

Software Design Document for

Namal Mess Management System

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

This Software Design Document (SDD) describes the architectural and detailed design for the Mess Management System at Namal University. It translates the requirements specified in the Software Requirements Specification (SRS) into a design model that can be used as a blueprint for system implementation. This document is intended to provide developers with sufficient information to develop the system without further design input.

1.2 Scope

The design described in this document covers the entire Mess Management System, including:

- Mobile application for students and faculty
- Web-based administrative portal
- Backend services and database design
- Integration with payment systems
- Notification mechanisms

The design encompasses all functional modules identified in the SRS, including user authentication, menu management, order processing, payment handling, reporting, and notifications.

1.3 Overview

This document is organized according to the IEEE STD 1016 format:

- Section 1 provides introductory information about the document.
- Section 2 gives a high-level overview of the system.
- Section 3 details the system architecture, including architectural patterns and component decomposition.
- Section 4 describes the data design, including database structure and data dictionary.
- Section 5 provides detailed component design.
- Section 6 presents the human interface design with UI mockups.
- Section 7 contains the requirements traceability matrix.
- Section 8 includes appendices with supplementary information.

1.4 Reference Material

- 1. Software Requirements Specification for Mess Management System, Version 2.0, May 15, 2025
- 2. IEEE Standard for Software Design Descriptions (IEEE Std 1016-2009)
- 3. Flutter Documentation, https://flutter.dev/docs
- 4. React.js Documentation, https://reactjs.org/docs
- 5. Firebase Documentation, https://firebase.google.com/docs

1.5 Definitions and Acronyms

- **API:** Application Programming Interface
- CRUD: Create, Read, Update, Delete
- **DFD:** Data Flow Diagram
- MVC: Model-View-Controller
- **REST:** Representational State Transfer
- **SDD:** Software Design Document
- SRS: Software Requirements Specification
- **UI:** User Interface
- **UX:** User Experience
- **JWT:** JSON Web Token

2 System Overview

2.1 System Context

The Mess Management System is designed to modernize food service management at Namal University by replacing the traditional cash-based mess system with a digital solution. The system consists of two main components:

- 1. **Mobile Application**: Developed using Flutter, this cross-platform application allows students and faculty to browse menus, place orders, make payments, and track order status.
- 2. Administrative Web Portal: Developed using React.js, this web application enables mess managers, menu managers, and kitchen staff to manage menus, process orders, generate reports, and handle administrative tasks.

Both components are supported by a common backend infrastructure built on Firebase, which provides authentication, real-time database, cloud functions, and storage services. The system follows a client-server architecture with the MVC design pattern to ensure separation of concerns and maintainability.

Key features of the system include:

- User authentication and role-based access control
- Digital menu management and browsing
- Order placement, tracking, and management
- Digital wallet for cashless transactions
- Real-time notifications
- Reporting and analytics

2.2 User Roles and Interfaces

The system supports the following user roles, each with specific interfaces and permissions:

1. Students/Faculty (Customers)

- Browse menu items
- Place and track orders
- Manage digital wallet
- View order history
- Receive notifications
- Manage profile

2. Mess Manager

- Generate reports
- Manage transactions
- View order history
- Send notifications
- Manage profiles

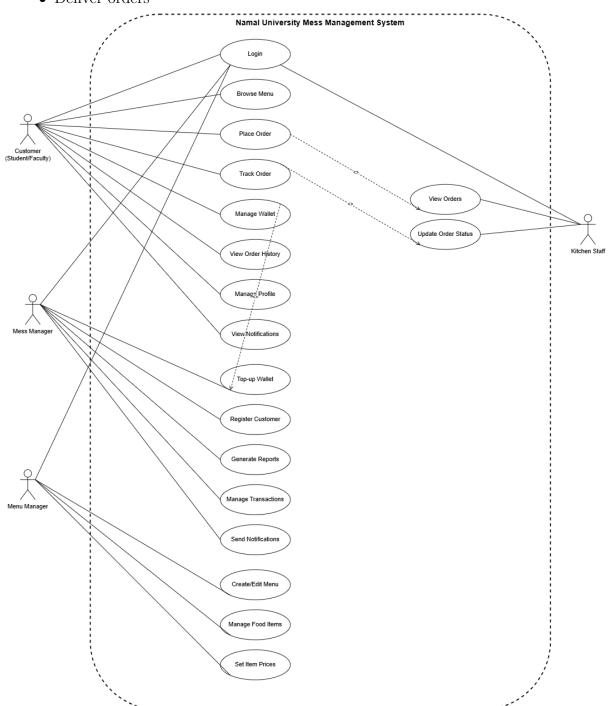
3. Menu Manager

- Create and edit menus
- Manage food items
- Set item prices

4. Kitchen Staff

• View pending orders

- Update order status
- Deliver orders



3 System Architecture

3.1 Architectural Design

The Mess Management System follows a client-server architecture with the Model-View-Controller (MVC) design pattern. This architecture separates the application into three interconnected components to separate internal representations of information from the ways information is presented to and accepted from the user.

3.1.1 Client-Server Architecture

The client-server architecture divides the system into two main parts:

• Client Side:

- Mobile Application (Flutter)
- Web Portal (React.js)

• Server Side:

- Firebase Authentication
- Firebase Firestore (NoSQL Database)
- Firebase Cloud Functions
- Firebase Cloud Storage

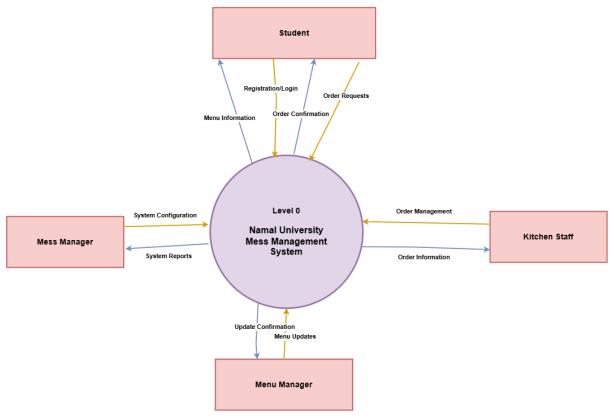
3.1.2 Model-View-Controller (MVC) Pattern

The MVC pattern is implemented as follows:

- Model: Represents the data structure and business logic. In this system, models include User, Menu, Order, Payment, and other domain-specific classes.
- View: Represents the UI components that display information to users and capture user input. This includes Flutter widgets for the mobile app and React components for the web portal.
- Controller: Acts as an intermediary between Model and View, processing user input, manipulating data using the Model, and updating the View. Controllers handle authentication, order processing, payment processing, and other system operations.

