

AHMED ELKHOLY

Senior Backend Engineer | PHP/Laravel | Scalable APIs, SaaS, Payments & Reliability

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PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior Backend Engineer with 5+ years of hands-on experience designing, building and operating production systems across commerce, SaaS, EdTech, AI/media, messaging and financial workflows. Deep expertise in PHP/Laravel architecture, secure REST/GraphQL APIs, MySQL/PostgreSQL/Redis, asynchronous processing, payments, third-party integrations, performance tuning and production reliability. Delivered systems ranging from a ~100K requests/day commerce platform and a 260+ API estate to Shopify SaaS, omnichannel messaging and AI-generation platforms, with end-to-end ownership across design, implementation, code review, CI/CD, testing, observability and incident recovery.

100K req/day platform | 260+ APIs | 100+ QA rules | 30+ payment integrations | 9 messaging channels

CORE ENGINEERING SKILLS

Backend & Architecture: PHP 8.x, Laravel 8-13, OOP/SOLID, design patterns, scalable system design, REST, GraphQL, OpenAPI, service/domain layers, modular monoliths, microservices, multi-tenancy, webhooks.

Data & Reliability: MySQL, PostgreSQL, Redis, relational data modeling, transactions, queues/jobs, locks, retries/backoff, idempotency, deduplication, reconciliation, caching, query/index tuning.

Security & Integrations: Sanctum/JWT/OAuth, authorization, HMAC/webhook signatures, encrypted secrets, secure API design, payments, Shopify, Meta, Gmail, Twilio, Telegram, OpenAI and AI/media APIs.

Cloud, DevOps & Quality: AWS/S3, Docker, Kubernetes, Linux, Nginx, DigitalOcean, Cloudflare, Forge, GitHub Actions/CI/CD, observability, incident RCA, PHPUnit, Pest, PHPStan/Larastan.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Senior Backend Engineer - Grids Apps

2021 - Present | EdTech, SaaS, commerce and operational platforms

- Own backend delivery across 5+ major product lines, from system/schema/API design through integrations, data migration, performance optimization, production incidents and release readiness.
- Modernize mature Laravel systems without destabilizing production by isolating business rules, hardening authentication/authorization, tuning queries/imports, improving observability and introducing repeatable recovery workflows.
- Review backend/API architecture, conduct code reviews and guide engineers through implementation decisions while remaining hands-on with critical code paths, incident root-cause analysis and high-risk releases.

Senior Backend Engineer - Arrays

2025 - 2026 | Part-time engagement | Saudi-focused AI/media, events and multi-surface products

- Delivered backend architecture and production implementation across 3 product families, translating business flows into domain boundaries, API contracts, permissions, asynchronous workflows and scalable release-ready systems.
- Designed failure-aware jobs, payment/storage flows and provider integrations so long-running operations remain traceable, secure and recoverable when third-party services are slow, asynchronous or partially unavailable.

Senior Backend Engineer - Jomlakwt

2023 - 2025 | Part-time engagement | Remote | Kuwait multi-vendor e-commerce

- Owned backend architecture, performance and production delivery for a web + Flutter multi-vendor commerce platform handling roughly 100K requests/day.
- Maintained 260+ documented REST APIs across catalog, sellers, checkout, orders, wallets, delivery, refunds, installments, search, localization and accounts; produced OpenAPI and architecture documentation for technical due diligence.
- Hardened 6 payment/BNPL integrations plus custom installment flows; led root-cause analysis for Cloudflare/Nginx/MySQL/queue incidents including 502/504/524 errors, connection pressure and slow TTFB.

