**Individual statement on BookMandu**

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Bookmandu is an online thrift book shop that caters to bibliophiles. Previously unknowing book lovers are introduced to a range of already used books that may make their lives simpler, things they were previously ignorant of. This project provides an opportunity for book lovers who are interested in acquiring a new book at a very reasonable and affordable price. Customers may browse around the website and see the price of the book they have bought while they are on the site. They may also see and add products to their favorite list, which is accessible only to them. They have the option of checking the entire cost and removing any item from the list if it is beyond their financial means. If a customer does not find a book they are looking for when browsing, they can send a message to the administrator for more information or ask questions. The owner has the ability to add or delete any book as they see fit, as well as provide book descriptions for each book. Using secondhand books also helps save paper which directly or indirectly is beneficial to the environment.

This is a group-based project. At the beginning of the project, we decided to implement agile since it tends to give transparency, flexibility, obligation, and value, and it lowers the risk of the project. Although I worked majorly as a backend developer on this project, I did contribute to the development of a few frontend webpages as well. During the course of this group project, I played the role of a developer. At the beginning of each week, we would get together for a meeting to map out what we were trying to complete during that sprint. Everyone contributed by voicing their views and opinions, and the scrum master took everyone's opinions and thoughts into serious consideration before allocating tasks to each member. During the first sprint, I worked on the backend for the update profile feature, which enables users to modify their profile information at any moment they please. During the second sprint, I was responsible for the backend work on the login for the admin. There are two fields; username and password and the admin can login to the admin side only if the credentials are correct Moving forward, during the third sprint, I worked on the backend for the book details page that appears when the user clicks on a book, I fetched data from AddBook model. Additionally, I worked on the frontend for the contact us page, which allows users to get in touch with the admin with concerns. They can leave message, their name, phone number, email, etc. During the fourth sprint, I worked on the backend for account deletion, the user id gets deleted, which makes it possible for users to deactivate their own accounts.

In a similar manner, during the fifth sprint, I was tasked with indicating to users whether the desired book was available for purchase and whether the administrator could edit the availability status of the book. If the quantity of the book was less than one, the book would show as out of stock likewise, if the quantity of the book was more than one the book would be shown as in-stock and only then the add to cart button would work. During the sixth sprint, I was responsible for the backend development on the checkout, which follows after the stage where the customer adds the book to the cart. In checkout page, the user is required to fill in their shipping address and phone number, also the user can choose different payment method such as cash on delivery, digital payment method. However, the digital payment method is not available right now because integrating digital wallet like e-sewa costs us money which we don’t have. During the seventh sprint, I worked on the backend of the user transaction history. In their profile, the users are able to see a record of everything they have purchased up until that moment. In the history page, users can see ordered date, books details of the purchased book and also the payment status of whether they have paid for the book or not. Last but not the least, for the eighth sprint, I worked on fronted for admin dashboard where I added table which includes book name, genre, price, author, book’s availability and fixed some bugs.

Working in a group used to make me uncomfortable since I am not very good at conveying my ideas and opinions, and the possibility of having to work in a group made me feel particularly nervous. The mere possibility of being required to work together as a team did make me feel particularly worried. However, as each iteration of the sprint proceeded, the group became more and more appealing to me. My mindset toward working in a group has improved, and as a result, I no longer dread it to the same extent as I did in the past. My experience with this team reminded me that at the beginning, we were not very communicative with one another and it takes time to build a strong team. Despite this, as the days progressed, we were able to find solutions to the communication problems that we were having.

During the stages of developing the project, a variation of tools and technologies were selected and utilized, and there was a good rationale for doing so. Trello, Google Sheet, GitHub, VSC, and PostgreSQL are just some of the development tools that were set to use. Trello makes it easier to track product backlogs and to see which work is in progress and work on the projects without causing any disruption to the updates. It is also very easy to use and understand even for a beginner which saves a lot of time. Google sheet was helpful in keeping a list of user stories and set its priorities. I used PostgreSQL because I felt it easier in comparison to other technologies that I have used till date.

Participating in a collaborative project like this gave me the exposure I needed to open up to people in a short amount of time, which I believe will be crucial in the business world out there. I learned a great deal of things during the process of working in the project. I learned clearly how Github works, how you can create new branches and merge them without error. Since the website we were developing, featured books I found myself somewhat enthusiastic about this task. Since I am an individual who likes reading, I have always been on the lookout for secondhand bookstores where I can buy books at a bargain and collect older volumes, which bibliophiles like myself consider to be of great value.

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