

IUT ALUMNI FORUM



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November-2016



ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (IUT)
ORGANISATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION (OIC)



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3rd November ©2018

DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to our family members especially our parents who supported us right from the beginning with all means of supports including prayers, care, encouragements and love. We also dedicate this piece of work to all our relatives and friends. We are also grateful to all the teachers who sacrificed their energy and time to teach us through our lives. Thanks to all the members states of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) who gave us the opportunity to study in Islam and Technology especially the host country, People's Republic of Bangladesh. We express our utmost gratitude to our supervisor.

Raihan Islam Arnob

Dear Sir, we shall forever be grateful for your support, encouragements, motivation and suggestion for the completion of this project. May Allah reward you with the best rewards.

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this report embodies the original work done (IUT Alumni Forum) by Anrifoudine Abdou Hadji, Foundikou Mohammad Mochtar Abbas and Njigouh Abdoulaye Razak. They have successfully completed their Final Project in Computer Science and Engineering Department at Islamic University of Technology Dhaka, Bangladesh. The project submitted by them is hereby approved in partial fulfilment of requirements for their programme in Computer Science and Engineering.

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this document is to describe the features and procedures that were followed in the development of the project. This document specially mentions the details of the project and how it was developed, all the requirements and functionalities of the system throughout the project.

The need for a relationship between Higher education institutions with their alumni is vital especially when it comes to universities in the like of IUT. However, often this outreach is done without adequate data on which to base decisions.

IUT Alumni Forum is a website based project with the main goal of is to bring former IUT students in contact with the institution as well as current student to a platform where they can share useful information and assist one another.

The system was developed with the aid of markup languages; HTML, CSS and JavaScript for front-end. PHP and MySQL were used for Back-end development. Bootstrap was also used for design and Xampp was used as local host.

The system enhances the student experiences in a more focused and multi-disciplinary strategic plan. Moreover, IUT Alumni Forum develops and implement more effective, coordinated and regular communications with alumni.

Developing and implementing a marketing plan that focuses on expectations and mutual benefits of lifetime support of the University is a paramount feature of the system.

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to express our deepest gratitude to our Supervisor, Mr. Raihan Islam Arnob for his valuable and constructive suggestions during the planning and development of this piece work. His willingness to give his time so generously has been very much appreciated. We would also like to thank the Head of Computer Science and Engineering Department (CSE), Pr. Dr. Muhammad Mahbub Alam for her advice and assistance in keeping our progress on schedule.

Chapter 1

Introduction

IUT Alumni Forum is a web based project intended to make relationship between the university and its alumni last forever. University alumni may make strong contributions to the welfare of their alma mater. Some important ways they may contribute is through financial donations and helping the future IUT graduates prepare for what is ahead like scholarships and job opportunities. However, another important contribution is through their participation in various university functions. Involvement in events held specifically for alumni may help breed strong esprit de corps among this group. Such types of involvement are considered the very backbone of higher learning institutions. Alumni are also able to play a very important role in support of their institution through serving as a strong source of positive word of mouth publicity. Therefore, higher education institutions must always be concerned that they effectively market to their alumni in order to foster healthy relationships between graduates and their alma mater. Relationship orientation is about the ongoing process of creating value for individuals and the society.

The main modules of IUT Alumni Forum are Admin, student and alumni.

Admin

This module is responsible for editing and updating the content of the content of the website. He also manages the Information of all the other users. The admin can also receive complains from the users and decides to warn or remove any user in case of misconduct or necessity.

Student

The student module allows current students to register and sign up into the website. Students are recommended to register by using their email address that IUT provided them. They can also post question in the discussion forum. The can also update their personal information.

Alumni

The Alumni module also permits IUT alumni from all over the globe to create an account in this website. They are also recommended to register with the email address granted to them by IUT. This module also requires the Alumni to fill in its current address and profession. The alumni also have access to the discussion forum where they can assist the students with regards to any issue.

The Discussion Forum

This is a platform where different users can post questions, answers, announcements or comments. The discussion forum is frequently refreshed automatically so that the most recent update appears first.

