

Newsletter

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Fellows and Members may submit news and views related to Science and Technology to:

**Editor-in-Chief
Pakistan Academy of
Sciences
3-Constitution Avenue,
G-5/2, Islamabad,
Pakistan**

Email: editor@paspk.org
Tel: (+92 51) 920-7140
Web: www.paspk.org

Pakistan Academy of Sciences Hosts the 24th Science Council of Asia Conference on Food Security, Sustainability and Biodiversity (November 16-18, 2025)



Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) and the Science Council of Asia (SCA) jointly organized the 24th SCA Conference at PAS Secretariat, Islamabad, from 16 to 18 November 2025 on the theme of "Food Security, Sustainability, and Biodiversity". The conference was supported by the Science Council of Japan (SCJ). The scientific program of the event included Technical Sessions and Poster Presentations on the theme of the conference, as well as the Young Researcher's Session, and Future Earth Symposium. In total, 145 physical participants and 48 online participants attended the event. The foreign resource persons of the Conference included those from Bangladesh, China, Cambodia, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Honourable Prof. Dr. Atta Ur Rahman FRS, former Coordinator General of COMSTECH followed by welcome address by Prof. Dr. Kauser Abdulla Malik (President Pakistan Academy of Sciences), and Prof. Dr. Mamoru Mitsuishi (President Science Council of Japan), while Prof. Dr. Muhammad Aslam Baig (President Science Council of Asia, and Secretary General PAS), shed light on the need and importance of hosting this conference in Pakistan. During the three-day progression of the event, eminent foreign and local speakers presented very thought-provoking lectures on a broad range of topics in line with the three sub-themes of the 24th SCA. In total, 35 Technical Lectures, including 5 online lectures, were delivered by 20 local and 16 foreign speakers during the course of the Conference, while 30 shortlisted posters were presented by participating young postgraduate researchers attending this Conference. The Young Researchers' Session emphasised that communication among young researchers must be strengthened to promote knowledge-sharing and collective growth through joint initiatives, exchange programs, and continuous engagement across borders. In the Future Earth Symposium, Prof. Dr. Fumiko Kasuga, Director Future Earth Japan, and the resource persons discussed very stimulating and promising ideas with the participants of the session to resolve issues related to Future Earth and highlighted that the Future Earth-Japan wishes to have closer collaboration with the people of Pakistan in this regard.

The participants of the Conference appreciated the timely organization of this event on the theme of food security, sustainability and biodiversity in the wake of foreseeable adverse impacts of climate change, and stated that the Conference bears significance for academicians, scientists, technologists, researchers, environmentalists, agriculturists and policy makers across the globe, especially in Asian countries, for the health and safety of mankind and all living beings.

Pakistan Academy of Sciences and Aga Khan University Jointly Hold a “Seminar on Health Education, Research and Policy in Pakistan” (January 19, 2026)

The Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS)-Islamabad and The Aga Khan University (AKU)-Karachi jointly organized a Hybrid Seminar on Health Education, Research and Policy in Pakistan at Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), Islamabad on Monday, 19 January, 2026. The event was organized in collaboration with stakeholders for improving collaboration to promote health sciences education and research, and contribute to developing a regulatory framework for National Health Plan.

Over 85 scientists, academicians, scholars, medical practitioners, pharmacologists, and policy makers from various universities and research organizations in Pakistan attended the event physically; while over 42 researchers attended the event online. In his opening address, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wasay (Prof. AKU & Fellow, Pakistan Academy of Sciences) underscored the distinctive challenges confronting Pakistani population in the domain of health and life sciences and the urgent need to address these challenges through integrated and innovative approaches to ensure sustainable resource management and security of resources in the Country. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Aslam Baig, Secretary General PAS, highlighted the role of Pakistan Academy of Sciences in providing a unique platform to scientists, academicians and postgraduate researchers in the country to deliberate on matters related to various disciplines of S&T for socioeconomic development in the Country. He also highlighted the recent creation of a Scientific Advice to Government Unit (Policy Unit) at the Academy to review and upgrade the existing policy documents of the Government of Pakistan in collaboration with relevant

