

# News Letter

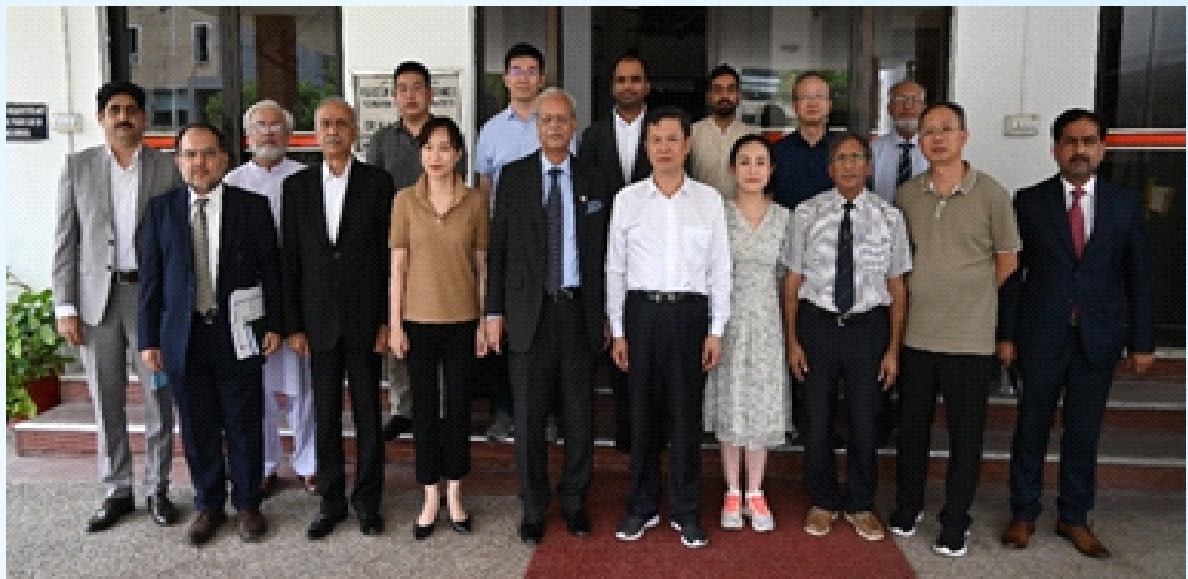
## PAKISTAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

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### Visit of CAS Delegation to Pakistan Academy of Sciences (July 7, 2023)



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A delegation of the officials of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) visited Pakistan Academy of Sciences on July 7, 2023. The delegation was led by Mr. Wu Yuelang, Department of Science and Technology, Hubei Province, China. Officials of University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) namely: Prof. Dr. Iqar Ahmad Khan, Vice Chancellor (UAF), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jaffar Jaskani, Director ORIC, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saqib, Director External Linkage and Dr Khuram Zia also accompanied the delegation. Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood Khan (President, PAS) along with the PAS Council members welcomed the visiting delegation of CAS & UAF and presented an overview of the organizational structure, aims and objectives, national & international collaboration, as well as salient achievements of the PAS since its inception. The meeting aimed to briefly discuss the role of PAS and the possibilities for the establishment of a long-term mutually beneficial relationship between PAS & CAS for scientific collaboration and scholarly research activities.

# PAS Hybrid Lecture Series on Cyber Security Challenges for Muslim World

Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) in collaboration with the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) Chair of Big Data Analytics (BDA) & Edge Computing (EC) Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad organized a Lecture Series on Cyber Security Challenges for the Muslim World. Internationally and nationally renowned scientists and researchers from academia and relevant governmental organizations were invited as Resource Persons. The lecture series was facilitated by a

Member of the Academy, Dr. Muazzam A. Khan Khattak (Tenured Associate Professor at the Department of Computer Science, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad, Pakistan). Prof. Dr. Tasawar Hayat, Secretary General PAS, thanked the Speaker for informative talk and all the participants for attending the lecture either virtually or physically.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Talk on Cyber Security: Challenges and Opportunities (July 13, 2023)

The first hybrid lecture of this series, titled: “Cyber Security: Challenges and Opportunities” was delivered on 13 July 2023, by Dr. Muazzam Ali Khattak (serving as Director Science & Technology as well Director ICESCO Chair Data Analytics and Edge Computing at Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad). Dr. Shaukat Hameed Khan (Fellow PAS & Ex-Coordinator General COMSTECH) also attended the lecture.



## 2<sup>nd</sup> Talk on Pakistan Cyber Security Policy and Future Vision (July 20, 2023)

2<sup>nd</sup> Talk on “Pakistan Cyber Security Policy and Future Vision” was delivered by Prof. Dr. Kashif Kifayat, Dean Computing, Air University Islamabad, on July 20, 2023. The speaker talked about the Cyber Security as a Global Challenge, and limited technology access to Pakistan. He further added that it is a golden opportunity for Pakistan in terms of technological advancement and economic growth. Pakistan needs to act wisely and strategically with immediate actions. High quality education is the only way which can help us to achieve our goals. Indigenization is the only way forward.