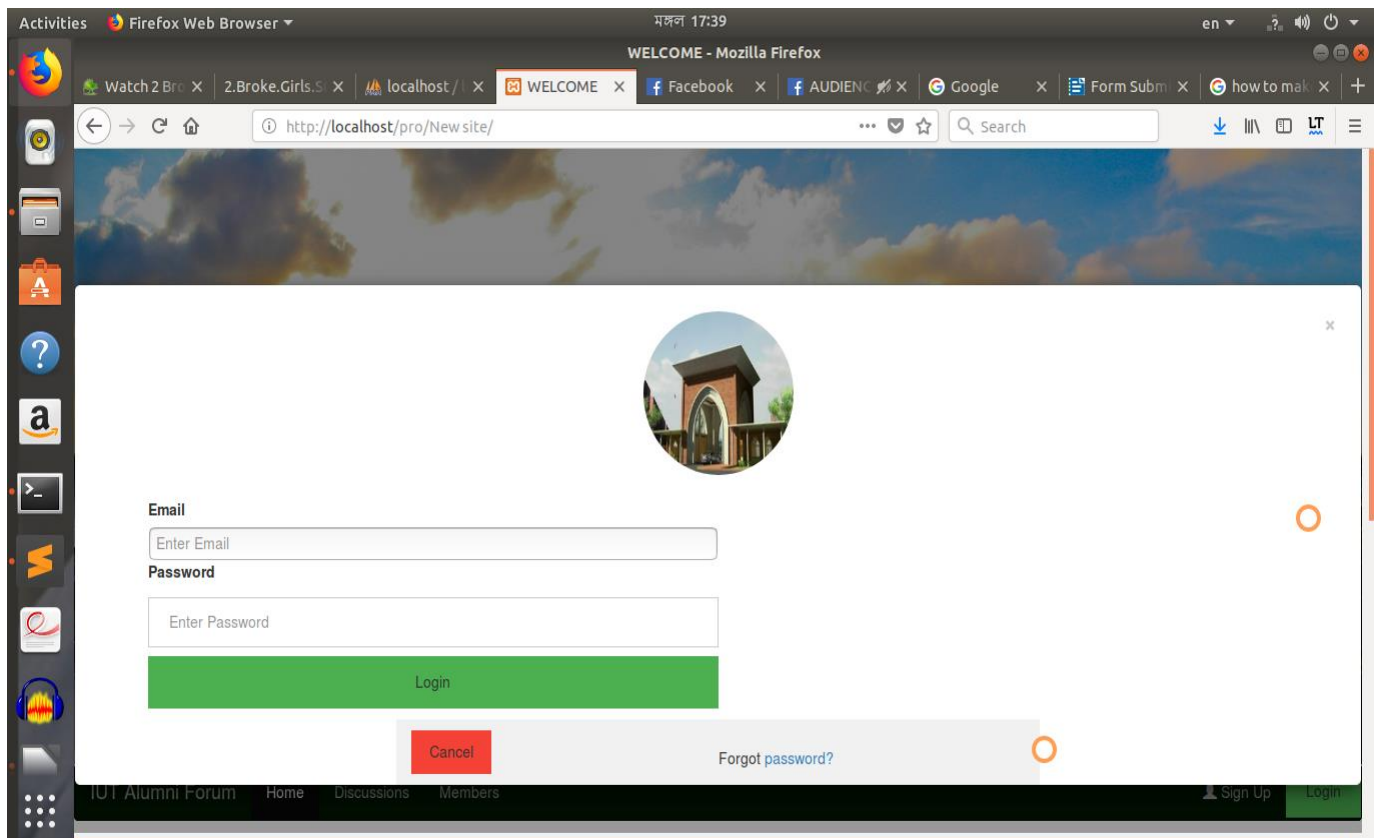
Objectives

- ❖ As in any relationship, the exchange of information is the key driver of this project.
- ❖ This system serves as a building block of trust between current alumni and future alumni.
- ❖ Alumni may assist students with opportunities in different career fields to boost the commitment of all parties.
- ❖ Students, alumni and universities all working together for the same goal will enhance those opportunity for success
- ❖ As relationships grow stronger, students and alumni will be willing to put more time and effort to build a successful relationship especially when graduation approaches.
- ❖ Make the alumni to always feel as they6 are part of the university
- ❖ -Economic development and sustainability
- ❖ -Government and community service
- ❖ -Arts and Entertainment
- ❖ -Volunteerism and philanthropy

