

MARCH 2023



# NEWS BULLETIN



Microsoft



**PRIDE OF MNSUAM**  
Competing at World Level!

Imagine Cup X

Collaboration With  
Higher Education Commiss



Regional Winner Asma Rehman  
mentored by Dr Nadeem Iqbal (AI-Based Bee Hive)

Dream it.  
Build it.  
Live it.



National Winner Syed Wajahat Mashkoor  
mentored by Dr Ayesha Hakim (Store Karo!)

Double the Pride, Double the Glory! Department of Computer Science  
National and Regional Winner in Microsoft Imagine Cup 2023

VOLUME (10), ISSUE (1)

March 2023

# News Bulletin



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## Achievers of MNSUAM

Recently, MNSUAMIAN students and mentors earned an impressive accomplishment by claiming both the National 1st and Regional 1st titles in two innovative projects, namely **Store Karo! AI-Based Bee Hive**, in **Microsoft Imagine Cup, 2023**. For celebrating and sharing this proud moment, an interview of the highfliers is being furnished below.

### AI based Beehive

**Q: How the idea for Smart Beehive came to you?**

**A:** It's an interesting story, though I am related with the field of computer science, but being a student of MNSUAM I am in agricultural scenarios as well. I read articles on honey bee and found out about CCD (Colony Collapse Disorder) which is a disease common in honey bees. CCD has such a high occurrence frequency that honey bees' colonies are declining rapidly and the phenomenon has reached this stage that their population will be destroyed, so I thought something needs be done, some smart way in which the producers can be cautioned before the calamity hits and that's how the idea of AI-Based Beehive came to my imagination.

**Q: Explain the functioning of Smart Beehive, please.**

**A:** Basically Smart Beehive predicts CCD before it actually happens. When Colony Collapse Disorder occurs all the honeybees die, the colony either collapses absolutely or the bees leave their hive. If a single honeybee is suffering from CCD it will spread in the entire colony, so the only way of overcoming CCD is to curb it before it actually happens, and that is exactly what Smart Beehive does.

**Q: Who would you like to dedicate your success to and what are your future plans for smart Beehive?**

**A:** I would like to dedicate my success to my parents and to my teacher cum mentor Dr Nadeem Iqbal and I would like to avail this platform to extend my gratitude to him for his unnerving intellectual and moral support.

**Ms. Asma Rehman**  
***Creator of AI Based Beehive***



## Achievers of MNSUAM

### AI based Beehive

**Q: Do you think that the AI based Beehive is economical enough to be launched on a commercial scale?**

**A:** Yes, as compared to the cost of a normal beehive which is 25k-50k rupees, I think AI based Beehive is quite economical because of its productivity ratio. As the smart Beehive exponentially increases the production by reducing the CCD ratio in honey bees.

### Dr. Nadeem Iqbal Supervisor of AI Based Behive



**Q: What were the challenges that you met with while supervising the project Smart Beehive?**

**A:** The main challenge for me as a supervisor was going beyond my forte i.e. to work on deep machine learning. In all the projects that I had supervised till now, I had observed and interacted just with machines but for Smart Beehive, I observed and interacted with honeybees and beehives, which was very challenging and interesting for me at the same time.

**Q: What are your feelings after winning?**

**A:** Victory always tastes sweet. This one is even sweeter because it brought recognition for MNSUAM and will eventually bring not only huge financial benefits farmers but also resuscitate the declining specie



## Achievers of MNSUAM

### Store karo

#### Syed Wajahat Mashkooor Creator of Store Karo

**Q: How the idea for Store karo came to you?**

**A:** I wanted to work on something wholly innovative. A lot of people have made projects that connect the domains of education and health with technology, but as far as the domain of agriculture is concerned there lies a huge gap. My supervisor Dr. Ayesha Hakim, brought this gap to my attention and therefore I decided to bridge the gap between agriculture and information technology. Going through literature I came upon this fact that in Pakistan about 40% of perishable food is wasted just because of the traditional and inappropriate storing techniques. That reality basically triggered the idea of replacing the traditional storage techniques with a

**Q: Explain the functioning of Store karo, please.**

**A:** Store karo has AI based functionality with which it can not only predict the perishability of stored food but can also monitor the temperature of the storage shelves. If the temperature precedes from 20°C then it will turn on the cooling automatically. Moreover we can view its function on our mobile application. All these features eventually increase the shelf life of the storage product.