SELECTED PRODUCT ENGINEERING

Tik Video - AI Media Generation Platform

Laravel 12 | PHP 8.2+ | Nuxt 4/Vue 3 | Queues | S3 | OpenAI | Stability AI | Runway/Luma | Shotstack/Creatomate | ElevenLabs/Suno | Moyasar

- Architected 11 backend domains spanning identity, content, projects, media, songs, videos, packages, subscriptions, orders, payments and marketing, keeping product complexity behind explicit service boundaries.
- Integrated 8+ AI/media providers behind replaceable contracts and engineered queued generation pipelines with polling/webhook completion, retry/failure states and S3 finalization across text-to-video, image-to-video, slideshow and template modes.
- Built credit-aware generation that reserves value before expensive work, settles against actual usage and refunds failures; separated payment state from media-generation state to make recovery safe and auditable.

Culture Bridge - Cultural / Event Experience Platform

4 product surfaces: API | Admin | Organizer | Public Website

- Delivered a consistent event workflow across 4 application surfaces, aligning participant, organizer and operational state instead of duplicating business rules per interface.

- Implemented proximity-based check-in, OTP verification and delayed/background processing with explicit permissions and reliable state transitions; shipped V1 and continued architecture work for the next iteration.

Sajah / Events, Exhibitions & Ticketing Systems

4 operational surfaces: API | Admin | Portal | WMS/Operations

- Delivered registration, ticketing, QR/check-in, commerce and live event workflows across 4 coordinated surfaces, reducing operational gaps between customer-facing and back-office flows.
- Integrated 3 GCC-facing payment methods - STC Pay, Apple Pay and Stripe - with callback and transaction-state validation designed for production recovery.

Dorosak - EdTech / Testing Center / AI Learning

Laravel 8 | Sanctum/JWT | Subscriptions | OpenAI | Transactional imports

- Extended 6+ learning/content areas including e-books, quizzes/testing center, books, podcasts/audiobooks, language learning and admin/content operations inside a mature platform.
- Designed repeatable transactional import seeders and mapping for quiz/question/answer datasets, handling schema evolution, inheritance, malformed packages and memory pressure without fragile one-off imports.

IBAL / JTHOOR Ecosystem + IBAL API

Laravel 10 | Sanctum/JWT | Subscriptions/Coupons | SMS/Email | External synchronization

- Built and maintained multi-role APIs across students, parents, teachers and school/class structures, covering authentication, profiles, subscriptions, coupons, grades, content and external Aleem synchronization.
- Strengthened synchronization and account flows across multiple education surfaces so user/subscription state stays consistent across connected systems.

eMicroLearn / EduGames

Laravel 8 | Jetstream/Sanctum | Livewire | Analytics/Exports | Mature legacy platform

- Modernized APIs and reporting for 4 main audiences - schools, teachers, students and parents - while preserving compatibility with a large legacy codebase.
- Improved CRM book APIs, filtering/exports, analytics indexing and observability to make operational issues easier to diagnose and data-heavy screens more maintainable.

TrippleStock - POS & Inventory

Laravel 8 | Vue 2 | Passport | AWS S3 | Stripe | Twilio

- Worked across 10+ operational areas including products/variants, warehouses, purchases, sales, barcode workflows, invoices, payments, stock movement and P&L accounting.
- Repaired duplicate-transaction, stock-restoration and COGS/due edge cases where correctness directly affects inventory and financial state.

CharityMS

Laravel | Multilingual CMS/Page Builder | Donations | Volunteers | Events

- Contributed across 8+ domain workflows spanning beneficiaries, donations, invoices/payments, products/orders, campaigns, surveys, events and volunteer requests; led/reviewed reusable page-rendering and production content work.

INDEPENDENT & FREELANCE ENGINEERING

VeriCatalog - Shopify Catalog QA SaaS | Founder / Lead Engineer

Laravel 13 | PHP 8.3 | Shopify Admin GraphQL | Redis | MySQL | OpenAI | CI/CD

- Built an embedded Shopify SaaS that continuously audits catalog quality with 100+ deterministic rules across identifiers, pricing, shipping, media, content and localization.
- Designed cursor-based scans with dedicated queues, locks, retries, incremental/recurring execution, stalled-scan recovery, lifecycle reconciliation, migration QA and release quality gates.
- Engineered Safe Fix and bulk remediation with 7 layers of guardrails - proposals, dry-run/preflight, resource fingerprints, quotas, verification scans, audit trails and rollout controls - plus metered OpenAI responses and cost budgets.