1.2 Features of the Project

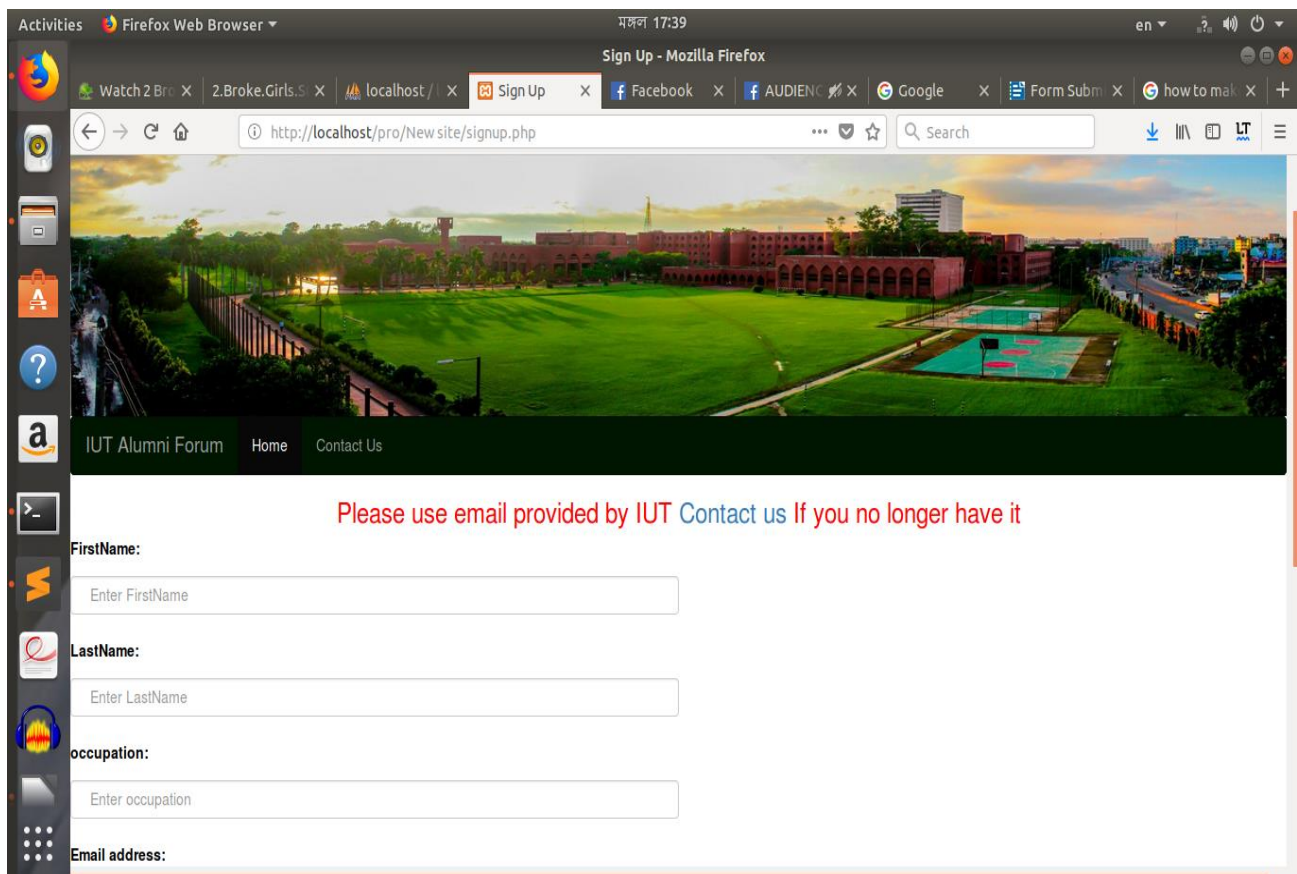
-Login session

The logging session is used by all user to **log** detailed user. In IUT Alumni Forum every user has his session where he enters his email and password. Users only log in after they register. Each session will display the user's information that he entered when signing up. The users of IUT Alumni Forum are the students and the alumni.



