Alert Me: A Reminder Application

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Abstract: Today, people have many activities throughout the day, ranging from a small thing to many other big things. Many of the applications on the smart phone is used to manage time efficiently throughout the day. But, most of the existing applications do not have social networking capabilities. In this project, we propose an application on Android operating system. The app is designed to be an easy-to-use application with the main goal of helping users to remind about the special events in their busy life by providing timely alerts. The application consists of task setting, birthday reminders, social sharing etc. All functions of the app are combined to provide the best time management assistant, which suits for everyone.

Index Terms: Android, Java, Mobile application, Social Sharing

I. INTRODUCTION
In the era that the wireless communication is the dominant factor for living, the mobile phone is continuously developed. In the recent years, besides being a communication device, social media application, email, and games are now the norm applications that people requires from their mobile phone. Because of such advance capabilities, the term "smart phone" is used to describe such mobile device. Now, a smart phone is not just a technological device, but can also function as a personal assistant. When we talk about an assistant application, the first one that runs into people mind is a reminder application which user can set time, date, and activity to remind when an upcoming event is close. Alert Me is an application which helps the user about the registered event reminders on specified date and time and also sends wishes through WhatsApp automatically on specified date and time.

II. DESCRIPTION
There are many reminder apps available in the market. Examples are: Evernote, aCalendar, BZ Reminder. Most of these apps require manual entries. They provide only a timely alert for specific events. These acts similar to the alarms in our phones. Provisions for automated messages, and provision for sharing the messages with social networking sites, especially WhatsApp are not provided in the existing reminder apps. So, a new reminder app that can provide these features.

The main advantage Alert Me over existing system
- Importing dates from facebook
- Automated messages and Whatsapp sharing
Alert me helps the users to remind about some specific events in their life that they wish not to miss. Specific events may include important occasions, birthdays of friends, relatives etc. This app also provide all basic properties of reminder application. The app notifies it automatically to the user with a pop up notification and sound. The user can send automated timed text messages to users through social networking apps and sms.

III. ALERT ME AND ITS SYSTEM DESIGN
From our study on the existing applications in the market, we found that most applications do not provide automated text message function. In addition, we do not see the social network element. Hence, Alert Me is developed as a reminder application with six main functions, discussed in the following subsection.

Figure 1: Functions of Alert Me

A. Social Sharing
Today, over a billion of us are Online Social Network netizens, pervading many aspects of our daily lives such as social interactions, professional networking, and social reinforcements. Social network services are primarily for socializing with existing friends, for non-social interpersonal communication, for helping users to find specific information or resources.
Alert Me uses two social networking apps:
- Facebook
- WhatsApp
This app import birthdays from facebook automatically, so that messages are sent to respective friends. Automated messages generated during the specified or registered date and time. WhatsApp is opened at that time and this automated message can be forward to the required person or to the required group.

B. Reminder Function
A normal Reminder app can have multiple user-created lists of reminders. Reminders appear in the notification box, a fixed time before the time a reminder is set for. Each reminder has a title and is automatically hidden. Additionally, each reminder can have the following:
- A description about the reminder
- An alarm at a certain date and time.
This app provides the basic reminder functions that any app provides. The reminders in Alert Me can be entered manually or can be automatically fetched from Facebook. The automatically fetched reminder is birthday of our friends. In Alert Me the reminders are shown as a pop up notification on the specified date and time automatically. The pop up is opened with a sound.

C. Birthday Alerts
Users can import the birthdays of friends either from Facebook or can be input manually. It notifies the birthdays and the user can send automated messages to the contact via social networking apps or by SMS.

Some features of Alert Me:
- Internet is used only at the initial stage of the app.
- Rest works without the help of internet.
- No forced log in or registration.
- The users have the provision to add images along with the messages, if he wants.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION
We developed the prototype of the Alert Me using Android Studio. Android Studio is the official IDE for Android app development, based on IntelliJ IDEA. Forgetting the birthdays from Facebook, the Facebook API is used in order to access user’s profile on Facebook to get the permission for connecting Alert Me Application to Facebook. We use SQLite database for the storage of message, date, time and image.

V. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK
We propose the Alert Me as a reminder application on Android OS. Alert Me provides social event setting capabilities that allow the user to create reminders manually or automatically and share the automated messages with friends through WhatsApp. Now, only birthdays from Facebook can only be used. In future, we can add birthdays from googleplus.
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