3.2 Decomposition Description

Namal University Mess Management System - Context Level DFD



The system is decomposed into the following major subsystems:

3.2.1 Authentication Subsystem

Handles user registration, login, logout, and role-based access control. This subsystem leverages Firebase Authentication for secure user management.

3.2.2 Menu Management Subsystem

Enables the creation, updating, and deletion of menu items by authorized personnel. It also handles menu categorization, pricing, and availability scheduling.

3.2.3 Order Processing Subsystem

Manages the entire order lifecycle, from placement to delivery. This includes cart management, order submission, payment processing, order tracking, and status updates.

3.2.4 Payment Subsystem

Handles all financial transactions, including payment processing, and transaction history. It ensures secure and reliable payment operations.

3.2.5 Notification Subsystem

Delivers real-time notifications to users about order status, promotions, and system updates using Firebase Cloud Messaging.

3.2.6 Reporting and Analytics Subsystem

Generates reports on sales, popular items, peak ordering times, and other metrics to support data-driven decision-making.

3.2.7 User Profile Management Subsystem

Allows users to view and update their profile information, preferences, and settings.

3.3 Design Rationale

3.3.1 Client-Server Architecture Selection

The client-server architecture was chosen for the following reasons:

- Enables centralized data management and consistent business logic
- Supports multiple client types (mobile and web) with a common backend
- Facilitates scalability by allowing independent scaling of client and server components
- Enhances security by implementing authentication and authorization at the server level

3.3.2 MVC Pattern Selection

The MVC pattern was selected for the following reasons:

- Promotes separation of concerns, making the codebase more maintainable
- Facilitates parallel development of UI, business logic, and data access components
- Supports code reuse across different parts of the application
- Aligns well with both Flutter and React.js development paradigms

3.3.3 Firebase Platform Selection

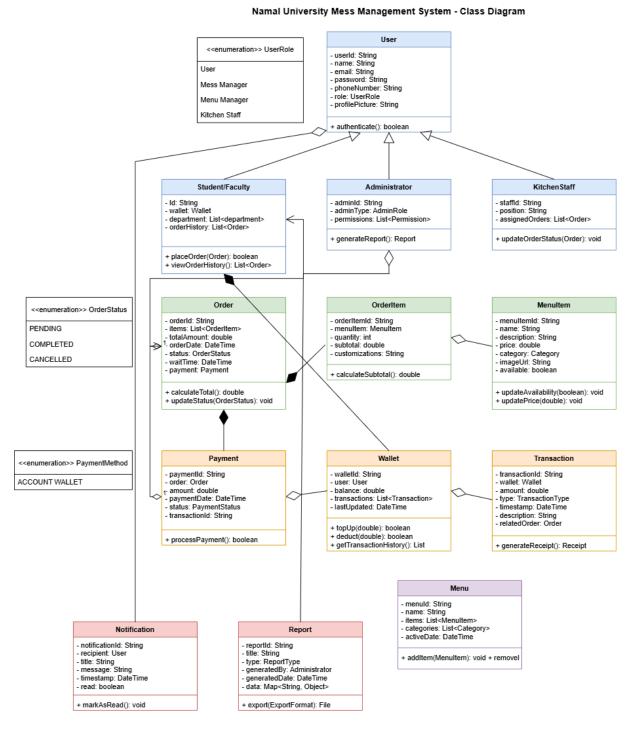
Firebase was chosen as the backend platform for the following reasons:

- Provides a comprehensive suite of services (authentication, database, storage, messaging)
- Offers real-time data synchronization, essential for order tracking and notifications
- Eliminates the need for custom server infrastructure, reducing development and maintenance costs
- Scales automatically to handle varying loads
- Integrates well with both Flutter and React.js

4 Data Design

4.1 Data Description

The data design for the Mess Management System is based on a NoSQL documentoriented database model using Firebase Firestore. This approach was chosen for its flexibility, scalability, and real-time capabilities, which align well with the system requirements.



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4.1.1 Database Structure

The database is organized into the following collections:

- users: Stores user information, including profile details and role
- menus: Contains menu information, including active dates and categories
- menuItems: Stores individual food items with details like name, description, price, and availability
- orders: Contains order information, including items, status, and timestamps
- orderItems: Stores individual items within orders, including customizations
- payments: Records payment transactions and their status
- wallets: Maintains wallet balances and transaction history for users
- notifications: Stores notifications sent to users
- reports: Stores generated reports and analytics data

4.1.2 Data Relationships

Key relationships between data entities include:

- One-to-many relationship between users and orders
- One-to-many relationship between users and wallets
- One-to-many relationship between menus and menuItems
- One-to-many relationship between orders and orderItems
- One-to-many relationship between users and notifications

4.2 Data Dictionary

Name	Type	Description	
User			
userId	String	Unique identifier for the user	
name	String	User's full name	
email	String	User's email address	
password	String	Encrypted password	
phoneNumber	String	User's contact number	
role	Enum User role (Student/Faculty		
		Mess Manager, Menu Manager,	
		Kitchen Staff)	
profilePicture	String	URL to user's profile image	