-Discussion Forum

The discussion forum is a medium where users can post updates about ongoing issues. It also allows students to post question about issues that maybe handle well by alumni. It gives the opportunity to the alumni to answer this questions. Whenever a user is in this medium they can always see the latest news, update, questions or answers. This forum helps to prepare the students as future alumni.



About Us

This feature gives all necessary information about the website and its functionality to new members.

Chapter 2 Project Content

2.1 Project Overview

Universities have recognized the need to have a strong relationship with their alumni. The benefits are manifold. A survey showed that relatively low alumni giving rate among bachelor degree holders was more of alumni disagreement than unhappiness with the university or its policies. Alumni didn't feel that the university took much interest in them. The conclusion was that the university and the alumni association needed to develop better means to engage alumni meaningfully as the years go by.

Many universities routinely conduct alumni studies to assess outcomes and provide information to increase the effectiveness of the university and students' quality of education.

While there has often been much attention given to alumni from association offices, there has been much less focus on university students who are about to become alumni. This study was conducted to gather information on such soon-to-be alumni at one university.

IUT Alumni Forum focuses on the following:

- Ranking priorities of the university alumni with the platform
- Determining the students' level of awareness about IUT alumni
- Ascertaining the types of events and their scheduling that would be of interest to prospective alumni, and
- Finding out whether these students would recommend the university to a friend or a relative.

2.2 Aim of the Project

The project has created a strong bond between IUT students and IUT alumni as the main aim. There are also some major goals for creating the website as described below.

Research and intellectual innovation: This aim is beneficial for both parties. A student may want to embark on a research similar that an alumni has already done or a research that an alumni has good knowledge about. An alumni may be in need of a survey but does not have the means to get to the university. A student can therefore decide to do him a favor by assisting him in the survey.

Economic development and sustainability: This can be a great way for some alumni to advertise their companies. The success of some IUT alumni across the globe can motivate some parents to send their children to the university. This will therefore generate income to the university.

Government and community service: Although the benefits of services offered by alumni while they are students does not have huge impact in their communities, once they graduate some of them become very active in the democratic movement and lead to a societal change. Alumni website is a key resource for alumni who wish to advance their efforts to their community. We were pleased to participate in this kind of project as students.

2.3 Project Scope

Our project enhances student relations including associated student representatives in two ways. Firstly, it shows the current how their seniors have evolved together and gives them the motivation of becoming like them or even better. Secondly, it proves that the best ways of progressing is by working together as a team.

This system is only made for people who have studied or are studying in IUT. Furthermore, events such as Annual Athletic Competition and other great events organized by the Islamic University of Technology can be a moments when some alumni get to meet the current students.

IUT Alumni Forum is an online advocacy efforts for reunion

Alumni relations are also revived throughout the state, national and abroad in this platform

Chapter 3 System Analysis

3.1 Challenges of the Current System

1. The University's efforts to cultivate alumni support starts too late because most student start thinking about being an alumni after graduating.
2. We do not have adequate "smart data" on which to base cultivation strategies. Most of the time only academics records of students are found in the archives.
3. Alumni relations strategies and functions are not adequately coordinated or collaborative.
4. Alumni decisions to make the University part of their entire lives is complex. For some, it is about "What's in it for me? " For others, it is about "Payback" and "Doing the Right Thing" Almost always, it is a combination of both.
5. Systems that support the solutions to the aforementioned findings are inadequate.
6. There are also challenges associated with comprehensive and effective data gathering, management and utilization of the system.

3.2 Proposed Action Plan

1. Enhance the Student Experience - a more focused and multi-disciplinary strategic plan.
2. Develop and implement more effective, coordinated and regular communications with alumni.
3. Develop and implement a marketing plan that focuses on expectations and mutual benefits of lifetime support of the University
4. Enhance the visual identity of Associations on their campuses and explore opportunities for enhanced partnerships such as with visitor services
5. Identify opportunities and develop systems for common information requirements that can be resolved more effectively system-wide.

Chapter 4 Feasibility

The quality of the system being doable or been able to be developed can be divided into three categories; technical feasibility, economical feasibility and operational feasibility.

4.1 Technical Feasibility

This assessment is based on an outline design of the system requirements, to determine whether we had the technical expertise to handle the completion of the IUT alumni project.

