

1st August 2025 (Friday)

The topic today was Media Messages (Images & Files). This was one of the most advanced features yet.

In the first hour, we learned to select images using the Android file chooser and upload them to Firebase Storage. I created a new message type, "image," and stored download URLs in the chat database.

During the second hour, I used the Glide library to display these images inside the chat RecyclerView alongside text messages. The mentor also guided us on optimizing image compression before uploading, to save bandwidth and storage. Watching an image message appear instantly on another emulator was immensely satisfying.

This day's session taught me how integrating multimedia support transforms a basic chat system into a full-featured communication app.