

about://adil allawi

@ironymark

“Adil’s a gifted presenter. Not only does he know his material very well, he is also a vibrant, enjoyable presenter with a talent for explaining even technical material with skill.”

- Unicode Conference Evaluation

“We feel, after careful consideration, and talking to references, that you, and Diwan Software would be the best choice in terms of quality, relevant experience, and ability to follow-through.”

- Mike McKenna, *Internationalization Architect, Yahoo! Inc.*

“I can say without qualification that no one understood and implemented Apple's Unicode and advanced font technologies better than Adil and the people at Diwan.”

- Merle Tenney *International Technology Evangelist, Apple Inc.*

“It is my professional opinion that Adil Allawi is one of the best programmers working on the Macintosh today.”

- John Pavley *Product Development Manager, Letraset GDS*

“A good friend and associate of mine, Adil Allawi, is visiting the area from London for the the next two weeks. He is a world authority on Arabic web and mobile technology and business strategy. He has done Arabic enablement for Google, Yahoo!, as well as creating the Arabic mobile browsers used by Siemens.”

- A recent introduction.

Executive Summary

30 years experience in the software industry, I have worked at every level from programmer to company director. Being a director of one of the oldest Arab software companies, has given me a extensive knowledge of the technology, markets, business and attitudes across the Arab world.

As a technical director I have managed teams of developers working on a wide variety software projects including complex web applications, mobile software, desktop applications and libraries. This experience has given me a deep understanding of management, software and complex systems.

In internationalization I have converted every single kind of software product to handle multilingual text including a high-end publishing application, mobile phones, a web browser, web applications and I have developed software and fonts to handle Arabic, Urdu, Persian, Pashto, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Hebrew, Hindi, Gujarati, Tamil, Telugu, Gurmikhi, Begali, Thai, and Malayalam amongst others. I also present regularly at the Unicode conference. I am familiar with C/C++, Javascript, HTML, DOM, CSS, Java, PHP, and Python on Unix, Mac and Windows.

From my work on Google Web Toolkit, on web standards and consulting for Yahoo! and Openwave, I have developed a strong understanding of all aspects of the main

web technologies. From the way the web browser is constructed to the theory and application of current web standards.

I am an excellent communicator with six letters published in the Financial Times, an active participant on Global Voices Online, regular conference presentations and a few radio and television appearances.

I just achieved a lifelong ambition to be mentioned on Wikipedia (well, not me directly, but my software application, Ready,Set,Go!).

And, Donald Knuth asked me for my autograph.

Main Achievements

- Currently working on document archiving and presentation project sponsored by Qatar Science and Technology Park. The project involves OCR and Machine Translation to convert books and manuscripts into electronic documents as well as the use of crowdsourcing to supplement translations.
- Contributor to pdf.js project at Mozilla. Pdf.js is a library built to render PDF files using only web standards including HTML 5, Canvas and Javascript.
- Advised Twitter on support for right-to-left tweets.
- Co-authored with Aharon Lanin of Google the proposal to W3C for additional requirements for bi-directional support in HTML5.
- Added bi-directional text support to YUI Rich Text Editor.
- Converted Google Web Toolkit to handle right to left layout and text and worked with the GWT team and Shanjian Li of Google to integrate these changes into the core GWT codebase.
- Developed the Arabic user interface typeface used by Apple Inc. in the iPhone, iPad and Mac OS X.
- Built a text rendering engine capable of rendering Arabic, Thai and all the main Indic scripts. Used in the Openwave mobile browser on millions of phones.
- Developed bi-directional and complex language support in the Openwave mobile browser (now owned by Myriad Group AG).
- Converted Siemens mobile phones to handle right-to-left text and user interface. Added support for Arabic, Thai, Malayalam. Also, provided similar support to other mobile phone companies.
- Developed first Unicode Quran, with a complex font.
- Produced software which started the electronic publishing revolution in the Arab world. Developed the desktop publishing application and worked on the software and systems that converted all the major Arab newspapers from manual to electronic publishing and created first ever newspaper to be fully computer-published.
- Consultant to Apple Computer Inc. on the Apple // and Arabic Macintosh.
- Worked on one of the first Arabic word processors, ever.

- Technical Director of Diwan Software Limited. At its peak, a medium-sized company with 30 employees in offices in London, Dubai, Amman, Cairo and Baghdad.
- Helped raise two beautiful children, one of which can fix bugs in Javascript.

Experience

- 2012 Contributing to Mozilla pdf.js project.
Technologies: HTML 5, Canvas, web fonts, PDF file format.
- 2012 Technical Director. Managing company business and team of engineers
Experience: management, agile processes.
- 2011 Document archiving and presentation project sponsored by Qatar Science and Technology Park (part of Qatar Foundation).
Experience: producing project designs, technical specifications as well as high-level presentations to get project approved.
- 2009 Consultant to Yahoo! Inc. for bi-directional text support in its main properties.
Technologies: Unicode, PHP, Javascript, HTML, CSS.
Experience: Large scale, complex web applications.
- 2008 Technical consultant to Qatar Foundation.
Experience: Providing peer review of software projects.
- 2008 Worked on new Arabic fonts for Apple Inc. in Mac OS X and iOS.
Technologies: Objective C, Unicode, Opentype, Truetype, AAT
Experience: User interface and design in modern mobile devices
- 2007 Worked with Google on bi-directional language support for Google Web Toolkit.
Technologies: Java, Javascript, HTML, HTML DOM, CSS.
Experience: Construction and design of complex web frameworks.
- 2004 Internationalization of Openwave Mobile browser.
Technologies: C, C++, mobile software.
Experience: knowledge of how modern web browsers are structured and render web content.
- 2001 Internationalization of Siemens Mobile phones.
Technologies: C, C++.
Experience: development and design of mobile software.
- 1991 Diwan NIS - development of a complex web application.
Technologies: Java, SQL, HTML, Servlets, Apache.
Experience: Managed team of 10 programmer working from early design to final completion.
- 1988 Ready,Set,Go! - high-end desktop publishing application.
Technologies: C, C++.
Experience: advanced text layout, document design and word processing.