Awab Ali

Backend Engineer

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Backend engineer building Node.js APIs and the infrastructure that runs them. Built and shipped the backend for a product that turns WhatsApp conversations into structured orders for merchants, owning API architecture, payments, and containerized AWS deployment end to end. Ranked #1 team in Sudan at the IEEEXtreme 19.0 Global Programming Competition.

EXPERIENCE

Zameel — Backend & DevOps Engineer Jan 2026 – Present

Business Solutions Suite · backed by ElevenLabs Grants · zameel.co Dubai, UAE · Remote

- Built the shared account layer behind a four-product business suite: one sign-in opens every product, with per-product access control and billing so accounts pay only for what they switch on.
- Built and shipped the backend for Zameel Commerce, which lets merchants take and fulfil orders directly over WhatsApp, and for Zameel Interview.
- Architected the Node.js/Express backend on MySQL 8 and Sequelize with a Redis caching layer; schema, indexing, and caching work cut hot-path response times from ~1,150ms to ~200ms and halved external AI API spend.
- Built the LLM-powered order-parsing engine (Gemini, DeepSeek, Claude) that extracts structured orders from mixed Arabic/English messages at ~87% accuracy in production.
- Led the Tap Payments to Stripe migration end to end — checkout sessions, webhook validation, subscription billing — with zero downtime and a measurable lift in completed transactions.
- Contributed to the Arabic-first, right-to-left handling that runs across the suite, with Arabic as the default and English alongside it.
- Containerized every service with Docker Compose and own production deployment on AWS EC2 behind Nginx, standardizing releases and cutting configuration incidents.
- Secured the platform with JWT authentication, RBAC authorization, strict per-tenant data isolation, and MFA.
- Part of a 3-person core team; own the backend and infrastructure track and mentor an engineering intern.

DAL Group — Backend Engineer (Part-time) May 2024 – Jan 2026

Sudan's largest and most diversified private conglomerate Khartoum, Sudan

- Designed and developed 15+ scalable backend services using Node.js and Express.js, delivering secure RESTful APIs that supported 10,000+ daily requests with high availability.
- Optimized SQL queries, reducing average API response times by 40%.
- Integrated 8+ internal and third-party systems through secure REST APIs, eliminating manual data entry and reducing processing time by 60%.
- Implemented JWT authentication and role-based access control (RBAC), securing access for 500+ internal users across multiple business applications.
- Improved backend scalability through asynchronous processing, caching, and indexing strategies, increasing request throughput while reducing infrastructure costs.
- Monitored and resolved production issues using centralized logging and performance monitoring, decreasing critical incident resolution time (MTTR) by 50%.

IntelliSoft Technologies — Backend Engineer Jan 2024 – May 2024

IT services and IT consulting Khartoum, Sudan

- Designed and built 5 core REST API endpoints powering the platform's order and catalog flows, improving order-processing throughput.
- Implemented authentication and authorization end to end, including password hashing and multi-factor authentication.
- Integrated payments into the platform's checkout flow.
- Built internal integrations connecting the platform to other systems, working as part of a larger engineering team on client projects.
- Tuned MySQL queries and added caching to hold performance under load, and wrote unit and integration tests to protect reliability.

PROJECTS

CodeVerse — open-source tool that renders any public GitHub repository as an explorable 3D city: directories become districts, files become buildings, imports become arcs and commits light up the files they touched. Parses real syntax trees for six languages with tree-sitter compiled to WebAssembly, resolves imports into a dependency graph and streams analysis as NDJSON; nothing is cloned or executed. Live at codeverse.awab.tech. TypeScript, Next.js, three.js, tree-sitter, Web Workers, Docker.

Katedrala — deterministic architecture-intelligence engine, in development toward v1, that reads TypeScript/JavaScript codebases into a versioned Architecture IR with stable identifiers, links them into a typed dependency graph where every edge carries provenance to its line of code, and runs cycle, reachability, centrality and PageRank analysis over it; module inference, metrics and a rules engine are next. No LLM in the analysis engine. TypeScript, Node.js, TypeScript Compiler API, pnpm monorepo, Vitest, JSON Schema.

TunnelFlow — self-hosted open-source localhost tunneling platform with dashboard, CLI, live traffic inspection, and webhook simulation. Node.js, Next.js, WebSocket, Docker, Stripe.

TrackMail — AI job-application tracker that parses inbox email into a kanban pipeline, with multi-inbox sync and an AI reply assistant. Node.js, TypeScript, Next.js, Nylas, MySQL, Stripe.

hijri-utils — published zero-dependency npm library for Hijri calendar conversion, formatting, and comparison (ESM + CommonJS); 1,500+ downloads. JavaScript, npm.

Tedddby (2020 – 2023) — self-funded software service built and run end to end as sole engineer and operator, serving 15,000+ paid transactions and roughly $20K in revenue. High-volume PHP backend with RSA request signing, OpenSSL cryptography, and X.509 certificate handling, plus a Node.js/MySQL customer portal with payments and a C# desktop tool for internal automation. PHP, Node.js, MySQL, C#.

SKILLS

Languages: JavaScript (Node.js), TypeScript, PHP, C#, Java

Backend: Express.js, REST API design, Sequelize ORM, JWT, RBAC, MFA, webhooks, asynchronous processing

Data & DevOps: MySQL (schema design, query optimization), Redis, Docker, Docker Compose, AWS EC2, Nginx, Linux VPS, centralized logging & monitoring

Integrations & tools: Stripe, WhatsApp Cloud API (Meta), Nylas, LLM APIs (Gemini, DeepSeek, Claude), Git, Postman, unit & integration testing

EDUCATION & RECOGNITION

BSc Information Technology — Sudan University of Science and Technology, Khartoum 2022 – 2026

IEEEXtreme 19.0 Global Programming Competition — ranked #1 in Sudan (team ZeroDay). Certificate 2025

Languages: Arabic (native), English (professional working proficiency)