## 3<sup>rd</sup> Talk on Cyber Autonomy and Cyber Society (July 26, 2023)

3<sup>rd</sup> Talk on "Cyber Autonomy and Cyber Society" was delivered by Engr. Sajjad Ahmad (Working at Team Lead National Center for Cyber Security Lab; PhD Candidate in Cyber security The State University of New York Manhattan, USA) on January 26, 2023. Prof. Dr. Hamid Saleem, Fellow PAS, also attended the lecture and presented the shield to speaker.





## One-day Pak-Europe Photonics Symposium at PAS (July 17, 2023)

EPIC Pak-Europe Photonics Symposium was organized by GIKI (Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology, Pakistan) with the sponsorship/partnership of PAS (Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Islamabad), APA (Asian Photonics Association), EPIC (European Photonics Industry Consortium), LCCI (Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry), and SPIE-OPTICA Student Chapter of Pakistan. Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Fellow PAS, and Rector GIKI, was invited as a Chief Guest. Prof. Dr. Aslam Baig, Prof. Dr. M. Hassan Sayyad and Carlos Lee, Director General, EPIC – European Photonics Industry Consortium, talked on

various topics such as Photonics – 21<sup>st</sup> a century science and engineering, Leveraging the potential of photonics for shaping the future of society – Lessons learned from EPIC, Photonics jobs, and higher education opportunities in Europe etc. The event ended with panel discussion on the topic: Catching up the world in Photonics.

The main idea of holding the symposium was to provide a common platform for national researchers working in the field of Photonics to discuss and share recent advancements and challenges and jobs & higher education opportunities.



## Organization of Scientific Activity by PAS Sindh Chapter A One-day Conference on “Environment and Health” at Agha Khan University, Karachi (June 5, 2023)

Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) sponsored a one-day conference on “Environment and Health” at Agha Khan University, Karachi on June 5, 2023. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wasay, Fellow PAS, was the focal person of the conference. The conference focused

on challenges related to environmental changes, air pollution and climate change in Pakistan with special attention to health.



## Organization of Scientific Activity by PAS Punjab Chapter 1<sup>st</sup> National Joint Universities Conference on Sustainable Indigenous Production & Upcycling of Polymers/Allied Materials (SIP-UP) (June 15, 2023)

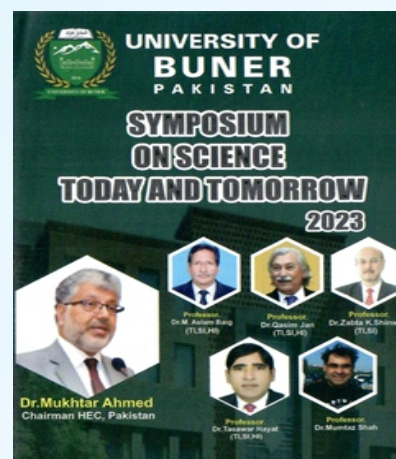
Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) organized the “1<sup>st</sup> National Joint Universities Conference” at the University of Punjab, Quaid-e-Azam Campus, Lahore, on June 15, 2023. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairman, Punjab HEC. Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector, GIKI, was the Chief Organizer of the conference. The conference

provided a successful platform for discussion on sustainability in the polymer and textile sectors, emphasizing their critical role in Pakistan's economy, industry challenges, environmental impact mitigation and academic-industrial collaboration. The event was widely covered in several daily newspapers.



## Symposium on “Science Today & Tomorrow” at University of Buner (July 11, 2023)

Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) sponsored a “One-Day Symposium on Science Today & Tomorrow 2023” held at the University of Buner, on July 11, 2023. Prof. Dr. Amin Badshah, Fellow PAS, was the focal person of the event. The event discussed the following topics: Science Communication, Infodemics and Academia; Marble Mining Industry of the Buner Distt. Challenges and Future Prospects for Sustainable Development; Interaction of Laser Radiation with Matter; and Threats of Natural Hazards to Karakoram Highway in Kohistan-Karakoram Transect, Pakistan.



## ISC-UNESCO Conference on Scientific Freedom (May 9, 2023)

Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari, Fellow PAS, was invited as a speaker at the ISC-UNESCO Conference on Scientific Freedom which was Jointly organized by UNESCO and the International Science Council (ISC) on May 9, 2023, at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. The conference aimed to raise awareness of the importance of scientific freedom and responsibility

and promote efforts to strengthen its implementation.

The event addressed the challenges arising from the rapid development of science and technology and the uneven distribution of scientific resources worldwide.



## US National Academies of Sciences (NAS) and Health Security Partners (HSP)-USA Project

Prof. Aamer Ikram, Fellow PAS as Convener of the committee and Dr. Muhammad Imran Arshad, Member PAS, as technical committee member, completed the US National Academies of Sciences (NAS) and Health Security Partners (HSP)-USA project on “Guidelines for Collecting and Transporting Priority Pathogen Samples” in June 2023.

The project comprised workshops and training of trainers with stakeholders from livestock, medical,

wildlife, environment, ministry, research and educational institutes.