department String		User's department (for students/faculty)	
Menu			
		Unique identifier for the menu	
name	String	Menu name	
activeDate	DateTime	Date when the menu is active	
categories	List;String;	List of food categories in the	
00000801100	2130 211136	menu	
items	List;MenuItem;	List of menu items	
	MenuIte	em	
menuItemId	String	Unique identifier for the menu	
		item	
name	String	Item name	
description	String	Item description	
price	Double	Item price	
category	String	Item category	
imageUrl	String	URL to item image	
available	Boolean	Whether the item is available	
	Order		
orderId	String	Unique identifier for the order	
items	List; Order I tem;	List of order items	
totalAmount	Double	Total order amount	
orderDate	DateTime	Date and time of order placement	
		Order status (PENDING, COM-	
		PLETED, CANCELLED)	
waitTime	DateTime	Estimated wait time	
payment	Payment	Payment information	
	OrderIte	em	
orderItemId	String	Unique identifier for the order	
		item	
menuItem	MenuItem	Reference to the menu item	
quantity	Integer	Quantity ordered	
subtotal	Double	Subtotal for this item	
customizations	String	Special instructions or customiza-	
		tions	
	Paymen		
paymentId	String	Unique identifier for the payment	
order	Order	Reference to the order	
amount	Double	Payment amount	
paymentDate	DateTime	Date and time of payment	
status	Enum	Payment status	
transactionId	String	External transaction identifier	
Wallet			
walletId	String	Unique identifier for the wallet	
user	User	Reference to the user	
balance	Double	Current wallet balance	

transactions	List;Transaction;	List of transactions
lastUpdated	DateTime	Last update timestamp
	Transacti	on
transactionId	String	Unique identifier for the transac-
		tion
wallet	Wallet	Reference to the wallet
amount	Double	Transaction amount
type	Enum	Transaction type
timestamp	DateTime	Transaction timestamp
description	String Transaction description	
relatedOrder	Order	Reference to related order (if ap-
		plicable)
	Notificati	on
notificationId	String	Unique identifier for the notifica-
		tion
recipient	User	Reference to the recipient user
title	String	Notification title
message String Notification		Notification message
		Notification timestamp
read Boolean Whether the not		Whether the notification has been
		read

5 Component Design

5.1 Module: Authentication

5.1.1 Responsibilities

- User registration and account creation
- User login and authentication
- Password reset and recovery
- Session management
- Role-based access control

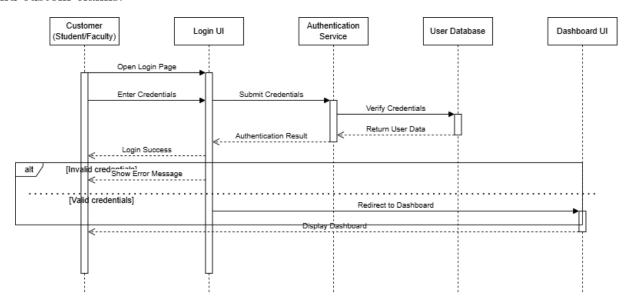
5.1.2 Interfaces

- authenticate(email, password): User Authenticates a user and returns user data
- register(userData): User Registers a new user
- resetPassword(email): boolean Initiates password reset process
- logout(): boolean Logs out the current user
- getCurrentUser(): User Returns the currently authenticated user

• updateUserProfile(userData): User - Updates user profile information

5.1.3 Implementation Details

The Authentication component uses Firebase Authentication for user management. It implements JWT-based authentication with secure token storage and automatic token refresh. The component enforces role-based access control through Firebase security rules and custom claims.



5.2 Module: Order Management

5.2.1 Responsibilities

- Handle order creation and submission
- Manage ordering cart functionality
- Process order status updates
- Calculate order totals and wait times
- Track order history
- Menu browsing and item selection

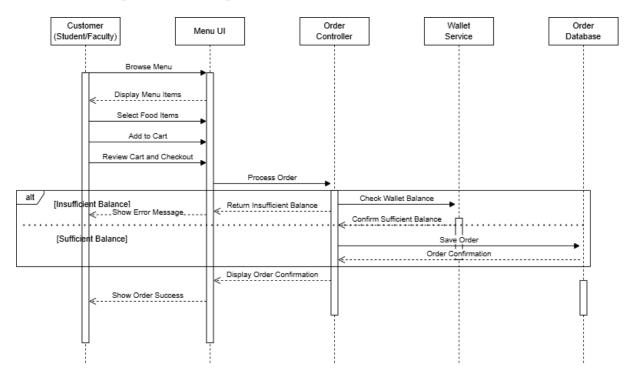
5.2.2 Interfaces

- createOrder(orderData): Order Creates a new order
- getOrder(id): Order Retrieves a specific order
- updateOrderStatus(id, status): Order Updates order status
- getOrderHistory(userId): List<Order> Retrieves order history for a user
- cancelOrder(id): boolean Cancels an order

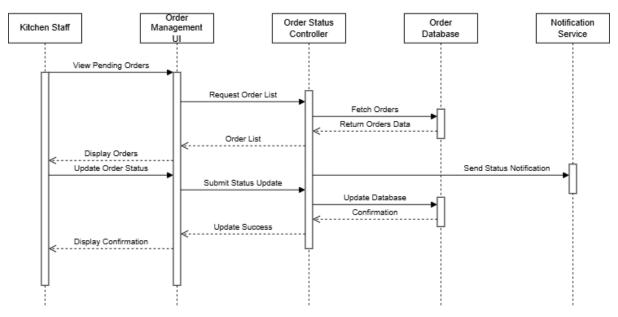
- addToCart(item): Cart Adds an item to the shopping cart
- removeFromCart(item): Cart Removes an item from the shopping cart
- getMenus(date): List<Menu> Retrieves menus for a specific date
- getMenuItem(id): MenuItem Retrieves a specific menu item
- createMenuItem(itemData): MenuItem Creates a new menu item
- updateMenuItem(id, itemData): MenuItem Updates an existing menu item
- deleteMenuItem(id): boolean Deletes a menu item
- setItemAvailability(id, available): boolean Updates item availability

5.2.3 Implementation Details

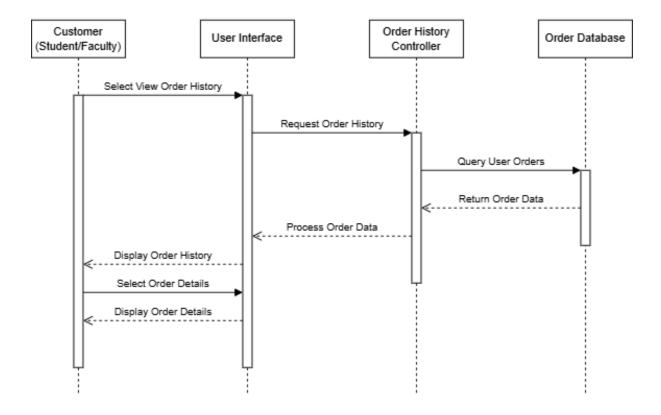
The Order Management component uses Firestore for order storage and real-time updates. It implements transaction management to ensure data consistency when updating order status and inventory. The component includes optimistic UI updates with server validation for a responsive user experience.

