

**Team Members:****Yahia Kamel Hussein - 98890320****Ronak Jain - 70015854****Kussh Satija - 80384878**

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**Description:**

We are excited to write this proposal for the creation of a new discussion forum website called “MessiIsTheGoat”. This website will cater to the fans of the legendary soccer player, Lionel Messi. In terms of functionality, this website will act similarly to websites such as Reddit and HackerNews. We hope to provide unregistered and registered users the ability to browse through and learn more about their favorite player Lionel Messi.

The registered users can post discussions as well as provide feedback to other discussions.

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**Requirements:**

- For Unregistered Users:
  - Browse discussions without the need to register.
  - Search for posts or items.
- For Registered Users:
  - Register on the site by providing their name and email
  - Log in to the site using a user ID and password.
  - Create new discussions and comment on existing ones.
  - View and edit their user profile.
  - User images (thumbnail) and profile stored in a database
  - Track their previous posted discussions.
- Administrator’s User:
  - Search for users by name, email, or posts.
  - Enable or disable user accounts.
  - Edit or remove items, posts, or complete discussions.
  - View the number of discussions posted by a certain user.
  - Ability to create category discussions.
- Layout and design
  - Hand-styled 2 or 3-column layout using Bootstrap, with contextual menus reflecting user login state.

- Highlighting navigation links on hover and ensuring a responsive design.
  - Categorically structured discussions.
  - Create a registration page.
- Functionality:
  - Form validation using JavaScript.
  - Server-side scripting with PHP.
  - Data storage in MySQL.
  - Ensuring appropriate security measures for data protection.
  - Maintaining user state (logged in/out status).
  - Responsive design for various non-mobile display sizes.
  - Utilization of AJAX for asynchronous updates in discussion threads.
  - Navigation breadcrumb strategy (i.e. users can determine where they are in threads)
  - Error handling (bad navigation)
- Enhanced Features:
  - Advanced search and analysis for topics/items.
  - Tracking of hot threads/items.
  - Collapsible items/threads without page reloading.
  - Use icons from <https://fontawesome.com/v5.15/icons>.