The guidelines were prepared and finalized in consultation with the stakeholders and foreign experts from HSP, US-NAS and Sandia National Laboratories (SNL). It will provide guidelines and permit information for the shipment and transportation of priority pathogens in and out of Pakistan.



## Participation of PAS Fellow in the AASSA-IAP-AIPI Seminar on Science Literacy in Digital Era, Jakarta, Indonesia (June 20-21, 2023)

Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) sponsored travel of Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari (Fellow PAS) for participation in the “AASSA-IAP-AIPI Seminar on Science Literacy in Digital Era”, organized by the AASSA Special Committee on Share (Science, Health, Agriculture, Risk and Environment Communications), from June 20-21, 2023, in Jakarta, Indonesia. Prof. Zabta Shinwari presented a talk titled: “Ethical

Considerations in Communicating Science in the Digital Age”, covering the following aspects: Importance of ethical considerations in science communications, Challenges and opportunities posed by the digital age in science communication, and Practical guidelines for scientists and communicators to ensure ethical practices in digital science communications.

## President's Award of the World Council on Isotopes (WCI) (July 2023)

Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Syed M. Qaim (PAS Foreign Fellow) from Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ) and University of Cologne, Germany, recently received the President's Award of the World Council on Isotopes (WCI) in recognition of his sustained pioneering work on nuclear data related to the development of accelerator-based radionuclides for medical applications. The award was presented to him during the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Isotopes, organized by Canadian colleagues under the umbrella of WCI, in July 2023, in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada.

In recent years, Professor Qaim received various kinds of honours in about 10 countries of the world. The present award is implicitly an appreciation of his dedicated lifetime work in the field of nuclear chemistry.



## Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman Among Top 500 Influential Personalities

Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman, FRS, has been selected among the most influential Muslims of the world in the encyclopedic volume entitled, "The Muslim 500-The World's 500 Most Influential Muslims" (2023 Edition). The Jordan-based Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre (RISSC) has released its latest list of the World's 500 most influential Muslim personalities.



## PAS Fellows Co-edited the "General Agricultural Research Policy Document of Pakistan"

Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (Fellow PAS), Prof. Dr. Faqir Muhammad Anjum (Fellow PAS), and Prof. Dr. Asif Kamran (UAF) co-edited the "General Agricultural Research Policy Document of Pakistan" titled: "Food and Agricultural Policy for Green Revolution 2.0".



## Representation of Pakistan at the 55<sup>th</sup> International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) Switzerland (July 16-25, 2023)

Prof. Dr. Khalid M. Khan (Fellow PAS), led the Pakistani delegation of high school students at the 55<sup>th</sup> International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) held in Switzerland from 16-25 July 2023. The Olympiad is an annual academic competition for the most brilliant chemistry students at secondary school level. The scholars were chosen by following a rigorous and competitive process. Abdul Rafay from Karachi, Pakistan, received an honour for excellent performance in the competition.





## Three PAS Fellows Honored by TWAS

The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) has elected Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary as TWAS Vice-President for Central and South Asia for the four-year term from 2023 to 2026. Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wasay have also been elected TWAS Fellows.



## PAS Fellows Elected as Members of the IAS

The Islamic World Academy of Sciences (IAS) elected two PAS Fellows namely: Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari as Vice President and Prof. Dr. Tasawar Hayat as Secretary-General, to the Council of IAS for the term 2023-2026.



## PAS Fellows Elected as Members of the TWAS

Two of the PAS Fellows namely, Prof. Dr. Khalid Mohammed Khan (University of Karachi) and Prof. Dr. Sohail Nadeem (Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad) have become Fellow of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS).



## Receipt of Civil Awards to PAS Fellows

The Government of Pakistan conferred Civil Awards to the Following PAS Fellows in recognition of their persistent and selfless scientific and academic services

and achievements in the field of Education and Science & Technology.

Sr #	Name of Awardee	Field	Award
1.	Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmad Khan	Education	Hilal-i-Imtiaz
2.	Prof. Dr. Shahid M. Baig	Science	Hilal-i-Imtiaz
3.	Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Bhutta	Education	Sitara-i-Imtiaz
4.	Prof. Dr. Sohail Nadeem	Education	Sitara-i-Imtiaz
5.	Dr. Jamshed Iqbal	Science	Sitara-i-Imtiaz
6.	Prof. Dr. Sardar Khan	Science	Tamgha-i-Imtiaz
7.	Prof. Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad	Education	Tamgha-i-Imtiaz
8.	Prof. Dr. Aamer Saeed	Education	Tamgha-i-Imtiaz

## Books Co-edited by Prof. Dr. Munir Ozturk (PAS Foreign Fellow)

Prof. Dr. Munir Ozturk (PAS Foreign Fellow) Co-edited the Books titled:

- Halophyte Plant Diversity and Public Health
- Synthesis of Bionanomaterials for Biomedical Applications

- Phytosequestration Strategies for Mitigation of Aerial Carbon Dioxide and Aquatic Nutrient Pollution
- Phytohormone and Stress Responsive Secondary Metabolites