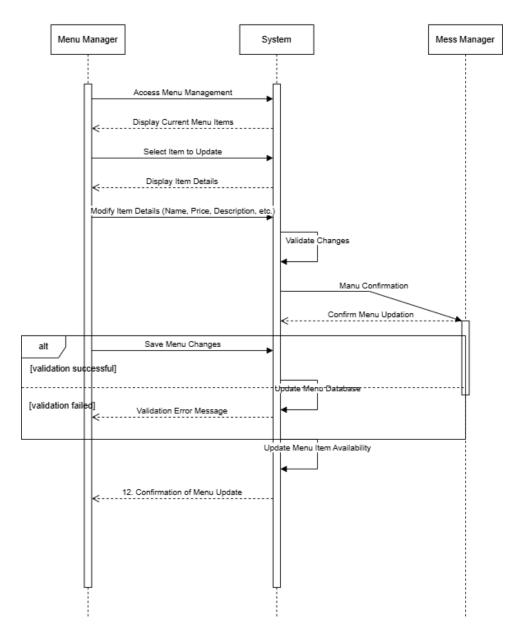


Update Order Menu - Sequential Diagram



View History - Sequential Diagram





System Sequence Diagram: Update Menu

5.3 Module: Payment System

5.3.1 Responsibilities

- Process payments for orders
- Manage wallet balances
- Handle wallet top-up operations
- Record transaction history
- Generate payment receipts

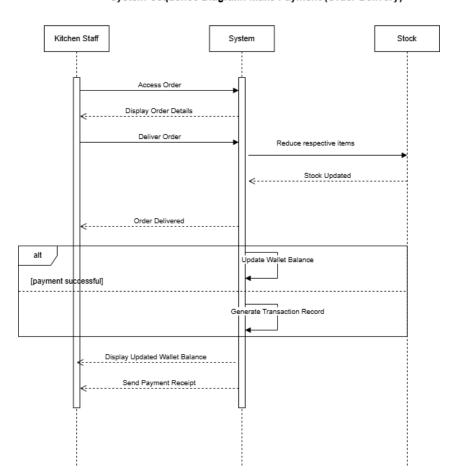
5.3.2 Interfaces

- processPayment(orderId): Payment Processes payment for an order
- getWalletBalance(userId): double Retrieves wallet balance for a user
- topUpWallet(userId, amount): Wallet Adds funds to a user's wallet
- deductFromWallet(userId, amount): boolean Deducts funds from a user's wallet
- getTransactionHistory(userId): List<Transaction> Retrieves transaction history
- generateReceipt(transactionId): Receipt Generates a receipt for a transaction

5.3.3 Implementation Details

The Payment component uses Firestore for wallet and transaction data storage. It implements atomic transactions to ensure financial data consistency. The component includes validation checks for sufficient balance before processing payments and integrates with Firebase Cloud Functions for complex payment operations.

System Sequence Diagram: Make Payment (Order Delivery)



5.4 Module: Notification System

5.4.1 Responsibilities

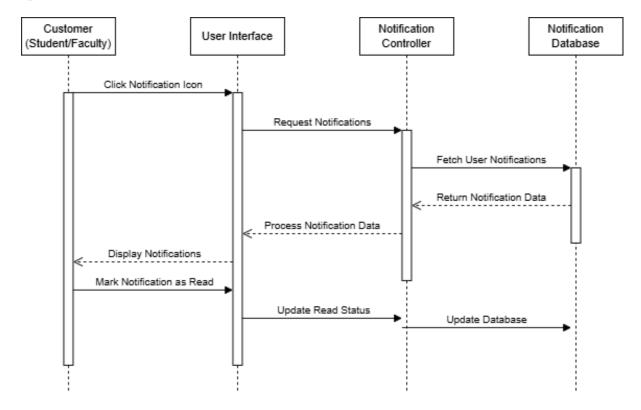
- Send real-time notifications to users
- Store and manage notification history
- Track notification read status
- Support different notification types (order updates, promotions, etc.)

5.4.2 Interfaces

- sendNotification(userId, notification): boolean Sends a notification to a user
- getNotifications(userId): List<Notification> Retrieves notifications for a user
- markAsRead(notificationId): boolean Marks a notification as read
- deleteNotification(notificationId): boolean Deletes a notification

5.4.3 Implementation Details

The Notification component uses Firebase Cloud Messaging for real-time notifications and Firestore for notification storage. It implements background notification handling for both mobile and web clients. The component includes support for notification grouping and prioritization.



6 Human Interface Design

6.1 Overview of User Interface

The Mess Management System features two primary user interfaces:

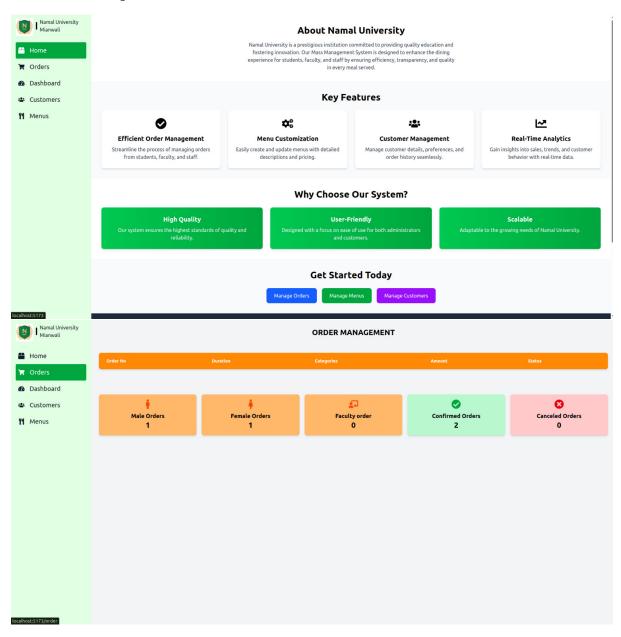
- 1. **Mobile Application Interface** Designed for students and faculty to browse menus, place orders, and manage their accounts.
- 2. Web Portal Interface Designed for administrative users (mess managers, menu managers, kitchen staff) to manage the system.