The technical equipment used in this project can be divided into two main parts

-Software: The software used in the course of this projects include sublime Text, which was used for the markup and scripting languages. MySQL was used for the data base and Xampp was used as the local host. The technical limit to our project was the availability of a real domain.

Hard: the main hardware used to develop the system are the PC equipment.

This Project is technically feasible.

4.2 Economic Feasibility

Economic evaluation is a vital part of investment appraisal, dealing with factors that can be quantified, measured, and compared in monetary terms The results of an economic evaluation are considered with other aspects to make the project investment decision as the proper investment appraisal helps to ensure that the right project is undertaken in a manner that gives it the best chances of success.

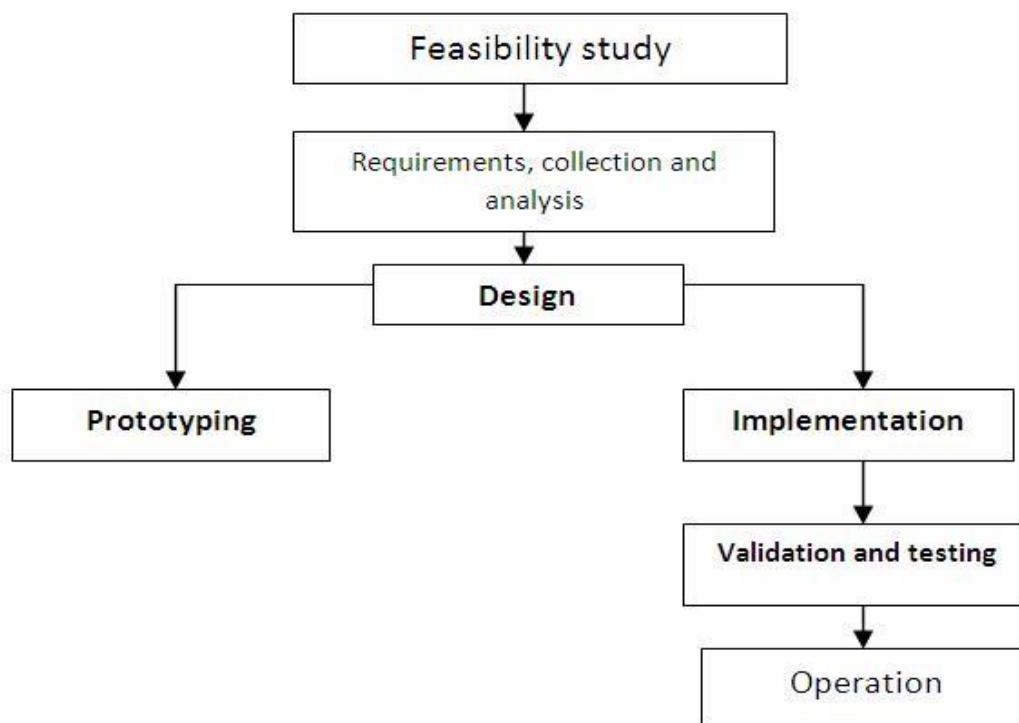
Project investments involve the expenditure of capital funds and other resources to generate future benefits, whether in the form of profits, cost savings, or social benefits. For an investment to be worthwhile, the future benefit should compare favorably with the prior expenditure of resources need to achieve them.

The key point of economic feasibility is the “**cost-benefit**” analysis since this is the school project and no financial gain was expected because money was not also invested, the project is economically feasible.

4.3 Operational Feasibility

Operational feasibility refers to the measure of solving problems with the help of a new proposed **system**. It helps in taking advantage of the opportunities and fulfills the requirements as identified during the development of the project. It takes care that the management and the users support the project.

IUT Alumni forum is a very simple website. All the user needs to know is how to read, type and click on the right place. This makes the system operationally feasible.



Since the system fulfills all the requirements for the three types of feasibility, the project is feasible.

Chapter 5 Implementation

IUT Alumni Forum was implemented in a period of 15 weeks and the main goal of the project which is to enhance a fruitful relationship between students and the alumni in a suitable manner was reached. The website was developed with the help of the following

-Developers: The developers in this project worked with the basic knowledge they acquired in class and some assistance from friends, teachers and the internet.

