🏫 Campus Lost & Found Portal

A centralized web platform designed for educational institutions to help students and staff report, track, and recover lost items on campus. This project replaces disorganized WhatsApp groups with a structured, searchable, and secure digital inventory.

🚀 Key Features

🔐 Authentication & Security

- **Role-Based Access Control (RBAC):** Distinct portals for **Students** and **Admins**.
- **Secure Login:** Powered by **NextAuth.js** with encrypted password storage (bcrypt).
- **Privacy Shield:** Contact numbers are hidden by default to prevent spamming.

📦 Core Functionality

- **Report Items:** Dynamic form with **Image Uploading** (via Cloudinary integration).
- **Smart Search:** Real-time filtering by Category (Electronics, ID Cards, etc.), Status (Lost/Found), and Keywords.
- **Status Tracking:** Users can mark items as **"Resolved"** (Found/Returned) without deleting history.
- **Smart Dates:** Displays relative time (e.g., "2 hours ago") for better urgency context.

📱 User Experience

- **Responsive Design:** Fully optimized for Mobile (with Hamburger Menu) and Desktop.
- **SEO Optimized:** Dynamic metadata and Open Graph tags for social sharing.
- **Admin Dashboard:** specialized view for administrators to moderate content.

🛠️ Technology Stack

Component	Technology	Description
Frontend	**Next.js 15 (App Router)**	React Framework with Server-Side Rendering
Styling	**Tailwind CSS**	Utility-first CSS framework for responsive design
Backend	**Next.js API Routes**	Serverless functions for handling API requests
Database	**MongoDB**	NoSQL database for flexible data storage
ODM	**Mongoose**	Schema modeling for MongoDB

Auth	NextAuth.js	Authentication solution for Next.js
Storage	Cloudinary	Cloud-based image management and optimization

⚙️ Installation & Local Setup

Follow these steps to run the project locally on your machine.

1. Clone the Repository

```
git clone [https://github.com/yourusername/campus-lost-found.git](https://github.com/yo
cd campus-lost-found
```

2. Install Dependencies

```
npm install
```

3. Configure Environment Variables

Create a file named `.env.local` in the root directory and add the following keys:

```
# Database Connection
MONGODB_URI=mongodb://localhost:27017/campus-lost-found
# Or use your MongoDB Atlas connection string

# NextAuth Configuration
NEXTAUTH_SECRET=your_super_secret_random_string
NEXTAUTH_URL=http://localhost:3000

# Admin Credentials (Backdoor Access)
ADMIN_EMAIL=admin@college.edu
ADMIN_PASSWORD=admin123

# Cloudinary Configuration (For Image Uploads)
# Get these from your Cloudinary Dashboard
NEXT_PUBLIC_CLOUDINARY_CLOUD_NAME=your_cloud_name
NEXT_PUBLIC_CLOUDINARY_PRESET=your_unsigned_upload_preset
```

4. Run the Development Server

```
npm run dev
```

5. Access the App

Open your browser and navigate to: `http://localhost:3000`

📂 Project Structure

```
src/
├── app/
│   ├── admin/          # Admin Dashboard Page
│   ├── api/            # Backend API Endpoints (Auth, Items, Seed)
│   ├── auth/           # Login & Signup Pages
│   ├── items/          # Browse Listing & Edit Pages
│   ├── profile/        # User Profile & History
│   ├── report/         # Item Reporting Form
│   ├── layout.js       # Root Layout & Global Navbar
│   └── page.js         # Landing Page
├── components/         # Reusable UI Components (Navbar, ItemCard, etc.)
├── lib/                # Database Connection Helper (db.js)
└── models/             # Mongoose Data Models (User.js, Item.js)
```

👥 User Roles

Student

- Can register and login.

- Can report lost or found items.

- Can upload images.

- Can manage their own posts (Edit/Delete/Mark Resolved).

Admin

- Logs in via the universal login page using specific credentials.

- Can view all items.

- Can delete inappropriate or spam posts.

- Has a dedicated dashboard link in the navbar.

🤝 Contributing

Contributions are welcome!

1. Fork the project.

2. Create your feature branch (`git checkout -b feature/NewFeature`).

3. Commit your changes (`git commit -m 'Add some NewFeature'`).

4. Push to the branch (`git push origin feature/NewFeature`).

5. Open a Pull Request.

📝 License

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