**Q: Who would you like to dedicate your success to and what are your future plans for Store karo?**

**A:** I would like to dedicate my success definitely to my parents, my immensely knowledgeable and indefatigable supervisor Dr. Ayesha Hakim and to my team members Raheel and Ajmal. We have chalked a methodical future plan for Store karo which has already been initiated. In its first stage we have implemented it for mangoes in Multan and later on we will extend it to other stored products as well.



## Achievers of MNSUAM

### Store karo

**Q: Do you think that Store karo is economical enough to be launched on a commercial scale?**

**A:** We tried our best to keep Store karo within minimal financial constraints, just like our project Smart Trap so that it can be accessible for both large and small farmers. Store karo is beneficial not only for farmers but also exponentially advantageous for exporters and the contractors. On a commercial scale it is actually exporters and contractors that we aim to target. Nevertheless Store karo is economically affordable for progressive farmers.

**Dr. Ayesha Hakim**  
**Supervisor of Store Karo**



**Q: What were the challenges that you met with while supervising the project Store karo?**

**A:** Well building this type of new technology is always a wonderful experience. Initially the main challenge that we faced basically some issues with the was finding the right sensors at the right time, within the affordable range but later on like luckily we got enough finance so we managed things out.

**Q: What are your feelings about this whole experience?**

**A:** Working with the diligent and dedicated trio of Wajahat, Raheel and Ajmal made this a wonderful and amazing experience. The indubitable support of our worthy vice chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) encouraged us not only to dream big but to untiringly build and victoriously live those dreams.



## Faculty Professional Development Program-MNSUAM

A four-day Faculty Professional Development Program organized by the Department of Outreach and Continuing Education was conducted at MNSUAM from February 27- March 2, 2023. Twenty faculty members from different departments participated in the training session. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), bequeathed a lecture to the faculty members on improving teaching skills highlighting that faculty members can educate students in a better way by using modern teaching methods. A training session regarding the governance system of the university was also arranged. Director BIEAC, Dr. Mubasher Mehdi delivered a lecture on teaching through case studies. Mr. Nabeel Ikram presented a talk on pedagogical skills. Dr. Usman Jamshed talked about creating motivation among students. Prof. Dr. Hammad Nadeem Tahir facilitated a lecture on improving the quality of education in higher education. Prof. Dr. Junaid Ali Khan provided information regarding research and development. Treasurer, Mr. Mohammad Rafiq Farooqi, gave a lecture regarding financial matters and their management. Dr. Ammar Matloob facilitated a training session on research philosophy. Dr. Ayesha Hakeem gave training regarding the Learning Management System. Dr. Ammara Waheed shed light on happiness and its role in practical life. Mr. Javed Ahmad imparted a lecture regarding microteaching. Dr. Abdul Razzaq delivered a lecture on the Faculty Information System. Dr. Ambreen Naz held a training session regarding the HEC Digital Library. Mr. Zulfikar Ali Tabasum, Controller of Examinations highlighted the rules and grading system related to examinations. Mr. Rao Furqan Ahmed delivered a lecture on teaching research and conducting life affairs in a balanced way. Dr. Ahmed Mehmood and Dr. Fawad Zafar also divulged training regarding improving teaching quality. Mr. Ayub Ahmed gave training regarding communication skills and stress management. In the end, Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Dean FSSH; Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed, Dean FAES; Prof. Dr. Asif Raza, Dean FVAS; Dr. Rana Binyamin, Chairman Outreach and Dr. Muhammad Arif, focal person of training, spoke with the faculty in a panel discussion and finally distributed certificates of appreciation among the faculty members. Faculty professional development training aims to improve teaching quality as well as prepare them for professional challenges.



