10. I've been able to answer the question "When will you write a book?" with my e-books compiled from my blog posts.
- 11. Although I write technical articles, I have managed to reach a wide audience over the years, and my blog has become one of the most visited Turkish cyber security resources.



## 12. I have developed my analytical thinking ability.

To achieve the things I've described above, I have worked hard for many years in a disciplined manner. I may have spent a month or three months researching for a blog post that you read in 15 minutes, and then I would spend about 6-9 hours of my personal time collecting and compiling the results and putting each one into a blog post.

Years may have been harsh and merciless to me in terms of time, but I have never regretted the time I spent on my beloved security research and blog posts. However, as the years passed, the time I could dedicate to security research has gradually become more and more challenging to write a blog post every month.

After 10 years, I have decided to slow down a bit, to spread my blog posts over a wider time frame and to share this situation sincerely with you.

Over the years, your positive feedback and constructive criticism have always kept my motivation high and encouraged me to continue to do security research, write a blog, and give presentations.

I am grateful to my valued readers who always supported me.

I look forward to seeing you in new writings.

Knowledge is power, and it increases when shared.!

https://www.mertsarica.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/ms-intro.mp4