Alaa Alhaj

Senior Full-Stack Engineer · 10+ years · Open to remote roles

Damascus, Syria | +963 934 329 266 | alaa@noah-lab.net | noah-lab.net/alaa | linkedin.com/in/alaa-alhaj

SUMMARY

Senior engineer with 10+ years of full-stack experience — React on the front, PHP and Node.js on the back, MySQL underneath. I own the whole build, from database schema to interface, and I ship it. Four years building AI-powered health platforms at Medicus AI, on-site and then fully remote with a European team. Today I lead engineering at Noah Creative Lab, where I built and run two SaaS products used by real clients.

EXPERIENCE

Co-founder & CTO

Dec 2025 — Present

Noah Creative Lab · Damascus

- Built and run two SaaS products: **TaskWave**, a business management system with an AI assistant that takes actions and logs every step, and **Rawda**, a kindergarten management system (PHP · MySQL · JavaScript).
- Own all engineering at the studio — architecture, code, deployment — and build full-stack client projects in React, Next.js, Node.js and PHP.

Development Team Lead

Jul 2025 — Nov 2025

Karam Shaar Advisory Limited · Full-time

- Improved and maintained the company website; set up a project management system as the team's single place to track work; documented processes and prepared technical studies for new projects.

Freelance Full-Stack Developer

Nov 2023 — Jun 2025

Self-employed

- Built and maintained custom web applications for clients in React, Next.js, Node.js and PHP, end to end — and improved performance and SEO on existing sites.

Senior Web Developer

Aug 2019 — Oct 2023

Medicus AI · Damascus, remote from 2021 · Promoted from Web Developer in Aug 2020

- Built React interfaces for AI health products (React, Meteor.js, Context API, Chart.js, i18n): the **Wellbeing Quiz**, a dynamic questionnaire engine with conditional logic, and **Smart Reports**, a white-label lab dashboard with biomarker alerts, doctor booking and GDPR role-based access.
- Built the **Quiz backend service** (Meteor, Node.js): bcrypt authentication, crypto-js encryption, validation, scoring and ExcelJS report exports, with ESLint (Airbnb) and a lint/test pipeline.
- Built the **Dynamic Medical Report Builder** — a standalone PHP microservice called as an API by the React app: patient JSON in, styled PDF reports out via wkhtmltopdf, with Chart.js biomarker charts. Fixed a download failure on some iPhones and browsers.

Full-Stack Web Developer

Nov 2016 — Aug 2019

LARSA IT LLC · Dubai, UAE

- Built enterprise portals on Liferay for clients including the **Hamdan Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation** and **FabLab UAE**, plus sites on Drupal, WordPress, Laravel, Yii2 and CodeIgniter.

Web Developer & Trainer

May 2015 — Oct 2016

VOILA · Damascus

- Managed and updated multiple client websites and provided SEO consulting.
- Ran developer training sessions on the Yii framework and PDO.

SKILLS

Frontend	React, Next.js, Meteor.js, Context API, JavaScript (ES6+), HTML5, CSS3, Chart.js, Tailwind CSS, Bootstrap, RTL / bilingual UI
Backend	PHP, Node.js, Meteor, REST APIs, ExcelJS, wkhtmltopdf, Laravel, Yii2, CodeIgniter, MySQL, PostgreSQL
CMS	WordPress (custom themes), Drupal, Liferay
Quality & tools	Jest, React Testing Library, ESLint, bcrypt, JWT, Git, GitHub, Bitbucket, Scrum
Also worked with	TypeScript, Docker
Languages	Arabic (native), English (professional working proficiency)
AI workflow	Claude, GitHub Copilot, Cursor

EDUCATION

BSc Information Technology, Syrian Virtual University, 2017 · **Diploma in Computer Technology**, 2012