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“Faculty professional development training aims to improve teaching quality as well as prepare the faculty for professional challenges.”  
Dean Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed

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## Dr. Ishrat Hussain visited-MNSUAM

Dr. Ishrat Hussain, former Governor State Bank visited Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Agricultural University of Agriculture Multan on March 6, 2023. Dr. Ishrat Hussain, former Governor State Bank visited Muhammad Nawaz Shareef Agricultural University of Agriculture Multan on March 6, 2023. In his meeting with Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice-Chancellor MNSUAM, he expressed that the role of MNSUAM is very important for the development of agriculture sector in South Punjab. The Vice Chancellor highlighted that MNSUAM has a tradition of keeping the industry in loop regarding research and outreach ventures. Apart from this, MNSUAM in collaboration with numerous industrial stakeholders is continually organizing various seminars and workshops to guide farmers and producers. Dr. Ishrat Hussain expressed that collaboration between educational institutes and industry is the need of the time for the practical development and highly appreciated the efforts of MNSUAM in this regard.



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“Holding its tradition, MNSUAM in collaboration with numerous industrial stakeholders is continually organizing various seminars and workshops to guide farmers and producers.”

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)





## Seminar on International Women Day-MNSUAM

A seminar endorsing Women Empowerment was organized at MNSUAM to celebrate International Women Day on March 8, 2023. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM shared that prosperity of women is actually the prosperity of the society. Women cannot and should not be ostracized from nation's progress. He added that mothers play a key role in making good human beings. No nation can progress in the world until its women stand side by side with men. Iram, CEO Gift Mix graced the event as Guest Speaker and elaborated that the background of International Women Day is an avid proof of the fact that the atrocities that befell women are not confined to any religion, cast and country rather they are perpetuated worldwide. Women are deprived of the societal status that they deserve. She further stressed the point that women need to prove their metal in the society through education and make it crystal clear for everyone that they are not less than men in any field. Dr. Ayesha Hakeem and Ms. Shafa Nayab shared that the female students studying in MNSUAM are earning recognition for Pakistan at both national and international fronts. The seminar culminated with the solemn pledge of promoting the education of girls in Pakistan as well as justifying the rights of women in a good way.



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“Women cannot and should not be ostracized from nation's progress as prosperity of women is actually the prosperity of the society.”  
Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)





## All Pakistan 32<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Pakistan Society of Food Scientists Technologists-MNSUAM

32nd All Pakistan Food Scientists and Technologists Conference was organized by collaboration of Faculty of Food Science Nutrition, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan and Department of Food Science and Technology, MNS University of Agriculture Multan on 8-9 March 2023 at BZU Multan, Pakistan. The Pakistan Society of Food Scientist and Technologists (PSFST) announced Faculty of Food Science and Nutrition, BZU Multan as its host for 32 nd All Pakistan PSFST Conference titled “Food Crisis in Pakistan: Opportunities and Solutions.” BZU and MNSUAM invited pan Pakistan Food and Allied Science Professionals to come and be the part of mega event on 8-9 March 2023 at BZU Multan, Pakistan. Hundreds of delegates from academia, research organizations, agriculture, food industry, policymakers, NGOs, and local international organizations participated in it. The dignitaries discussed daunting challenges and reasons for food crisis in Pakistan. The participants were enlightened on how to manage and depose the growing food crisis with respect to food and nutritional sciences. Prof. Dr. Faqir Muhammad Anjum stated in his presentation during conference that after steadily declining for a decade, world hunger is on the rise, affecting nearly 10% of the people globally. From 2019 to 2022, the number of undernourished people grew by as many as 150 million, a crisis driven largely by conflict, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Other experts in the field Prof. Dr. Saeed Akhtar, Prof. Dr. Umar Farooq, Dr. Anwaar Gillani, Dr. Javaid Azeez Awan, Dr. Tahir Zahoor and Dr. Masood Sadiq Butt elaborated the situation of food security and possible solutions in Pakistan by stating that the absolute number of hungry people in Pakistan is rising every year, driven by its status as the sixth most populous country on earth with a population growth rate of 2.4 percent.



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“After steadily declining for a decade, world hunger is on the rise, affecting nearly 10% of the people globally. From 2019 to 2022, the number of undernourished people grew by as many as 150 million, a crisis driven largely by conflict, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic.”