-Developing: The system was developed with the aid of HTML, CSS and JavaScript for front-end. HTML and CSS acted as the backbone of all the coding in the process. JavaScript which was used as scripting language was very essential especially with dynamic and responsive stuffs.

PHP and MySQL were used for Back-end development. They are used to store data about all the user in an ordered manner.

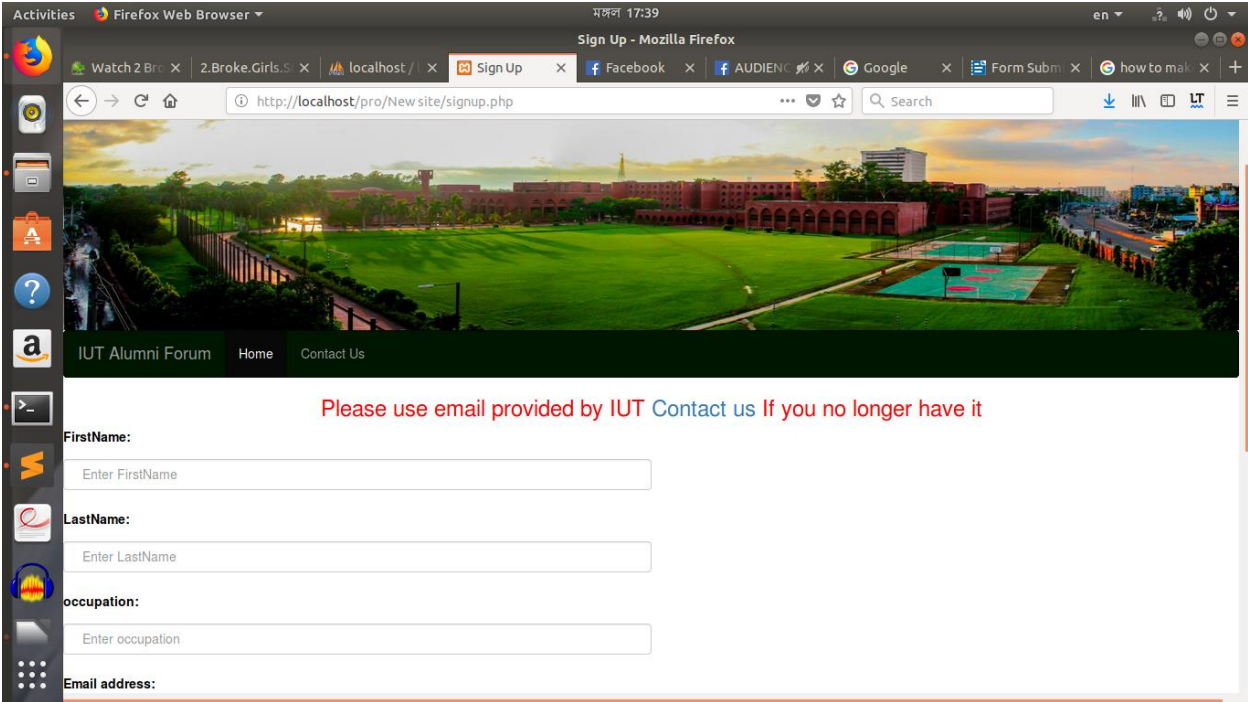
Bootstrap was also used for design and this made the system look more dynamic and attractive.

Xampp was initially use as a local host. It simulate the internet especially when there is no means to purchase a domain.