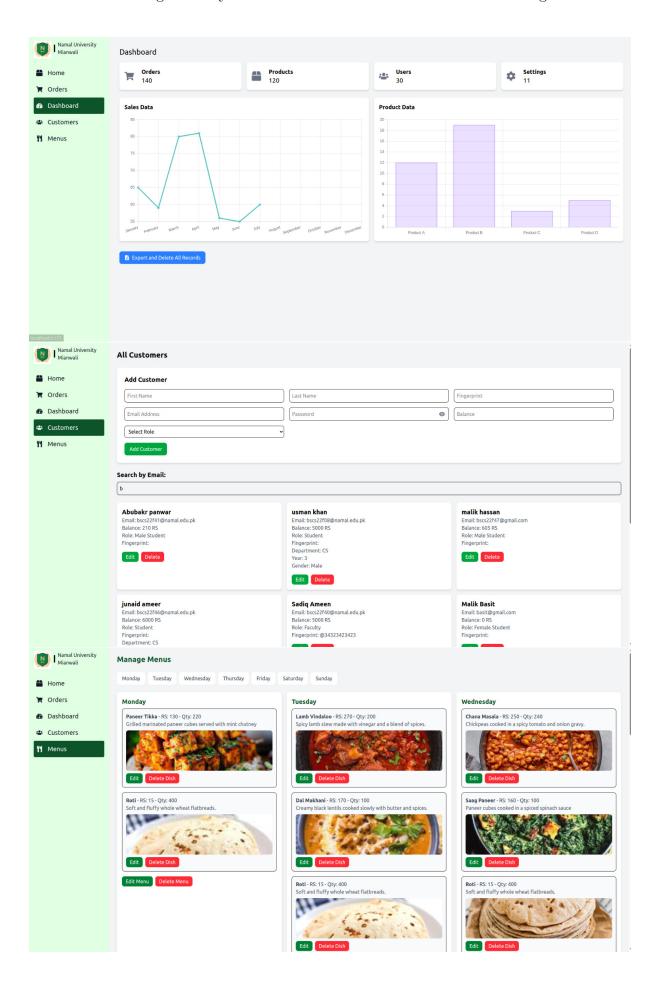
Both interfaces follow these design principles:

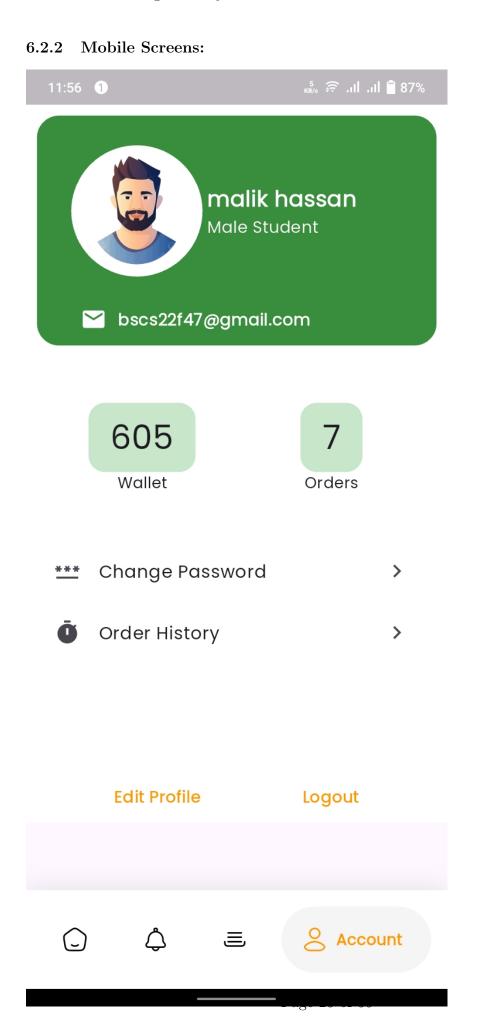
- Consistency: Maintaining consistent visual elements, interaction patterns, and terminology across the system.
- **Simplicity**: Focusing on essential features and minimizing cognitive load through clean, uncluttered layouts.
- **Responsiveness**: Ensuring the interfaces adapt to different screen sizes and orientations.
- Accessibility: Supporting users with disabilities through proper contrast, text sizing, and screen reader compatibility.
- Feedback: Providing clear feedback for user actions through visual cues, animations, and notifications.