Prof. Dr. Faqir Muhammad Anjum

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## All Pakistan 32<sup>nd</sup> Conference of Pakistan Society of Food Scientists Technologists-MNSUAM

It was also discussed that in the present difficult situation the Government of Pakistan should take immediate action on many fronts to deal with the menace of rapidly increasing food insecurity in Pakistan by adopting strategies such as reducing food waste, post-harvest management, improving existing infrastructure programs and trade policies, promoting diversification and working towards defeating climate change. A competition showcasing “Innovation in food product development” was also held during the conference to enlighten students about importance of food preservation and commercialization and the role of food processing in strengthening food security situation of Pakistan.





## Training Workshop on The Use of Soil Survey Techniques-MNSUAM

A comprehensive training on various techniques of soil surveying was organized by the Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences, MNSUAM in collaboration with Soil Survey of Punjab on March 9, 2023. The resource persons for this training were Dr. Mohammad Atiq-ur-Rehman and Dr. Tassaduq Saleem from the Soil Survey of Punjab. Prof. Dr. Tanveer-ul-Haq, Chairman, Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences, welcomed the facilitators, students, farmers, and all the guests from various institutions of the Agriculture Complex. In his preliminary speech, he shared that according to the vision of Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM, the Department of Soil and Environmental Sciences has always worked for the capacity building of farmers, students, and the community. This training is another step pursued in this regard. He further expressed that soil survey is an important factor in agriculture, and with its help, it is possible to save resources in agriculture. Initiating the training with a presentation, Dr. Muhammad Atiq-ur-Rehman briefed about soil surveying and its importance. He highlighted that MNSUAM is one of the few universities that is working closely with farmers and industry. After his presentation, there was a detailed question and answer session in which the students and other attendees actively participated. In the second session of the training, a soil profile was dug, and the participants were given practical training. At the end of the training, both guests were thanked and awarded with shields. On this occasion, the faculty of the Department and the resource persons from the Soil Survey reiterated that they would work together to solve the soil problems faced by the farming community.



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“Soil survey is an important factor in agriculture, and with its help, it is possible to save resources in agriculture.”  
Prof. Dr. Tanveer-ul-Haq



## Conference on Constitution, Democracy and Our Responsibilities-MNSUAM

A conference on the topic of Constitution, Democracy and Our Responsibilities was organized at MNSUAM on March 10, 2023. The event was graced by Former Caretaker Chief Minister of Punjab Prof. Dr. Hasan Askari Rizvi as the guest of honor. Addressing the conference, he elaborated that moderation is a democratic value and extremism is its opposite. Rights and responsibilities are always interrelated in society. Where there are rights, there are also responsibilities. The freedom given in a democracy is within the constitutional framework. Democracy is nurtured by constitutional power, democratic values and culture. Forbearance is the foundational stone of democratic culture. Disagreement must be tolerated; the opinion of others must be respected as Diversity is the strength of any society. Therefore, it is important to respect the rights of religious and social minorities in accordance with the constitutional framework. In his presidential address, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM foregrounded that social and religious tolerance are elemental constituents of MNSUAM's curriculum which broaden the mental horizons of male and female students of the university and enable them in moving forward with a positive mindset. Dr. Rashid Ahmed expressed that the first stage of social change is mental and psychological change. Young people have to practice academic discourse and dialogue. Mr. Abbas Rasheed, Chief Executive Sahi, commemorated the management of MNSUAM for facilitating the course on socio-religious tolerance. Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Prof. Dr. Nasir Nadeem, Dr. Salman Qadri, Dr. Shakeel Ahmed, Dr. Muhammad Arif, Dr. Madiha Gohar, Dr. Usman Jamshed along with a large number of students were present on this occasion.



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“Disagreement must be tolerated, and the opinion of others must be respected as Diversity is the strength of any society and Democracy is nurtured by constitutional power, democratic culture and values.”