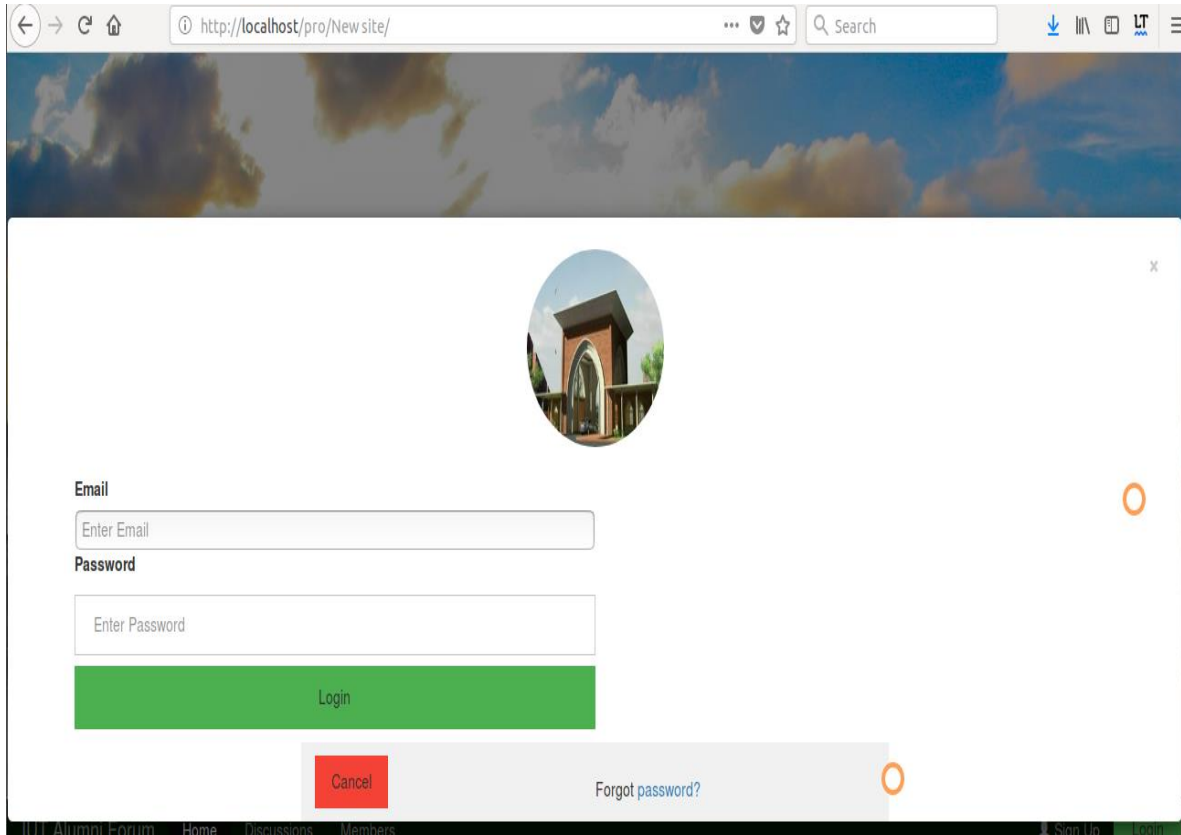
Internet connection was provided by the university and no item was purchased for the project.

The main resources used were a computer and the software for the markup language, scripting language and the database which was downloaded for free from reliable sources.

