

Day-13 — Introduction to XAMPP & Local Server Setup

Date: 14 July 2025

Today's session introduced learners to the concept of local server environments and how they are used for web development before deployment to live servers. The focus was on XAMPP, a popular open-source software package that includes Apache, MySQL, PHP, and Perl — essential tools for running a local web server.

Topics Covered:

- What is XAMPP and why it is used in web development
- Installation process of XAMPP on Windows
- Understanding the XAMPP Control Panel and starting Apache & MySQL services
- Setting up a local project folder inside the 'htdocs' directory
- Testing a PHP file locally using localhost
- Common errors and how to fix port conflicts (Apache/SQL)
- Introduction to phpMyAdmin and database management

By the end of the session, participants were able to successfully install XAMPP, configure their local servers, and host their first PHP-based webpage on localhost.