stakeholders. Other speakers related to the theme of the Seminar included Major General Amer Ikram, Former Executive Director, NIH; Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Manan Haider Khan, Associate Prof, Shifa Tameer-e-Millat University & Member Allied Health Council, Islamabad; Prof. Dr. Ayesha Rauf, National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS), Islamabad; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Khan, Vice Chancellor, Shifa University, Dr. Obaidullah Khan, Senior Researcher, PHRI; Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Baig, Secretary General, PAS; and Prof. Dr. Anwar ul Hassan Gilani, Fellow PAS & WHO Advisor. In his address, the Co-Chair of the Seminar, Prof. Zia-ul-Haq, Executive Director, Higher Education Commission (HEC) emphasized research, training and as well as national and international collaboration based on his experience at Khyber Medical University. The event was concluded with the address by the Chief Guest of the occasion, Mr. Muhammad Aslam Ghauri, Special Secretary, Ministry of Health, Government of Pakistan. In his address, he emphasized on the need to work with all stakeholders to achieve SDGs by the year 2030. Active and meaningful collaboration between Academia, regulators, researchers and the Ministry is quite essential. He appreciated the role of PAS in creating a collaboration platform for the mutual benefit of national and international researchers, professionals, scientists and academia. It is expected that this Seminar is expected to provide national experts, academicians, researchers, policy makers, and industrialists a unique opportunity to disseminate knowledge and deliberate upon holistic solutions to define a roadmap for the future of Health in Pakistan.



A Visit of Chinese Delegation to the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (January 25, 2026)

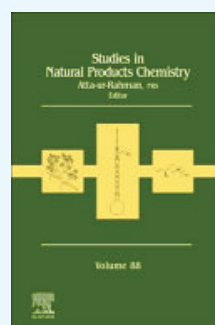
A 13-Member Chinese delegation led by Prof. Lixen from China visited the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) on January 25, 2026. An in-depth discussion was held on future planning for the development of science & technology, focusing on fruit trees, chicken feed, eggs, and agriculture. The meeting emphasized strengthening collaboration and innovation in these key areas to support sustainable growth. The delegation has already

signed agreements worth USD 4.5 billion on Green Agriculture with the government of Pakistan, reflecting a strong commitment to advancing environmentally sustainable agricultural development in the country. The PAS is greatly honoured to have established this excellent friendship. It is worth mentioning that 1000 students from Pakistan are getting training in Advanced Agriculture in this province.



Elsevier Publishes Books of Prof. Atta –ur- Rahman (Fellow, Pakistan Academy of Sciences)

Two volumes of “Studies on Natural Product Chemistry” have been published by Elsevier Science Publishers (Volumes 88) edited by Prof Atta-ur-Rahman, FRS. The series was initiated under the editorship of Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman, FRS about thirty years ago and now has become the most comprehensive encyclopedic series of the world in the field of natural products. It covers the chemistry and biological activities of natural products derived from terrestrial and marine organisms.



Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary (Fellow PAS) Awarded Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said High Achievement Award 2025 in Science and Education

Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Fellow PAS, Coordinator-General OIC-COMSTECH, Distinguished National Professor ICCBS, has been awarded the prestigious Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said Award 2025 in science and education for his exceptional contributions in these fields. The award was presented to him by the Governor Punjab, H.E. Sardar Saleem Haider Khan.



Food Security and Agriculture Policy Workshop jointly Organized by the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), in Collaboration with the Centre of Excellence In Molecular Biology (CEMB), University of the Punjab, Lahore (December 29, 2025)

On December 29, 2025, a high-level policy review meeting on National Food Security was held at the Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology (CEMB), University of the Punjab, Lahore, jointly organized with the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS). Chaired by Federal Minister Rana Tanveer Hussain, the event focused on strengthening agricultural research, addressing climate change, and improving food security through biotechnology. The meeting brought together experts, scientists, and policymakers, including Prof. Dr. Kauser Abdulla Malik (President PAS), Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Baig (Secretary General PAS), Prof. Dr. Waheed Akhtar (Fellow

PAS), Prof. Dr. Anwar-ul-Hassan Gillani (Fellow PAS), Prof. Dr. Abdul Rashid (Fellow PAS), Dr. Sara Qaiser (Director PAS Policy Unit), Dr. Riffat M. Qureshi (Director Admin. PAS) and Prof. Dr. Moazur Rahman (Director CEMB). Discussions focused on modernizing farming, enhancing livestock R&D, implementing land-use policies, and using genomic technologies to improve productivity. The meeting aimed to align agricultural practices with national security needs, promoting climate-smart and water-efficient agriculture. The PAS ensured it would consolidate the recommendations and submit them to the government for implementation.