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)



## Seminar on Fundamentals of Blockchain Technology and Its Applications- MNSUAM

A Seminar on Fundamentals of Blockchain Technology and Its Applications, organized by Department of Computer Science (DOCS) was conducted at MNSUAM on Friday March 10, 2023. Commencing with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, Dr. Hira Nazir, Assistant Professor DOCS, welcomed and introduced the Guest Speaker Dr. Amir Ali to the audience. Sharing his knowledge with the audience, Dr. Amir Ali highlighted that Blockchain is a digital ledger that keeps a record of all transactions taking place in a peer-to-peer network. All information transferred via Blockchain is encrypted and every occurrence is recorded, meaning that the information cannot be altered. Elaborating its applications, he explained that Blockchain technology can provide greater security by storing passwords and other data on a decentralized network instead of a centralized server. Additionally, it offers protection against data tampering since a Blockchain is practically immutable. The talk was followed by an extensive, informative and interesting question answer session. The session capped Dr. Abdul Razzaq Assoc. Prof. DOCS, on behalf of the Chairman capped the session by extending his token of appreciation to the guest speaker in the form of shield.



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“Blockchain technology provides greater security and protection against data tampering since a Blockchain is practically immutable.”

Dr. Amir Ali



## Professional Development Training Workshop-DOCE, MNSUAM

A two-day Professional Development Training Workshop, organized by Department of Outreach and Continuing Education was conducted at Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Agricultural University, Multan on March 11, 2023. The training workshop was facilitated by Prof. Dr. Khurram Jahangir Sharif from Qatar University. More than 20 faculty and staff members from two universities of Multan participated in the event. The objective of the training workshop was to enhance the leadership skills of the university staff. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice-Chancellor MNSUAM participated in the first day session and expressed that professional life can be improved through leadership training. He foregrounded that it is the mark of the good leaders that they always lead their team in the best way. Dr. Khurram Jahangir elaborated that this training is an excellent opportunity for leaders of all levels to hone their skills and take their leadership to the next level. Sharing his views about the audience he remarked that, I am delighted to be with a group of talented professionals who are committed to developing their leadership skills and contributing positively to their universities. The workshop provided training on emotional intelligence, communication skills, team performance, professional development, anger management, time management, and various other leadership skills. In the end, Prof. Dr. Khurram Jahangir distributed certificates to the university faculty and staff members who received the training.



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“Delighted to be with a group of talented professionals who are committed to developing their leadership skills and contributing positively to their universities.”  
Prof. Dr. Khurram Jahangir Sharif



## MOU between MNSUAM and Elite Sports

An MOU was signed between MNSUAM and Elite Sports on March 14, 2023. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM and Mr. Murtaza Noor, focal person Elite Sports signed the document. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM sharing his views on this occasion expressed that the excitement and energy of sports rejuvenate the spirit of the youth and promote leadership qualities among students. He further conveyed that the desire to win is an emotion, similarly the tolerance of defeat is an attitude. Both teach fundamental attributes of successful life. Success in sports is directly linked with teamwork, and hence if the students understand and develop the mechanics of teamwork, they can definitely secure numerous accomplishments in their lives. Mr. Murtaza Noor, Focal Person of Elite Sports, expressed that we will not only conduct competitions for the students of MNSUAM but will also facilitate them with professional trainings. We will work in collaboration with MNSUAM to improve the condition and environment of sports grounds. Mr. Arqam Iqbal, Director Sports highlighted that the availability of positive entertainment sources is quintessential for healthy brain growth, which eventually leads to better performance of students in academic field as well. Prof. Dr. Hammad Nadeem, Dr. Binyamin Rana and Dr. Abid Hussain were also present on this occasion.



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“The desire to win is an emotion, similarly the tolerance of defeat is an attitude. Sports teaches both these fundamental attributes of living a successful life.”

Prof.  
Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)





## Happiness Week-MNSUAM

The Directorate of Student Affairs and State Management at MNSUAM organized a week-long event called Happiness Week from March 15th to March 20th. The purpose of this week was to provide opportunities for people who are trapped in the monotony of the life to be happy. This week-long event started as a brand program for students, faculty, and staff like a festival. The Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), inaugurated the week with pleasure and delight. While explaining the aims and objectives of this week Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM shared that one pivotal reason of the honor and international recognition enjoyed by MNSUAM is the happiness and contentment of its students and teachers as happiness is the basic right of every human being. At MNSUAM, we believe that keeping our faculty and students blissful is one of our chief responsibilities, as the epitome of happiness is that other people are at peace because of you. On the first day of this week, a Book Fair including 15,000 books, handicraft exhibition made by students and a food street was organized. Open mic laughter for faculty and students rejoiced the atmosphere. The Bird and Domestic Animals Show including chickens, pigeons, parrots, peacocks, pheasants and other birds, rare breeds of cats and dogs entertained the visitors. Public Health Camp provided good health tips for the visiting guests. An umpiring and coaching course for basketball and Ring ball was also the part of the Happiness Week and energized the fields with matches. On the occasion of Happiness Week, Literary Club organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rozan-e-Mushaira in which guest poets as well as students of MNSUAM recited their verses in Urdu, Saraiki and Punjabi, adding an inter-lingual flair to Happiness Week, which was liked and applauded by the audience openly. Sports remained an integral part of the weeklong celebrations where everyone had a chance to burn their calories. Cricket team of MNSUAM defeated the cricket team of Emerson University by 13 runs.