Omnichannel CRM - Multi-tenant Messaging Architecture

Laravel | Meta Graph API | Gmail API | Twilio | Telegram | Webhooks | Queues

- Designed a provider-driver architecture covering 9 channel types: WhatsApp, Messenger, Instagram, Gmail/email, Telegram, Twilio SMS, Web Chat, local CRM and Custom API.
- Built normalized inbound/outbound processing, tenant isolation, contact/conversation resolution, idempotent writes, routing, SLA updates and async send/sync jobs; hardened webhooks with signatures, durable deduplication and recovery.

Gym Management & Biometric Attendance

Laravel | Filament | MySQL | ZKTeco | PHPUnit/CI

- Reworked integrity across 4 linked data domains - biometric logs, schedules, subscriptions and remaining-entry balances - introducing reconciliation and evidence-based repair instead of fabricating historical attendance.
- Added tests and safeguards around deadlocks, duplicate attendance, stale state and restoration behavior so production anomalies can be diagnosed and repaired safely.

AI Baraa Quran Platform

Laravel 10 | Angular | Zoom | Google Calendar | Queues | Payments

- Built scheduling/subscription workflows for recurring sessions, attendance, rescheduling, compensatory sessions and reminders; integrated 2 external scheduling systems (Zoom and Google Calendar) with instructor-transfer/session synchronization.

Mays Gahza - Lead & Sales Funnel

Laravel 13 | Meta Pixel/CAPI | MySQL | Vite

- Built an end-to-end Arabic RTL funnel across 6 stages: lead capture, signed downloads, surveys, workshop checkout, payment-proof handling and analytics/admin operations.
- Implemented Meta Conversions API through a database outbox with event deduplication and fail-open isolation, protecting the user flow when tracking infrastructure is unavailable.

Raha Outdoor / EasyOrder - E-commerce Customization

Storefront migration/customization | Checkout/payment UX

- Adapted storefront operations to EasyOrder and reshaped checkout/payment presentation around the client business flow while preserving platform boundaries and maintainability.

ADDITIONAL BACKEND & INTEGRATION EXPERIENCE

AgdEjar - Saudi Electronic Lease-Contract Platform

B2B APIs | Contracts | Documents | Synchronization

- Designed B2B APIs for 3 contract categories - residential, commercial and agricultural - including automated contract creation, document generation/storage/retrieval, admin operations and synchronization troubleshooting.

Electronic Invoicing & Financial Integrations

Customers | Tax units | Invoices | External submission

- Built customer, tax-unit and invoice workflows around Egyptian e-invoicing, including serialization/signing, validation, external submission and production troubleshooting of regulated financial documents.

Wallet / Escrow / Merchant-Payment Systems

Transactional money-moving workflows

- Implemented 4 core transaction families - wallet deposits/withdrawals, P2P transfers, merchant checkout and project escrow/disputes - with explicit transactional state handling.

OPEN SOURCE & REUSABLE ENGINEERING

- mykholy/paymentgateway - Published Laravel package consolidating 30+ payment providers behind one consistent integration surface.
- mykholy/laravel-paymob - Reusable Paymob card/mobile-wallet flows with callback/HMAC verification and refunds.
- Mavvix Shopify Core / Growth Core / Starter - Reusable Shopify infrastructure for verified ID tokens, offline-token lifecycle, encrypted storage, Redis locking, GraphQL retries/throttling, webhook deduplication/recovery, privacy handling and pricing/entitlements.

EDUCATION | Bachelor of Computer Science - Faculty of Computer Science, Menoufia University