PHP Introduction

- ✓ What is PHP?
  - PHP stands for **P**HP: **H**ypertext **P**reprocessor
  - PHP is a server-side scripting language(scripts are executed on the server), like ASP
  - PHP supports many databases (MySQL, Informix, Oracle, Sybase, Solid, PostgreSQL, Generic ODBC, etc.)
  - PHP is an open source software (free to download and use).

- ✓ What is a PHP File?
  - PHP files can contain text, HTML tags and scripts
  - PHP files are returned to the browser as plain HTML
  - PHP files have a file extension of ".php", ".php3", or ".phtml"

- ✓ What is MySQL?
  - MySQL is a database server
  - MySQL is ideal for both small and large applications
  - MySQL supports standard SQL
  - MySQL compiles on a number of platforms
  - MySQL is free to download and use

- ✓ PHP + MySQL
  - PHP combined with MySQL are cross-platform (you can develop in Windows and serve on a Unix platform)

- ✓ Why PHP?
  - PHP runs on different platforms (Windows, Linux, Unix, etc.)
  - PHP is compatible with almost all servers used today (Apache, IIS, etc.)
  - PHP is FREE to download from the official PHP resource: www.php.net
  - PHP is easy to learn and runs efficiently on the server side.

- ✓ What you need to start?

  - Server, Browser, PHP, MySQL, Text editor.
    You can install them in the following way-
- ✓ Install Apache (or IIS) on your own server, install PHP, and MySQL database.
- ✓ find a web hosting plan with PHP and MySQL support
- ✓ Install WAMP/LAMP/MAMP/XAMP

  NOTE: We will install WAMP