

ISMAIL IDRIS

Full-Stack MERN Developer

Building scalable web applications for modern markets

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GitHub: github.com/ismail_idris_ab

Portfolio: aiimern.vercel.app

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Results-driven Full-Stack MERN Developer with 3+ years of hands-on experience designing, building, and deploying robust web applications from conception to production. Specialised in MongoDB, Express.js, React, and Node.js, with a strong track record delivering market-specific solutions across fintech, SaaS, and content platforms — particularly within the Nigerian digital ecosystem. Adept at translating complex business requirements into clean, maintainable code while adhering to modern best practices in API design, state management, and cloud deployment.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Frontend [React.js](#) | [Next.js](#) | [Redux / Zustand](#) | [Tailwind CSS](#) | [Material UI](#) | [HTML5 / CSS3](#) | [TypeScript](#)

Backend [Node.js](#) | [Express.js](#) | [REST API](#) | [GraphQL](#) | [JWT / OAuth2](#) | [Socket.io](#) | [Passport.js](#)

Database [MongoDB](#) | [Mongoose](#) | [PostgreSQL](#) | [Redis](#) | [Firebase Firestore](#)

DevOps & Cloud [AWS \(EC2, S3, Lambda\)](#) | [Docker](#) | [Nginx](#) | [GitHub Actions](#) | [Vercel](#) | [Render](#) | [Railway](#)

Tools & Workflow [Git / GitHub](#) | [Postman](#) | [Jest / Supertest](#) | [Figma](#) | [Jira](#) | [VS Code](#) |

Payments [Paystack API](#) | [Flutterwave](#) | [Stripe](#) |

WORK EXPERIENCE

Senior Full-Stack MERN Developer · [Freelance / Self-Employed](#)

Jan 2026 – Present
Lagos, Nigeria (Remote)

- Design and develop full-stack web applications for Nigerian fintech and SaaS clients using the MERN stack.
- Built Rotara — a group contribution (ajo/esusu) platform with rotating payout logic, Paystack webhook integration, and multi-role admin dashboards.
- Built Sahlearn — A school and digital skills platform designed for a teacher offering courses in web development, UI/UX design, PowerPoint, AI technology, and other digital skills.

- Architected multi-tenant RESTful APIs with JWT authentication, role-based access control, and paginated query optimization.
- Deployed applications on AWS EC2 with Nginx reverse proxy, SSL certificates, and Docker containerization for zero-downtime deployments.
- Reduced API response times by 40% through MongoDB indexing strategies, Redis caching, and query refactoring.
- Integrated Paystack and Flutterwave payment gateways with webhook verification, idempotency keys, and transaction reconciliation.

Mid-Level React / Node.js Developer · Bauchi STARTUP

Mar 2025 – Dec 2026
Bauchi, Nigeria

- Collaborated on a team of 6 engineers building an HR and payroll SaaS product serving 200+ Nigerian SMEs.
- Migrated a legacy jQuery front-end to a modular React.js component library, cutting bundle size by 35%.
- Implemented real-time notifications using Socket.io, improving user engagement metrics by 28%.
- Built an automated payroll processing module integrating PAYE tax rules, pension deductions, and bank transfer APIs.
- Developed and tested RESTful APIs using Node.js, Express.js, Jest, and Supertest, ensuring reliable backend functionality with 85%+ coverage on critical business logic.
- Worked closely with developers in an Agile/Scrum environment, contributing to code reviews, sprint planning, feature discussions, and documentation for scalable MERN stack applications.

Junior Web Developer · Startup Collective NG

Jun 2023 – Feb 2025
Enugu, Nigeria

- Developed and maintained client websites and landing pages using HTML, CSS, JavaScript, and React.
- Built RESTful APIs with Node.js and Express to serve dynamic content for 3 client web applications.
- Set up CI/CD pipelines using GitHub Actions to automate testing and deployment to Heroku.
- Collaborated directly with designers to translate Figma mockups into pixel-perfect, responsive interfaces.

KEY PROJECTS

Rotara — React · Node.js · MongoDB · Paystack · AWS

Group contribution (ajo/esusu/osusu) platform with rotating payout cycles for Nigerian markets.

- Engineered monthly rotation engine with configurable payout order, conflict resolution, and audit trails.
- Implemented Paystack webhook listener with HMAC signature verification and idempotency handling.
- Built multi-role dashboards (Admin / Member) with granular permission scoping using RBAC middleware.
- Deployed on AWS EC2 behind Nginx with PM2 cluster mode achieving 99.8% uptime.

Sahlearn — React · Express.js · MongoDB · Cloudinary

SaaS proof-of-payment tracker for informal savings groups — avoids CBN fund-custody licensing.

- Designed 61-file fullstack architecture with feature-based folder structure and shared utility layer.
- Integrated Cloudinary for payment receipt uploads with server-side validation and storage quota management.
- Implemented freemium SaaS model with plan-gating middleware and Paystack subscription webhooks.
- Built WhatsApp-shareable payment links reducing manual group admin work by ~70%.

Alabira Nigeria — Next.js · Node.js · PostgreSQL · Google Maps API

Marketplace connecting small holder farmers to bulk buyers with real-time price listings.

- Built geolocation-based search using Google Maps API to match buyers to nearest verified sellers.
- Implemented server-side rendering (SSR) with Next.js for SEO and fast initial page load on low-bandwidth connections.
- Designed PostgreSQL schema with PostGIS extension for spatial queries across 36 states.

EDUCATION

B.Sc. Computer Science

University of Kano (BUK)

2015 – 2019

Second Class Upper

CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Meta Front-End Developer Certificate

Meta / Coursera · 2023

Node.js Application Development (LFW212)

Linux Foundation · 2022

The Complete React Developer Course

Udemy / Andrei Neagoie · 2024

JavaScript Algorithms & Data Structures

freeCodeCamp · 2020

ADDITIONAL COMPETENCIES

- Prompt engineering for generative AI tools (Nano, DALL-E, Flux, Imagen) applied to product and marketing.
- SEO fundamentals — technical on-page optimisation, keyword research, and community-driven traffic growth.
- Basic UI/UX design in Figma and Canva; comfortable working from wireframes to high-fidelity mockups.
- Strong written and verbal communication in English; experienced delivering technical presentations to stakeholders.