

## Day 12 – Daily Diary (Training TR-102)

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**Training Location:** STEP GNDEC, Ludhiana

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**Topic Covered:** Introduction to XAMPP & Local Server Setup

### ◆ What I Learned Today:

On the twelfth day of my training, I was introduced to **XAMPP**, a popular software that allows developers to run a **local server** on their computer. XAMPP provides an easy way to install **Apache (web server)**, **MySQL (database)**, **PHP**, and **Perl**, which are essential for web development projects, especially when working with back-end technologies.

I learned why a local server is necessary: it allows developers to **test web applications locally** before deploying them online. The trainer explained the different components of XAMPP and demonstrated how to start and stop services like Apache and MySQL.

We also discussed how to create a project folder, place files in the htdocs directory, and access the project in a web browser using localhost. The session included an overview of phpMyAdmin, a tool to manage databases using a graphical interface.

### ◆ Activities Performed:

1. Installed XAMPP on my system and learned how to start and stop Apache and MySQL services.
2. Created a project folder in the htdocs directory.
3. Accessed the project in the browser using `http://localhost/project-name`.
4. Explored phpMyAdmin to create and manage MySQL databases.
5. Created sample PHP files to understand server-side execution.
6. Tested database connections using PHP and MySQL.
7. Learned basic troubleshooting for common XAMPP errors.

### ◆ Skills Gained:

- Understanding the purpose and components of XAMPP.
- Ability to set up a **local server environment** for web development.
- Knowledge of managing databases using phpMyAdmin.
- Experience in running and testing PHP files locally.
- Familiarity with connecting web applications to a MySQL database.

**Reflection:**

Today's session was very practical and important for **back-end development**. I realized that setting up a local server is essential for testing web applications safely before making them live. Learning XAMPP helped me understand how web servers, databases, and server-side scripting work together.

Overall, Day 12 gave me a strong foundation in **local server setup and database management**, which is essential for building dynamic, data-driven web applications in the future.