Prof. Atta -ur-Rahman (Fellow PAS) Honored Among the World's 500 Most Influential Muslims

Renowned scientist Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman, FRS, has once again secured his place among the world's 500 most influential Muslims in the prestigious 2026 edition of The Muslim 500—a globally recognized encyclopedic volume published by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre (RISSC), Jordan. Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman's achievements are described in the following words in Muslim 500:

“His remarkable contributions to science, technology, and education continue to earn him international recognition and solidify his status as a leading figure in the Muslim world. Prof. Dr. Atta-ur-Rahman stands as Pakistan's most decorated scientist, holding an

unparalleled record of four prestigious civil awards conferred by the Government of Pakistan: Tamgha-i-Imtiaz (1983), Sitara-i-Imtiaz (1991), Hilal-i-Imtiaz (1998), Nishan-i-Imtiaz (Pakistan's highest national civil award). His groundbreaking contributions to scientific research and his pioneering role in Pakistan's higher education and technological advancements have positioned him as a true visionary, inspiring generations of scientists and scholars worldwide”.

This latest accolade is a testament to his enduring impact on the global scientific community and his unwavering commitment to progress in the Muslim world.

A seminar on “Game Theory and Its Implications: Homo-Ethicus vs. Homo-Economicus”, held at Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology (GIKI), Swabi (November 19, 2025)

Keynote Speaker - Prof. Dr. Asghar Qadir (HI, SI) Fellow PAS

A seminar on “Game Theory and Its Implications: Homo-Ethicus vs. Homo-Economicus” was held at GIKI on November 19, 2025. The talk was delivered by Prof. Asghar Qadir, a distinguished Pakistani Scientist who has maintained a long association with the GIK Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology. Students, faculty, and staff from multiple faculties attended the seminar with keen interest and actively engaged with the ideas presented.

In his lecture, Prof. Qadir explored the evolution of game theory from recreational games to its applications in economics, strategy, and societal cooperation, drawing

on interdisciplinary perspectives from history, sociology, mathematics, and quantum physics. In the talk, he highlighted how cooperative behavior can emerge alongside competition in human societies. The seminar provided participants with valuable interdisciplinary insights and stimulated thoughtful discussion across academic domains.

At the conclusion of the seminar, the Rector of the institute, Prof. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, presented a commemorative shield to Prof. Qadir in recognition of his distinguished contributions to science and his longstanding association with the institute.



Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman (Fellow PAS) Awarded Prestigious IETI China Lifetime Achievement Award 2026

The International Engineering and Technology Institute (IETI), China, has conferred the 4th IETI China Lifetime Achievement Award 2026 on renowned Pakistani scientist Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman.

This distinguished honor recognizes Prof. Rahman's extraordinary global contributions to chemical sciences, higher education reforms, and scientific innovation. The International Engineering and Technology Institute officially announced the laureate of the 2026 4th IETI Lifetime Achievement Award in Science, Engineering or Technology on December 4.

The award acknowledges Prof. Rahman's exceptional achievements in natural products chemistry over several decades, his visionary leadership in building a world-class research institution, and his remarkable influence as one

of the world's most distinguished researchers. It is noteworthy that Prof. Atta-ur-Rahman was also elected a Distinguished Fellow of IETI in 2025.

In recognition of his exceptional scientific collaboration with China, he was also honored with the People's Republic of China's highest scientific award — the International Science and Technology Cooperation Award — and appointed Academician (Foreign Member) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. Several research centers in China, Malaysia, and Pakistan are named in his honor, including the Academician Professor Atta-ur-Rahman One Belt and One Road TCM Research Center in Hunan, China, and the Atta-ur-Rahman Institute on Natural Product Discovery (AuRINS) in Malaysia.

ANSO-PAS International Conference on Smart Solution of a Green Future: AI in Ecosystem and Climate Action

2026

Call for Papers April 13-15

The conference invites papers/ posters abstracts from researchers, academicians, practitioners and policymakers to discuss how technological advancements can drive environmental solutions.

Submissions are welcome on (but not limited to) the following themes:

- AI-based climate modeling and early warning systems.
- Smart agriculture and precision ecosystem management.
- Big data applications in biodiversity monitoring.
- AI governance for environmental ethics.

Scan for submission



Gold, silver, bronze medal for selected posters.

Selected Papers published in special issues of Pakistan Acad. of Sciences

An individual paper proposal should include a title, an abstract (up to 250 words), and a short biographical note (up to 150 words). For further conference information and submission instructions, please email to pas.ansoconference@fuuast.edu.pk or visit <https://fuuast.edu.pk/oric/>

Important Dates

Call for Proposal:	15th December 2025
Abstract Submission Deadline:	15th January 2026
Notification of Acceptance:	1st February 2026
Paper Submission Deadline:	1st March 2026

