

NEWSLETTER



Message from the Head of IBA CICT

The IBA Center for Information and Communication Technology (CICT) proudly continues IBA's tradition of excellence in technology, research, and innovation. Established in 2016, IBA-CICT has remained committed to developing competent professionals equipped to meet the evolving digital demands of Pakistan.

Through specialized programs, professional development initiatives, and applied research, IBA-CICT serves as a bridge between academia and industry. Our key focus areas include Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Cybersecurity, and Digital Transformation, enabling learners to contribute meaningfully to Pakistan's digital economy.

Looking ahead, IBA-CICT seeks to strengthen strategic collaborations, expand its offerings, and promote a culture of lifelong learning and innovation. Guided by IBA's core values of merit, quality, and impact, we continue to empower individuals and organizations to excel in an increasingly technology-driven future.

Prof. Dr. Shakeel Ahmed Khoja

Head - IBA Center for Information and Communication Technology (CICT) |
Dean - SMCS IBA Karachi



About IBA CICT

The IBA Center for Information & Communication Technology (CICT) at IBA Karachi is a premier Professional Development Center dedicated to Hi-Tech and New Technologies. Leveraging a strong alumni base and numerous corporate linkages, IBA CICT prides itself on its agility in responding to market demands. Our focus groups with industry professionals helps us to stay abreast of the latest advancements and design programs that meet evolving needs. Our goal is to create an IT ecosystem that empowers individuals with hi-tech skills, enabling them to thrive in a digital future.



15TH JULY

A Grand Finale to Summer School 4.0 at IBA CICT!

IBA CICT celebrated the successful conclusion of Summer School 4.0 with an inspiring Closing Ceremony, where certificates were awarded to over 100 young learners. The event highlighted their dedication, creativity, and growth across diverse tech and innovation tracks.



15TH JULY

Showcasing Innovation at the Summer School Symposium!



The Summer School Symposium put young innovators in the spotlight, showcasing impressive projects ranging from robotic cars and digital prototypes to startup ideas. These creative exhibits reflected the hands-on learning, innovation, and real-world skills participants developed throughout the program — turning curiosity into creation.

16TH JULY

Mastering Social Media Strategy & Impact

Led by Ms. Resham Rajper, this engaging workshop empowered participants to craft impactful digital strategies and navigate the ever-evolving world of social media. From content creation and audience engagement to data-driven insights and campaign optimization, professionals gained practical skills to build stronger digital identities and drive measurable results. In today's era of reels, trends, and clicks — mastering strategy means mastering impact.



17TH JULY

Ransomware Readiness Workshop

IBA CICT recently conducted a Ransomware Readiness Workshop, led by Ms. Sana Zahra Ahmed, which focused on practical strategies for detecting, managing, and responding to modern cyber threats. The session provided participants with hands-on learning experiences and real-time defense techniques, enabling them to strengthen organizational resilience and enhance their readiness against ransomware attacks in today's rapidly evolving threat landscape.



18TH JULY

IBA CICT & YOTTABYTE Partner to Strengthen Cybersecurity

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18TH JULY

IBA CICT and RCCI Partner to Bridge Academia and Industry



IBA CICT and the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce & Industry (RCCI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote national growth through technology, skills, and innovation. The agreement, signed by Prof. Dr. Shakeel Khoja (Dean SMCS & Head, IBA CICT) and Mr. Usman Shaukat (President, RCCI), aims to strengthen collaboration in skill development, research, and industry-driven solutions. This partnership reflects a shared vision to empower Pakistan's industrial ecosystem, enhance competitiveness, and prepare a future-ready workforce through the synergy of academia and industry.



18TH - 20TH JULY

Advancing Professional Tech Skills Across Pakistan

IBA CICT, in collaboration with the Securities and Exchange Commission of Pakistan (SECP), conducted a 3-day workshop in Islamabad from July 18 to 20 on Test Automation and Enterprise Architecture using TOGAF. The training enhanced participants' understanding of enterprise frameworks and automation tools—reflecting IBA CICT's commitment to professional growth, digital transformation, and bridging Pakistan's tech skill gap.



27TH JULY

Shaping the Future of Cyber Defense



IBA CICT has launched Batch 2 of the Diploma in Cyber Security, welcoming professionals from diverse industries eager to enhance their digital defense capabilities. Led by Ms. Sana Zahra Ahmed and Sir Abdul Majid Jamil, who bring rich industry experience to the classroom, the program blends hands-on learning with real-world insights — empowering participants to effectively tackle today's evolving cyber threats.



20TH AUG

Equipped for Excellence in Advanced MS Excel

IBA CICT proudly marks the successful completion of Advanced MS Excel – Batch 8. Guided by Sir Syed Aftab Ahmed, participants strengthened their analytical and data management capabilities, gaining hands-on expertise to enhance productivity and decision-making in their professional roles. Their dedication stands as a testament to continuous learning and professional growth.