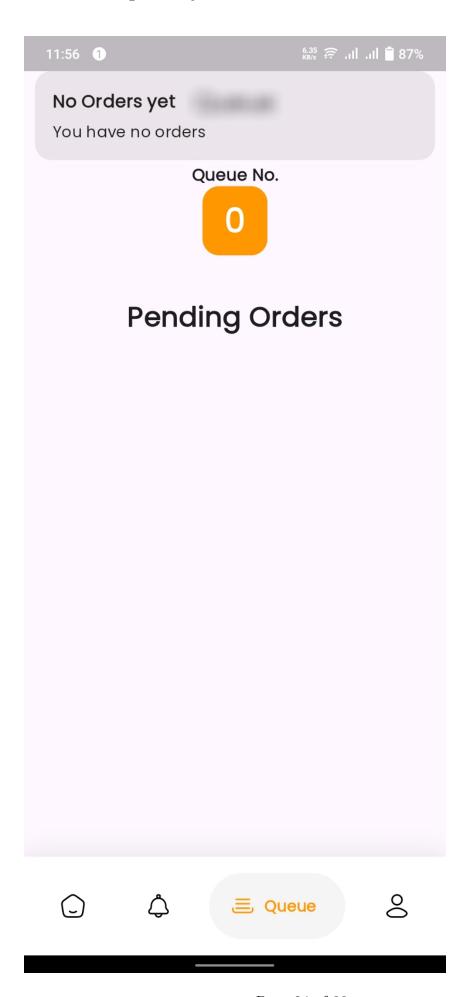
6.2 Screen Images

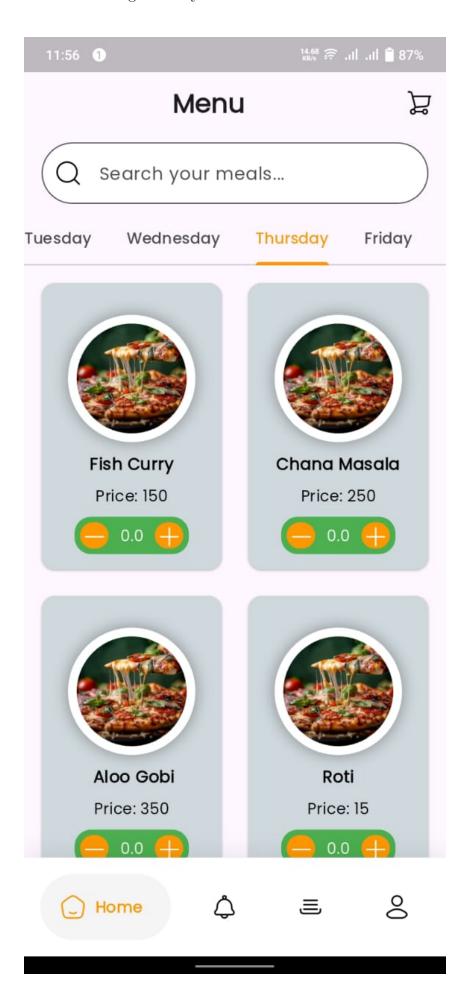
6.2.1 Desktop Screens:











6.3 Screen Objects and Actions

6.3.1 Mobile Application Interface

Screen	Objects	Actions
Login Screen		
	• Email/ID input field	• Enter credentials
	• Password input field	Submit login form
	• Login button	• Request password re-
	• Forgot password link	set
Home Screen		
	• Featured items carousel	Browse featured items
	• Category icons	Select category Vice at Continuous
	Notification badge	• View notifications
	• Search bar	• Search for items
	• Bottom navigation bar	• Navigate to other screens
Menu Screen		
	• Category tabs	• Switch categories
	• Menu item cards	• View item details
	• Item images	• Add items to cart
	• Price labels	• Adjust quantities
	• Add to cart buttons	Apply customizations
Cart Screen		
	• Item list	• Adjust quantities
	• Quantity adjusters	• Remove items
	• Remove buttons	Apply special instruc-
	Subtotal display	tions
	• Checkout button	Proceed to checkoutContinue shopping
	Checkout button	• Continue shopping

Order Tracking		
	• Status indicator	• View order status
	• Progress bar	• Check estimated time
	• Estimated time dis-	• View order details
	play	• Contact kitchen staff
	• Order details	• Cancel order (if al-
	• Contact button	lowed)
Wallet Screen		
	Balance display	• View balance
	• Transaction history	• Browse transactions

6.3.2 Web Portal Interface

Screen	Objects	Actions
Dashboard		
	• Statistics cards	• View system metrics
	• Recent orders list	• Access recent orders
	• Alert notifications	• Respond to alerts
	• Quick action buttons	Perform quick actions
	• Charts and graphs	• Analyze trends
Menu Manage-		
ment	• Category list	• Create/edit categories
	• Item table	• Add/edit menu items
	• Add/Edit forms	• Upload item images
	• Image uploader	• Set prices
	• Availability toggles	• Toggle availability

Order Management	 Order queue Status filters Order detail view Status update buttons Search and filter tools 	 View incoming orders Update order status View order details Search for specific orders Filter by status/date
Reports	 Report type selector Date range picker Data visualization Export buttons Filter options 	 Select report type Set date range View visualized data Export reports Apply filters

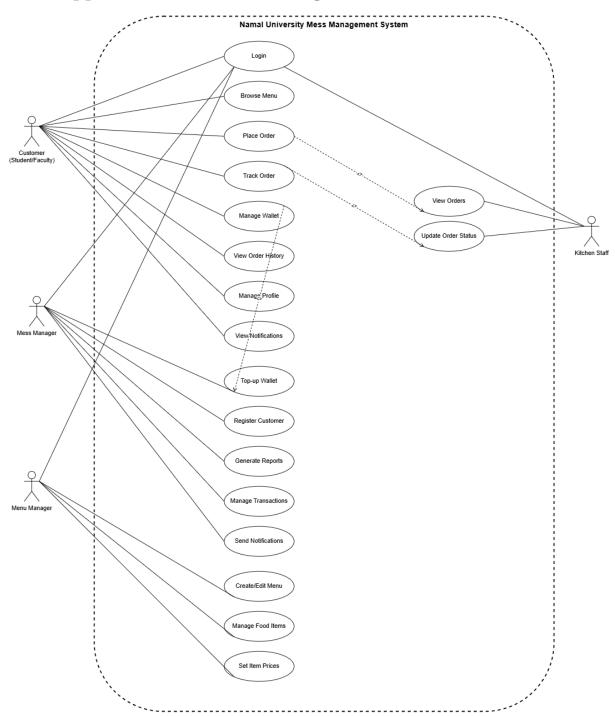
7 Requirements Traceability Matrix

Requirement	Description	Component/Module
ID		
REQ-3.1.1	User registration and login	Authentication
REQ-3.1.2	Role-based access control	Authentication
REQ-3.1.3	Password reset functionality	Authentication
REQ-3.2.1	Menu creation and management	Order Management
REQ-3.2.2	Menu categorization	Order Management
REQ-3.2.3	Menu item availability control	Order Management
REQ-3.3.1	Order placement	Order Management
REQ-3.3.2	Order tracking	Order Management
REQ-3.3.3	Order history	Order Management
REQ-3.4.1	Digital wallet	Payment System
REQ-3.4.3	Payment processing	Payment System
REQ-3.5.1	Sales reporting	Order Management
REQ-3.5.2	Consumption analytics	Order Management
REQ-3.6.1	Order notifications	Notification System
REQ-3.6.2	Promotional notifications	Notification System
REQ-3.7.1	Profile management	Authentication
REQ-5.1.1	Response time	All Modules
REQ-5.1.2	Throughput	All Modules

