Project Proposal – A blog website – from 'Random' Team

Our team will build a blog website application using PHP and MySQL database. A blog, in short, is an application where some users (Admin users) can create, edit, update and publish articles to make them available to the public to read. Users and the public can browse through a catalog of these articles and click to read more about the articles. Articles can be sorted by topic. We decided to create a blog because blogging is still very relevant in 2022. Over 50% of marketers use this type of platform as their main content marketing strategy. Blogging is popular and is relatable to most people, who trust others more than they trust brands or big influences. https://www.namecheap.com/blog/5-reasons-blogging-is-still-relevant/

Features:

- A user registration system that manages two types of users: `Admin` and `Normal Users`

- The blog will have an admin area and a public area separate from each other

- The admin area will be accessible only to logged in admin users and the public area to the normal users and the general public

- In the admin section, two types of admins exist:
  - `Admin:`
    - Can create, view, update, publish/unpublish and delete **ANY** post.
    - Can also create, view, update and delete topics.
    - An Admin user (and only an Admin user) can create another admin user or Author
    - Can view, update and delete other admin users
  - `Author:`
    - Can create, view, update and delete **only posts created by themselves**
    - They **cannot publish** a post. All publishing of posts is done by the Admin user.

- Only published posts are displayed in the public area for viewing

- Each post is created under a particular topic

- A many-to-many relationship exists between posts and topics, which is why we have implemented a junction table for this.

- The public page lists posts; each post displayed with a featured image, author, and date of creation.

- The user can browse through all post listings under a particular topic by clicking on the topic

- We will include a random quote JS API to stimulate the minds of the readers and add interest to the blog pages.
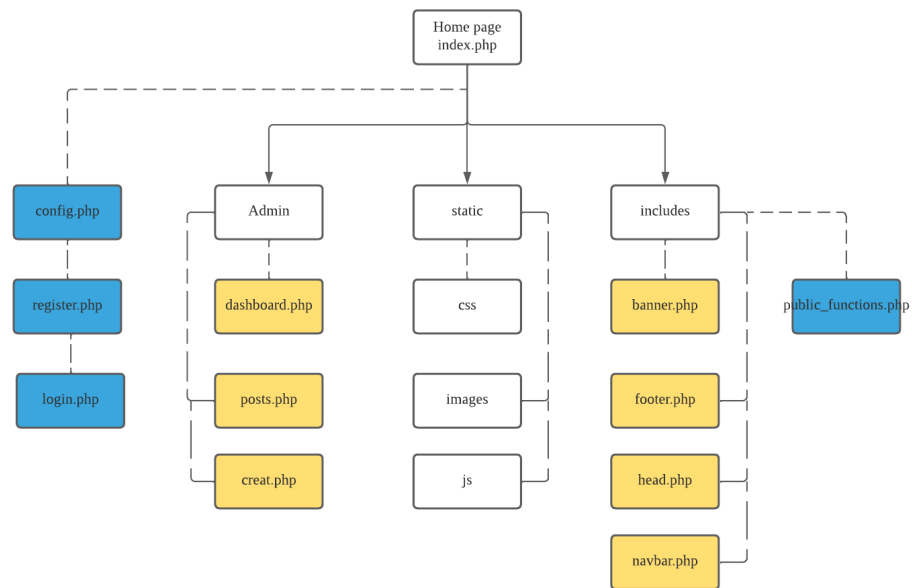
Files structure:

Here is our web site folders and files structure, we set 3 folders (admin, includes, and static), and homepage and related file will be included in the root folder, for example, we have the file of `index.php`, `config.php`, `register.php` and `login.php`.

Name

📁 static
📁 includes
📁 admin
📄 readme.txt
📝 register.php
📝 login.php
📝 index.php
📝 config.php

File Structure

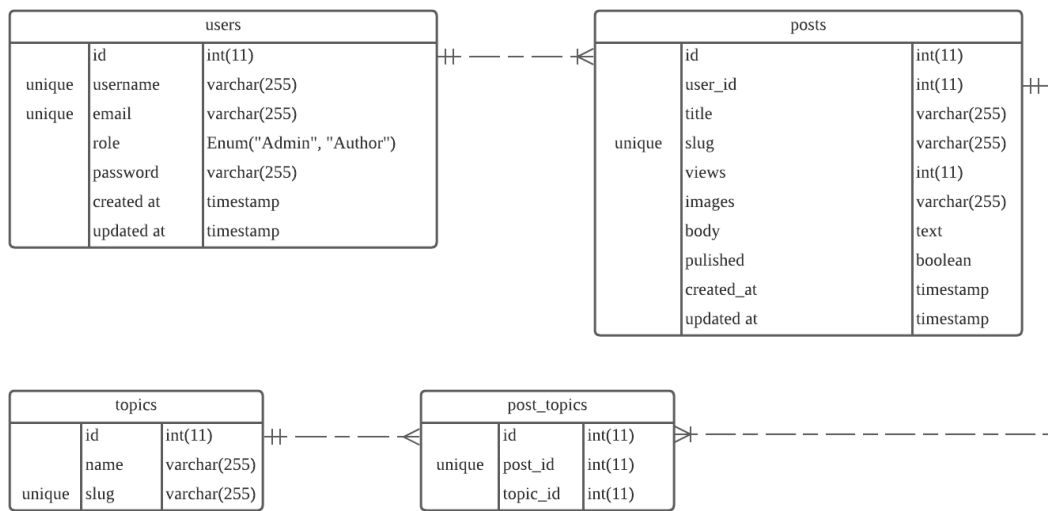The 3 folders will hold the following contents:

- **admin:** Will hold files for the admin backend area. Files concerned with creating, viewing, updating and deleting posts, topics, users.

- **includes:** Will hold files containing pieces of code that will be included into one or more other pages. E.g. Files for error display

- **static:** Hold static files such as images, CSS stylesheets, Javascript.

The Database

Create a database named `php_project`. In this database, create 4 tables: `posts`, `users`, topics and post_topics with the following relations.

users		
	id	int(11)
unique	username	varchar(255)
unique	email	varchar(255)
	role	Enum("Admin", "Author")
	password	varchar(255)
	created at	timestamp
	updated at	timestamp

posts		
	id	int(11)
	user_id	int(11)
	title	varchar(255)
unique	slug	varchar(255)
	views	int(11)
	images	varchar(255)
	body	text
	pulished	boolean
	created_at	timestamp
	updated at	timestamp

topics		
	id	int(11)
	name	varchar(255)
unique	slug	varchar(255)

post_topics		
	id	int(11)
unique	post_id	int(11)
	topic_id	int(11)

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Random Team