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“The honor and international recognition enjoyed by MNSUAM is because at MNSUAM, we believe that keeping our faculty and students blissful is one of our chief responsibilities, as the epitome of happiness is that other people are at peace because of you.”  
Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.)



## Happiness Week-MNSUAM

E-gaming competitions evoked the cyber spirit among students. The week ended with a Poster Competition and a Seminar on Happiness, Oral Health, and Wellness. Addressing the event, Dr. Saira and Dr. Qumreen Fatima, discussed human health, the importance of oral hygiene and the necessary measures that a healthy person should pursue. In the end, certificates and prizes were awarded to the students who secured prominent positions in the competitions held during this week. A cake was cut to mark the end of the week and it was reiterated that such quality entertainment would continue every year. In his concluding remarks, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM, opined that in today's busy life, the philosophy of being happy has become even more important, where happiness can be likened to a state of mind that can be enhanced by a combination of sports, recreational events, and cultural activities. The week got wrapped up with plenty of reasons to be happy and grateful.





## Workshop on Skill Development in Young Food Professionals-MNSUAM

A one-day training workshop titled Skill Development in Young Food Professionals, organized by Department of Food Science and Technology was conducted at MNSUAM on March 20, 2023. The workshop aimed to maximize the professional capacity among the youth. Addressing the event, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor MNSUAM, encouraged youth to highlight their personal potential to succeed in all the fields of life. He foregrounded the significance of skill development by expressing that when done right, skills development can reduce un- and underemployment, increase productivity, and improve standards of living. Helping people develop and update their skills makes economic sense. Mian Sajid Hameed who is a consultant, trainer, gap analyst and mentor of youth facilitated the training workshop. He deliberated on independence, mental capacity and self-reliance to the students and also shed light on the opportunities and difficulties faced by young students in practical field. He expressed that there is an immense need to improve cognitive, socio economical, technical and digital skills among young professionals. The session was attended by 200 students from Department of Food Science and Technology. Prof. Dr. Umar Farooq, Dr. M. Shahbaz, Dr. Shamas Murtaza, Dr. Shabbir Ahmad, Dr. Sibte-Abbas, Dr. Unsar Naemullah along with other faculty members joined the event. Certificates were distributed among the students at the end of the session.



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“When done right, skills development can reduce un- and underemployment, increase productivity and improve standards of living. Helping people develop and update their skills makes economic sense.”

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)