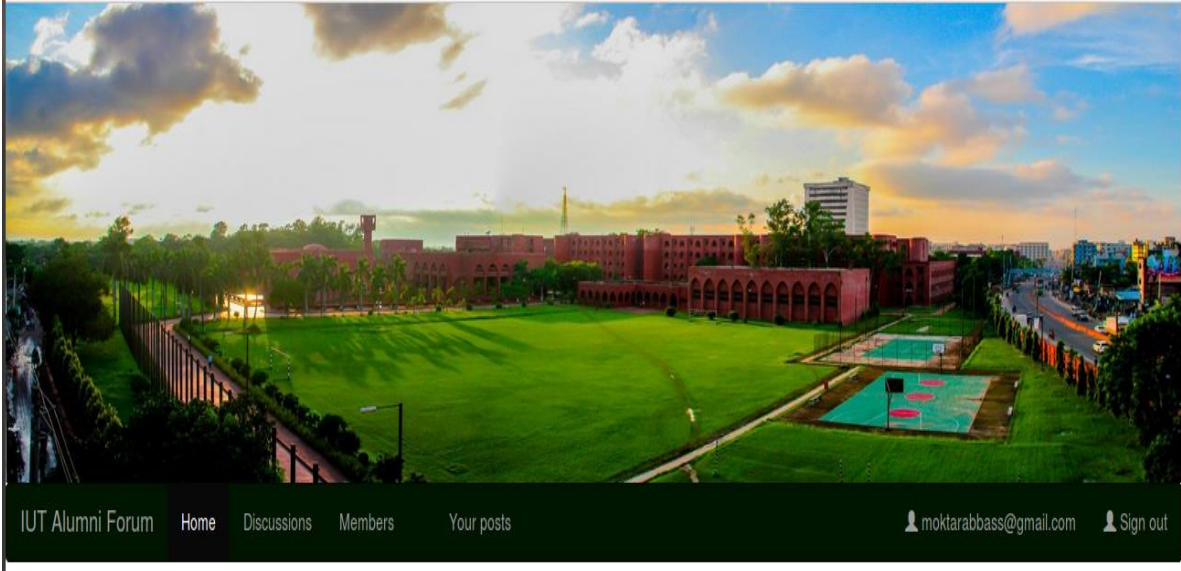
Design and Interfaces of the system



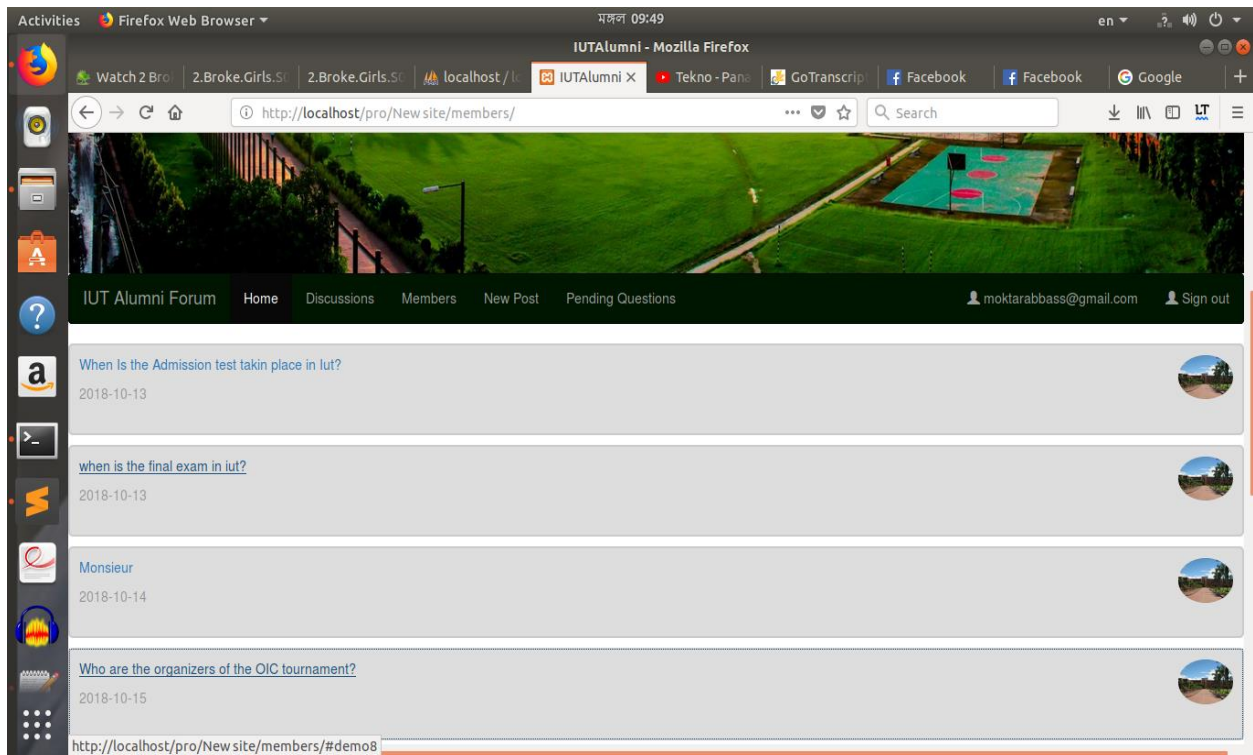
Registration form



User logging Interface



Home page



Discussion Forum

Conclusion

The final year project of our Higher Diploma programme enabled us to implement most of what we learnt from our instructors. We are so happy that we could transform what we studied into something useful. In this project the knowledge gained in System Analysis and design, Software Engineering and project design and Web Programming were applied. We also had the experience of working as a team. This help us exchange many ideas that will benefit us even after the project.

Our project has a lot of room for improvement. This project was a stepping stone for our entire team. In the course of developing the project we also learnt a lot of lessons from our mistakes.