Legal Aid System – Web Project

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1. Introduction

The Legal Aid System is a web-based platform designed to connect users seeking legal consultation with qualified lawyers. It simplifies the process of discovering, booking, and managing legal appointments through an intuitive interface accessible to all user types including guests, clients, lawyers, and administrators.

2. Problem Statement

Many individuals face difficulties accessing legal advice due to the complexity of finding trusted lawyers and managing appointments. The absence of a centralized, transparent platform makes the consultation process inefficient and unapproachable.

3. Proposed Solution

This project provides a role-based online platform that allows:
- Visitors to browse lawyers and content without registering.
- Clients to register, book consultations, and pay securely.
- Lawyers to manage their appointments and set their prices.
- Administrators to monitor all activities, manage roles, and publish content.

4. Framework & Technologies Used

- Frontend: HTML, CSS, JavaScript
- Framework: React.js
- Backend: Node.js
- Database: MongoDB
- Authentication: JWT
- Version Control: Git & GitHub
- Video Call: Agora.IO

5. Functional Specifications

5.1 Project Goals

- Facilitate legal consultations in a streamlined and accessible manner.
- Provide secure and easy booking and payment mechanisms.
- Ensure role-based access control across the platform.
- Enable content and appointment management by the admin.

5.2 User Stories

- Visitor:
  - Browse blogs, lawyers, and “About Us” page.
  - Send inquiries via “Contact Us” without registration.

- Registered User (Client):
  - Create an account and log in.
  - Book appointments with lawyers (30 mins or 1 hour).
  - Pay online for sessions.
  - View and manage profile and past bookings.
  - Apply to become a lawyer by submitting a form.

- Lawyer (after approval by admin):
  - View and manage appointments.
  - Accept or reject bookings.
  - Set consultation prices.

- Admin:
  - Manage all users and roles.
  - Review and approve lawyer applications.
  - Publish and manage blogs.
  - Monitor all platform activities.

6. Technical Specifications

6.1 Architecture Overview

- Frontend: React or Vue.js
- Backend: Node.js with Express or Django
- Database: MongoDB or MySQL
- Authentication: JWT-based
- Hosting: Vercel, Netlify, or DigitalOcean

6.2 Non-Functional Requirements

- Performance: Sub-second response time.
- Security: Input validation, secure login, encrypted payment processing.
- Compatibility: Fully responsive for all screen sizes and browsers.
- Scalability: Modular design to support future features.

7. Test Case for a Key Feature

Test: Verify that a registered user can book a 1-hour appointment with a lawyer.

Steps:
1. Register and log in as a client.
2. Browse available lawyers.
3. Choose a lawyer and select a 1-hour time slot.
4. Make payment via Stripe.

5. Confirm booking.

Expected Result:
The appointment is saved in the database and appears in the user's profile and lawyer’s appointment list. A confirmation is sent via email.