## Wildlife Conservation Drive-MNSUAM

A Wildlife Conservation Drive was organized by Faculty of Veterinary Animal Sciences, MNSUAM on March 22, 2023. The Drive constituted of a poster and model exhibition, an awareness walk and a seminar which were participated in by 180 students. The aim of this event was to highlight the importance of wildlife including forests and animals. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), vice chancellor MNSUAM visited the Poster and Model Exhibition and also took part in the Awareness Walk. Sharing his views on the occasion he stressed that it is very important to protect wildlife, as protecting wildlife and preserving it for future generations can help the animals to not become a distant memory and we can maintain a healthy and functional ecosystem. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Asif Raza, Dean FVAS welcomed all the students and faculty members. Talking about the importance of wildlife and forests, he shared that forests and wildlife provide us food, medicines, raw material and employment. It also inspires people around the world. From Indus River Dolphins to Snow Leopards, Pakistan is also a home to amazing wildlife. Habitat loss is the biggest threat to wildlife. The seminar was facilitated by Dr. Tahira Rubi, Assoc. Prof. Dept. of Zoology, BZU, Dr. Naheed Bano, Asst. Prof. Dept. of Zoology, Wildlife & Fisheries, MNSUAM and Dr. Aziz-ul-Rahman, Asst. Prof. Pathobiology, MNSUAM. Dr. Tahira Rubi highlighted that apart from habitat destruction, fragmentation and anthropogenic effects climate change is becoming the biggest threat to the long-term survival of wild life, as a healthy ecosystem clean our water, purify our air, maintain soil, regulate the climate, recycle nutrients and provide us food. Emphasizing the threats posed to marine life, Dr. Naheed Bano briefed that the reasons behind the wildlife depletion are overfishing, acidification, marine debris and oil spills. An estimated 17.6 billion pounds of plastic leaks into the marine environment from land-based sources every year—that's roughly equivalent to dumping a garbage truck full of plastic into our oceans every minute. Dr. Aziz ul Rahman talked about the damage to wildlife due to different zoonotic diseases. The Wildlife Conservation Drive culminated with a solemn pledge to spread the message of saving the wildlife for our future generations.



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“Protecting wildlife and preserving it for future generations can help the animals to not become a distant memory and we can maintain a healthy and functional ecosystem.”  
Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)



## Awareness Walk on World Water Day-MNSUAM

The Department of Agricultural Engineering, MNS University of Agriculture Multan, celebrated World Water Day on March 22, 2023, and organized an awareness walk on accelerating change to solve the water and sanitation crisis. The event was led by Dr. Sarfraz Hashim, chairman Department of Agricultural Engineering. Addressing the participants, Dr. Sarfraz Hashim focused on the need for sustainable water management, and foregrounded various solutions that can be employed for the effective management of water resources. More than 100 participants joined the walk and prepared posters highlighting the importance of the water conservation and issue of water scarcity. Dr. Mohsin Nawaz briefed the audience about the importance of water conservation, the current state of water resources in the country and the challenges and opportunities for improving water resources management. He shared that we could not deny the importance of water in agriculture and other fields of life. We can save water for future generations if we use the available water efficiently. The purpose of the awareness walk was to highlight the ever-increasing water-related issues. Other faculty members, including Dr. Muhammad Saifullah, Engr. Abdul Aleem, Dr. Umair Sultan, Dr. Muhammad Abid, Engr. Shahzad, Dr. Shazia Hanif, Dr. Mohsin Khan, and Engr. Saqib participated in the awareness walk. The society of engineers and technologists of MNSUAM arranged this awareness walk to show their commitment to preserving our water resources.



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“World Water Day is a reminder that we all need to do our part to ensure a future with clean and safe water for everyone.” Dr. Sarfraz Hashim



## National and Regional Winners at Microsoft Imagine Cup 2023

Microsoft and Higher Education Commission Pakistan announced the winners and runners-up of Imagine Cup 2023 at the closing ceremony of Microsoft Imagine Cup, 2023 held at the HEC head office in Islamabad on March 27, 2023. The event was attended by several educational leaders, including Director General Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO), Dr. Salim M. Almalik, Chairman Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, and Microsoft Country Manager Jibran Jamshaid, with Dr. Salim M. Almalik as the chief guest. MNSUAM is pleased to share the news of the outstanding success in the Microsoft Imagine Cup 2023 competition. The students and mentors have earned an impressive accomplishment by claiming both the National 1st and Regional 1st titles in two innovative projects, namely Store Karo! and AI-Based Beehive, which were headed by Dr. Ayesha Hakim and Dr. Nadeem Iqbal, respectively. This is the first time in the history of Microsoft Imagine Cup that two teams from the same university have won two awards. We take immense pride in this remarkable achievement and are excited to share it with everyone.