4TH SEPT

Welcome to NAVTTC Summer of Code 2025!

IBA CICT is proud to welcome a new cohort of learners to the NAVTTC Summer of Code (6B) 2025 program. Since 2020, IBA CICT has been providing skill-based training on scholarship in collaboration with NAVTTC, empowering individuals to build careers in the digital economy. Taking this legacy forward, the latest batch will explore advanced domains including Python Programming and Applications, Big Data Analytics, Data Mining and Business Intelligence, and Digital Forensics and Cyber Security. Through initiatives like these, IBA CICT continues to strengthen its commitment to shaping a digitally skilled Pakistan, fostering innovation, and creating opportunities through academic-industry synergy. We look forward to witnessing these participants transform their learning into impactful contributions to the nation's digital future.



7TH SEPT

Powering Data-Driven Futures



IBA CICT successfully commenced Batch 13 of the Diploma in Big Data Analytics, bringing together professionals from diverse backgrounds to advance their expertise in data analysis and interpretation. Throughout the program, participants explored advanced tools, techniques, and real-world case studies to strengthen their ability to make informed, data-driven decisions. The initiative reflects IBA CICT's ongoing commitment to fostering innovation and developing talent for Pakistan's evolving data ecosystem.

11TH SEPT

Exploring the Power of Generative AI

IBA CICT, in collaboration with the HR Department, organized an engaging session on 'Introduction to Generative AI' for IBA employees. Led by Dr. Faisal Iradat, the session provided valuable insights into how generative AI is reshaping the future of work. Participants explored its applications in enhancing creativity, improving efficiency, and developing smarter workflows — gaining a deeper understanding of how AI tools can be integrated into everyday professional tasks to drive innovation and productivity.



16TH - 18TH SEPT

Turning Data into Decisions

IBA CICT, in collaboration with the Human Resources Department, successfully conducted a 3-day Data Analytics Essentials Workshop, led by Mr. Sohail Imran. The program focused on building strong foundations in data analytics, equipping professionals with practical skills to analyze, interpret, and visualize data for informed and effective decision-making in their respective domains.



23RD - 25TH SEPT

IBA CICT at ITCN Asia 2025

IBA CICT proudly participated in ITCN Asia 2025, one of the region's premier technology events, further strengthening its presence on the digital forefront. The platform showcased IBA CICT's hi-tech training programs for the corporate sector, highlighting its commitment to developing professionals with future-ready digital skills. Through its participation, IBA CICT underscored its role as a bridge between academia and industry, offering hands-on training in Artificial Intelligence, Data Analytics, Cybersecurity, and Digital Transformation, while reaffirming its mission to empower Pakistan's workforce for the evolving digital economy.

28TH SEPT

Empowering Professionals with ERP Expertise

IBA CICT successfully commenced a new batch of the ERP SAP Certificate Program, led by Sir Faisal Jalal. The participants embarked on an immersive learning journey, gaining practical knowledge and skills to enhance their professional capabilities and industry competence.



ARTICLE

The Silent Breach

How AI is slipping into your systems unnoticed.

AUTHOR: **HARIS SHAMSI**
FOUNDER - YOTTABYTE

AI is quietly taking over the enterprise. From productivity tools to customer service platforms, it is already embedded in our workflows. Most companies did not make a formal decision about it. In many cases, they did not even plan it. It just appeared, bundled into a product update, quietly rolled out by a vendor, or adopted by a team looking for quick automation.

And that is where the real problem begins.

There is a growing assumption in business circles that if AI is included in a tool, it must already be secure. After all, it comes from a trusted vendor, it passed procurement, and maybe even legal gave it a nod. But here is the truth: most AI features are not secure by default. In many cases, they are not even fully understood by the people using or deploying them. And when it comes to cybersecurity, what you do not know tends to be what causes the most damage.

Imagine your marketing team uses a writing assistant powered by AI. Seems harmless, right? But what if that tool learns from internal documents or starts blending in examples from client



campaigns? Or your customer support system introduces an AI assistant to help with tickets. But where is that ticket data being stored? Who is training the AI on it? Is that data being logged, encrypted, or shared with third parties? Most teams cannot answer these questions, and that is what makes this issue so serious.

I happened to attend the session of Jon France (CISO at ISC2) during RSAC 2025. He described this trend as “unconscious vendor creep.” He pointed out how AI features are showing up in everyday enterprise tools without proper review or visibility. A new button appears. A prompt field pops up. Suddenly your system has a chatbot where there was none yesterday. These features are often accepted without any architecture review, risk assessment, or input from the security team...

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