

Muhammad Saqib Bilal

Toronto, Canada

mbilal.ca

(647) 864-1186

saqib_bilal786@yahoo.com

Linkedin

SENIOR FULL STACK DEVELOPER

TYPESCRIPT | NEXT.JS | REACT | LARAVEL (API-FIRST) | POSTGRESQL | AWS | DOCKER | RESTFUL APIs

Summary: Senior Full Stack Developer with 6+ years of experience specializing in high-performance web architectures. Expert at modernizing legacy PHP monoliths into decoupled, **API-first** ecosystems using **Next.js 15**, **TypeScript**, and **Laravel 12**. Proven expertise in **AI integration** (Semantic Search) and cloud-native deployments on **AWS (ECS/Fargate)**

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Backend & Security: PHP 8.4, **Laravel 12 (Headless)**, **Sanctum (Bearer Token Auth)**, RESTful API Design, TDD (**Pest/PHPUnit**)

Modern Frontend: Next.js 15 (**App Router, SSR, SSG, ISR**), React 19, TypeScript, **Zustand** (Global State), **TanStack Query** (Server State), Tailwind CSS

AI & Search: Google Gemini API (Embeddings), PostgreSQL (**pgvector**), Semantic Similarity Search.

DevOps & Cloud: AWS (**ECS/Fargate, ALB, RDS, S3**), Docker, GitHub Actions (CI/CD), Linux CLI

Testing & Tooling: PHPUnit (TDD), XDebug, Postman, Vitest (for React testing).

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

APRICOT INC. – Toronto, Canada

11/2024 – PRESENT

SENIOR FULL STACK ENGINEER

- Architected and deployed a **high-performance decoupled ecosystem** using **Laravel 12** and **Next.js 15**, implementing **SSG and ISR** to achieve near-instantaneous page loads while transitioning the organization from legacy Blade templates to an API-first model.
- Secured **cross-domain data exchange** by implementing a stateless authentication layer using **Laravel Sanctum** and **Bearer Tokens**, ensuring secure communication between the headless backend and modern frontend
- Architected an **AI-powered search** feature using Google Gemini **embeddings** and PostgreSQL (**pgvector**), replacing basic keyword matching with a semantic system that understands the intent and meaning behind user queries.
- **Optimized application reliability** by implementing **Zustand** for client state and **TanStack Query** for server-state synchronization, reducing API overhead and eliminating runtime errors through strict **TypeScript** enforcement.
- **Orchestrated cloud-native deployments** on **AWS ECS/Fargate** via **GitHub Actions**, managing high-availability infrastructure including **RDS (PostgreSQL)** and **Application Load Balancers (ALB)**

KALKOMEY – Toronto, Canada

11/2021 – 10/2024

FULL STACK DEVELOPER

- **Modernized** payment infrastructure by integrating the **Stripe API**, handling complex billing logic and automated invoicing.
- **Containerized** development workflows using **Docker Compose**, significantly reducing environment inconsistencies across the engineering team.
- **Optimized** platform performance by implementing SEO best practices and resolving bottlenecks identified via XDebug and Google PageSpeed Insights.
- **Refactored** legacy codebase modules to adhere to **PSR-12 coding standards**, improving long-term maintainability.

BID13 – Toronto, Canada

06/2020 – 09/2021

PHP WEB DEVELOPER

- **Reduced** page load times by 40% through MySQL indexing and frontend asset optimization.
- **Engineered** fraud detection features using browser cookie tracking to prevent duplicate/fraudulent accounts.
- **Developed** location-based search functionality (Zip code/Distance search) for an online auction system.
- **Collaborated** with the frontend team to implement cross-browser compatibility fixes, ensuring a seamless and consistent bidding experience for users on both mobile and desktop platforms.

ZAMEEN MEDIA – Lahore, Pakistan

01/2019 – 02/2020

SENIOR PHP (LARAVEL) BACKEND DEVELOPER

- **Developed** modular backend services in **Laravel** following **Test-Driven Development (TDD)** to ensure 80%+ code coverage.
- **Integrated** complex third-party REST APIs including Google Maps and Calendar for real-estate data synchronization.
- **Utilized** AWS S3 for cloud-based file storage and managed code reviews within an Agile/Scrum team.

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS**Bachelor of Science in Telecommunications**

NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF COMPUTER AND EMERGING SCIENCES - LAHORE, PAKISTAN

Post Graduate Diploma in Computer Science

VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY OF PAKISTAN - LAHORE, PAKISTAN