“Store Karo!” is a smart portable storage chamber including features such as sensors, data analytics, and artificial intelligence to optimize shelf life of perishable food items, manage inventory, and improve overall food quality. An AI-based Beehive is a cutting-edge technology that uses advanced sensors and artificial intelligence to accurately count the number of bees entering and exiting the hive. Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig, Dean FSSH and Dr. Salman Qadri, Chairman DOCS graced the event and shared their thoughts by saying that Imagine Cup is a successful example of how Microsoft empowers students to build 21st-century skill sets through access to the latest technology, training, and mentorship, offering them new opportunities for the future. Department of Computer Science has been consistently winning awards at Microsoft Imagine Cup for the past five years, which in itself is an avid proof of the dedication and skill of both the students and faculty involved. The event concluded with Chairman HEC, Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, highlighting the importance of such collaborations between Microsoft and HEC in introducing tech reforms in the education sector. He noted that Imagine Cup is a project that both HEC and Microsoft are proud to have worked on, which brings students together, motivating them to contribute to the greater good of their country in an innovative way.



“Imagine Cup is a successful example of how Microsoft empowers students to build 21st-century skill sets through access to the latest technology, training, and mentorship, offering them new opportunities for the future.”  
Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig



## Seminar on Philosophy of Worship and its Effects on Social Life-MNSUAM

A Ramadan seminar titled, "Philosophy of Worship and its Effects on Social Life," was organized by Social Scientist Society and Department of Islamic Studies at MNSUAM on March 30, 2023. Dr. Asim Qureshi from University of Education graced the event as the chief guest. Addressing the audience, Dr. Asim shared that three major areas of religion that come to the fore after accepting the beliefs of Islam are Worship, affairs and ethics. The prevailing social system is one that widens the division between religion and the world due to which the social effects of worship are no longer visible. Thus, those who stand in unison before Almighty Allah (Glory be to Him), feel discriminated from each other on the basis of social imbalance and hence violate each other rights. While the purpose of prayer was to avoid obscenity, denial and rebellion. The presence of these things in the society is a sign that the worshipers are not interested in the societal manifestation of their faith. That why it was said in Surah Al-Ma'un that such worshipers will perish who are oblivious to the purpose of prayers. Those who do not pay attention to social ethics. Likewise, the purpose of fasting is to create a society based on pious people. In Holy Quran, piety relates to justice. Hence it is the responsibility of every Muslim to ensure justice in all spheres of social life. So that a civilized and balanced society can be formed. Likewise, Zakat ensures the circulation of wealth in society, enabling people to stand on their own feet by sharing resources. Hajj is a manifestation of the unity of the nations of the world without discrimination. The bliss and mercy of Almighty Allah can only be attained by establishing a society based on the principles of justice, peace and coexistence. If we look at the practical system of worship, it creates order and equality in the society. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) said that there are no Muslims among us who betray, lie, break promises, speak ill of words, support oppression, confirm lies, do not show compassion to the young and do not respect the elders. On this occasion, Dr. Rashid Ahmed expressed that it is a sad fact the collective morals of the society have no longer remained of significance in today's society. Therefore, the Muslims of today have a greater responsibility to recognize the true spirit of worship and establish their society on the best principles. Mr. Manan Aslam hosted the seminar. Dr. Umar Ejaz, Mr. Abdul Rehman along with other faculty members, students and the officials of the society Ms. Ramsha, Mr. Abdul Rehman, Mr. Muhammad Hamza, Mr. Mohsin Raza, Mr. Faisal, Mr. Ramis, Mr. Huzaifa and Mr. Abdullah participated in the event.



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“The main purpose of the system of worship is to create a civilized and balanced society, where it is the responsibility of every Muslim to ensure justice in all spheres of social life.”

Dr. Asim Qureshi

**March 2023**

# News Bulletin



## **Defence Declaration**

**Mr. Muhammad Asif**, Reg. No. 2018-uam-915, PhD Scholar (Agronomy) in the Department of Agronomy, has successfully defended his Pre PhD Thesis (online) on 07-02-2023 (Thursday) at 12.00 PM in Video Conference Room No. 328, Academic Block, MNS-University of Agriculture Multan. The title of his thesis is "Water Conservation Practices and Legumes Productivity under Spate Irrigation"

**Ms. Plosha Khanum**, Registration No.2017-um-904, Ph. D scholar. Institute of Plant Breeding and Biotechnology will defend her Ph. D thesis on May 05, 2023 (Friday) at 11:00 am in the Committee Room / Syndicate Room. Admin Block MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. The title of her thesis is "Sex Determination and Expression Profiling at Early Stage in Date Palm"