

## **SOJHARO, A STUDENT WHO EARNED US \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FROM A FINAL YEAR PROJECT**



I had already joined another university and was determined to afford my studies by doing a part-time job. It was really very challenging to manage the job and study together. My first semester there was about to end when I received a call from my college teacher. He told me that they had received a letter for me from IBA. Yes, it was a scholarship offer from Sindh Talent Hunt Program of IBA. Many other students like me who were the top ten position holders of their respective educational boards also received this letter. My teacher at once asked me to see him in the college. These days we were having some financial challenges. I had to sell the old newspapers in order to get some money to reach the college. My teacher told me about IBA and he strongly recommended me to pursue my studies in IBA. In this way, I came to know about IBA and got chance to visit it. When I was selected for the program, I borrowed some money from my aunt to buy clothes and other useful stuff needed to stay at IBA Boys Hostel.

IBA through STHP prepared all the students for IBA entrance test. In this 2 months training program, we were also taken to several multi-national companies to visit and learn. It was a new experience for me as I had never thought that I would be part of such training program in such a prestigious institute of Pakistan. I had left my previous university and motivated myself to get into IBA. After 2 months training and hard work, I got admission into BS Computer Science Program of IBA. This was the first step towards the success.

As Computer Science was my favorite subject, in no time, I was able to get acquainted with traditional and emerging computer technologies and later was able to be recognized as one of the finest programmers in my batch. Through my hard work, I got into the Dean's Honorary List right after my first semester. It can be counted as the second step towards my success. IBA has such a structured semester system that it made us read more and more. By reading, I was also able to get a strong theoretical background with practical. I also got highest marks in programming courses and was always happy to help my fellow students in studies.

My third step towards success was when I became the member of IBA Robotics Lab and joined the Karachi Koalas RoboCup Soccer Team. It is the only robotics team from Pakistan to participate in World Soccer RoboCup every year. I worked with IBA Robotics Lab and thus with Karachi Koalas as a research assistant and programmer for a year. It was a true learning experience. In April 2013, I, with my team KK, participated in RoboCup IranOpen 2013. Our team got two awards in that competition. I was selected as an intern in Abudawood Pakistan. In this way, I got the close exposure of business and corporate world. I have been representing NTHP and STHP in schools and colleges of Sindh – particularly a remote school established by TCF in Karachi. I have also worked for annual literary magazine of IBA and have served as president of IBA ProBattle 2013.

My Computer Science Final Year Project, namely CloudKibo, also earned me and my team another scholarship of US \$10,000 to do our MS in IBA. This project was funded and financed by a US client and mentor. He was so motivated by our work and success of the project that he also hired us to convert this project into a complete working business model. This can be counted as forth step towards success. Our project also stood second in our batch. By the grace of Allah, now I am preparing myself to accomplish my MS Computer Science from IBA and at the same time, I am also working with CloudKibo as an employee, endeavoring to make it one of the successful Pakistan-based multi-national corporations.

I am thankful to Almighty Allah for giving me strength, my parents for supporting me at every stage and STHP of IBA to provide me with financial strength. I will never forget IBA and STHP. It is my aim to support this program

by every possible way. I will always promote this program to the farther and remote areas of Sindh so that every student may get a chance to learn and grow.