REQ-5.1.3	Capacity	All Modules
REQ-5.3.1	Authentication security	Authentication
REQ-5.3.2	Data security	All Modules
REQ-5.4.1	Usability	All Modules
REQ-5.4.3	Scalability	All Modules

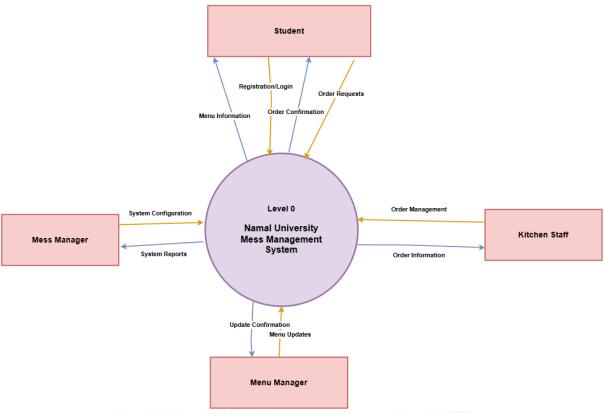
8 Appendices

8.1 Appendix A: Use Case Diagram

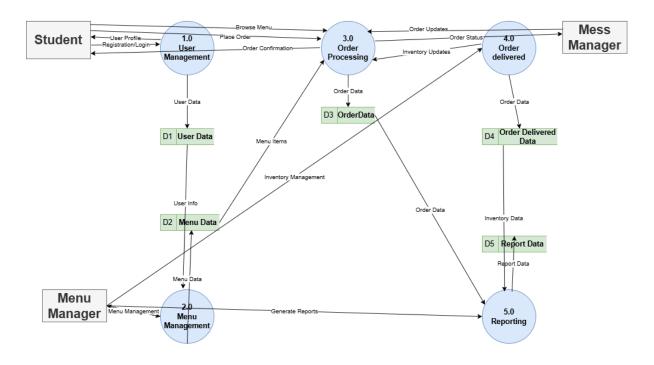


8.2 Appendix B: Data Dlow Diagrams

Namal University Mess Management System - Context Level DFD

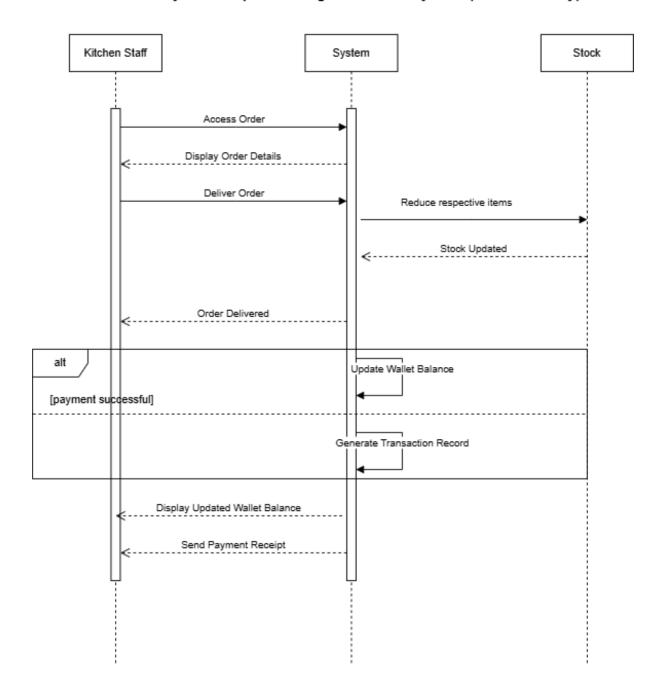


Namal University Mess Management System - Level-1 DFD

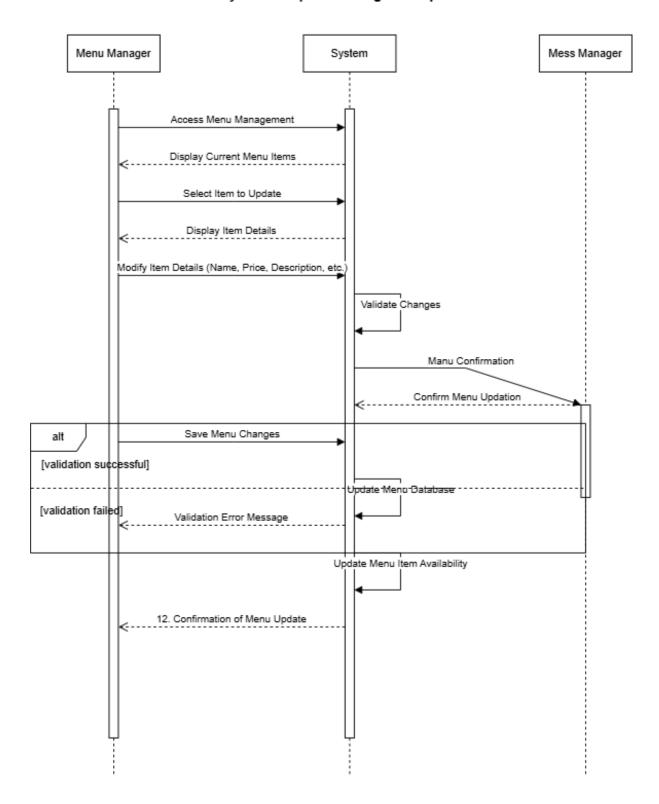


8.3 Appendix C: System Sequence Diagram

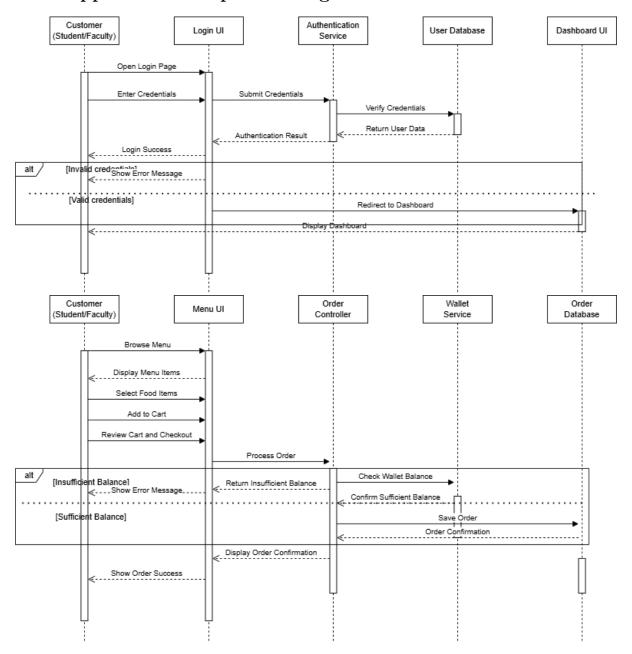
System Sequence Diagram: Make Payment (Order Delivery)



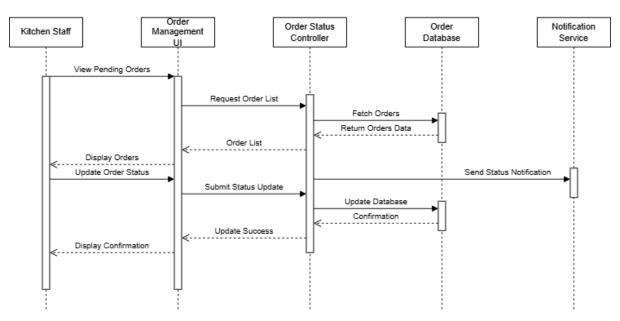
System Sequence Diagram: Update Menu



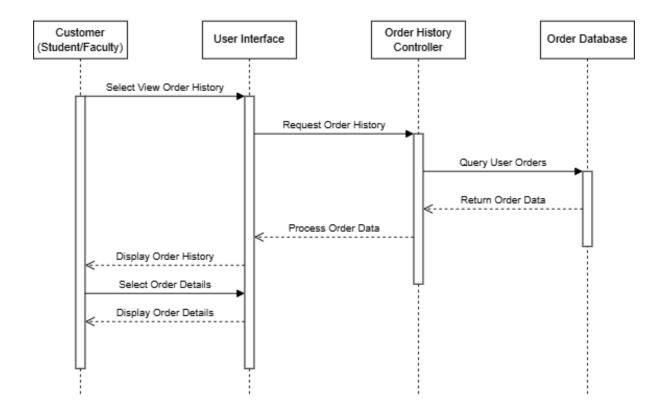
8.4 Appendix D: Sequence Diagrams

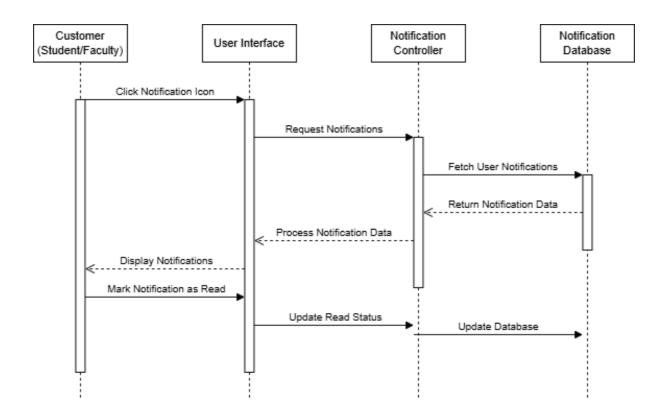


Update Order Menu - Sequential Diagram



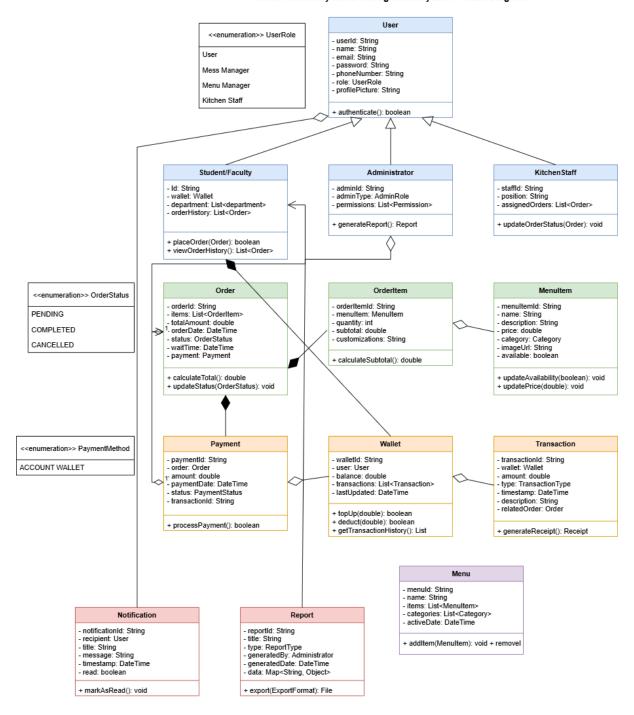
View History - Sequential Diagram





8.5 Appendix E: Class Diagram

Namal University Mess Management System - Class Diagram



8.6 Appendix F: Glossary

- **API:** Application Programming Interface A set of rules that allows different software applications to communicate with each other.
- **CRUD:** Create, Read, Update, Delete The four basic operations of persistent storage.
- **DFD:** Data Flow Diagram A graphical representation of the flow of data through an information system.
- MVC: Model-View-Controller A software design pattern commonly used for developing user interfaces that divides the related program logic into three interconnected elements.
- **REST:** Representational State Transfer An architectural style for designing networked applications.
- **SDD:** Software Design Document A document that describes how a software system will be designed and built.
- **SRS:** Software Requirements Specification A document that describes the requirements of a software system.
- UI: User Interface The space where interactions between humans and machines occur.
- UX: User Experience The overall experience of a person using a product, especially
 in terms of how easy or pleasing it is to use.
- **JWT:** JSON Web Token A compact, URL-safe means of representing claims to be transferred between two parties.
- **Firebase:** A platform developed by Google for creating mobile and web applications.
- Flutter: An open-source UI software development kit created by Google for building natively compiled applications.
- **React.js:** A JavaScript library for building user interfaces, maintained by Facebook.