



**January 2023**  
***NEWS BULLETIN***  
**Volume (8), Issue (1)**





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## **THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SMART PLANT PROTECTION**

Institute of Plant Protection, MNS University of Agriculture organized two-days International Conference on January 03-04, 2023. The International Conference on Smart Plant Protection provided insight into innovations and advances in Plant Protection, aiming to protect the plant resources from the invasion and infestation of insect pests, plant pathogens and weeds. The conference provided a collection of innovative ideas and recent research undergone by students, academia and industrialists, world over. A pool of thought-provoking opportunities enabled networking and provided opportunities for collaborations and alliances on plant protection; stimulated and facilitated discussions and dialogues between stakeholders like scientists, researchers and practitioners including policy makers, business, civil society and farmers. The conference committee received more than 200 research abstracts out of which 50 presenters presented their research work in the conference. The inaugural session was glorified by the presence of Honorable Chief Guest Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Ali, Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council. Dr. Faisal Zahoor, Secretary Agriculture graced as Chief Guest in the closing session as Chief Guest. The conference was valued by the participation of Keynote Speakers from all technology developed countries. The conference addressing the much-needed areas of research ended with plenty of appreciation. Appreciating the University for its consistency in organizing the smart plant protection conference for the last few years, Dr. Faisal Zahoor, Secretary Agriculture South Punjab ensured that all the recommendations presented in the conference will be converted into future research projects. The recommendations of the conference would be presented in local language as Science for Farmers in coming days.



“The 3rd ICSP provided insight into innovations and recent research undergone by students, academia and industrialists, world over in Plant Protection, aiming to protect the plant resources from the invasion and infestation of insect pests, plant pathogens and weeds.”



## **SEMINAR ON WATER BORNE INFECTIONS AND POTENTIAL REMEDIES-MNSUAM**

Public Health Society MNSUAM in collaboration with ORIC and Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences arranged an awareness Seminar on waterborne infections and potential remedies. The event was led by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) with Dr. Tariq Rana (Director Compliance Monitoring, Inspector general of water compliance, Australian Government) as the guest speaker. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali highlighted the importance of water in our daily lives and its current situation in Pakistan. He said knowledge and literate behavior is the first step required, in order to protect oneself from diseases caused due to polluted water.

Guest speaker Dr. Tariq Rana shed light on the diseases that are caused due to polluted water and their remedies. He also highlighted the fact that Punjab does not have proper sewage disposal system in some areas. Sustainable development goals regarding precautionary measures against waterborne infections were also shared. According to him there are not only economic and social but also some political and technological hurdles in the provision of clean water. Different advanced methods to clean water were also discussed.

During the event, MNSUAM-Public Health Society role in community work was also appreciated along with their first year annual report. Convener of Public Health Society Dr. Muhammad Umair Waqas, Prof. Dr. Irfan Baig (Dean of faculty of social sciences) and Prof. Dr. Junaid Khan also attended the event.

“Good health is essential to sustainable development and the 2030 Agenda reflects the complexity and interconnectedness of the two, and water borne diseases are among the most frequently communicated diseases.”  
Dr. Asif Ali





## **PROF. DR. JAVAID IQBAL VISITED MEDICINAL PARK - MNSUAM**

Prof. Dr. Javaid Iqbal visited medicinal park established at MNS-University of Agriculture Multan for general awareness of masses about functional benefits of medicinal plants. Prof. Dr. Javaid Iqbal is a highly qualified Laparoscopic surgeon in Bahawalpur with over 3 decades of experience. Dr. Iqbal is currently a Professor of Surgery, Director DME Quaid-e-Azam Medical College and an educational and motivational vlogger.

Dr. Shahid Iqbal, focal person briefed about functional properties of medicinal plants like Fagopyrum esculantum (Buckwheat), Plantago ovata (Ispagol), Chenopodium Quinoa (Quinoa), Salvia Hispanica (Chia), Nigella sativa (Black Seed), Carom Seeds (Ajwain), Foeniculum vulgare (Fennel).

Prof. Dr. Javaid Iqbal also conducted a successful live session on Facebook with Dr. Shahid Iqbal and appreciated the role of MNSUAM about providing diversified knowledge and offering entrepreneurship education in the country. The video received 500K views and is still trending.

(<https://fb.watch/hRgFaRkA00/?mibextid=2Rb1fB>).

“MNSUAM is playing a monumental role in providing diversified knowledge and offering entrepreneurship education in the country, which is highly appreciable.”  
Prof. Dr. Javaid Iqbal





## **TRAINING WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT -MNSUAM**

An international training workshop “Integrated Water Resources Management” was organized on January 10, 2023 at the Seminar Hall of MNS University of Agriculture, Multan (MNSUAM). The relevant stakeholders, progressive farmers, faculty members and students were invited to attend the said training workshop. The training session was facilitated by international guest speaker Dr. Akhtar Abbas, Assistant Director Surface Water Management section at Murray-Darling Basin Authority, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia. He shared brain storming ideas to create awareness about water resources management.

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNSUAM in his opening remarks, welcomed all the participants and highlighted the importance of water saving techniques in agriculture. He opined that water is more important than gold as the resources of the water are very few, so we should gear up for the future challenges. Regarding the training workshop, he elucidated the similarities of Indus Basin Pakistan with Murray Darling Basin, Australia.

Engr. Zafarullah Sindu, Director General South Punjab at Government Punjab Water Management Institute briefed that the management of surface water is of prime importance in improving the quality of crops and controlling environmental pollution. He elaborated the advanced techniques to manage surface and rain water.

The training comprised of three sessions namely adapting water management to climate change, Water Markets and Water Trading and Hydrological Modelling facilitated by Dr. Akhtar Abbas and Dr. Sohail Rai respectively.

“The effects of climatic changes on water management can only be mitigated by engineering solutions, designing policies and contriving plans keeping in view the on-ground realities.”

Dr. Akhtar Abbas





## **TRAINING WORKSHOP ON INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT -MNSUAM**

Dr. Akhtar Abbas delineated about techniques of adapting water management to climate change as climate change and climate shift perpetrate strong impact on surface water including changes in wind patterns and rainfall. He suggested that the effects of climatic changes on water management can be mitigated by engineering solutions and designing policies and plans keeping in view the on-ground realities. Dr. Sohail Rai, Director Hydrological Section at Murray-Darling Basin Authority, Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia briefed about the hydrological modelling.

At the end, Dr. Sarfraz Hashim, Head of Agricultural Engineering Department, MNSUAM in his concluding remarks acknowledged the beneficial implications of the said training workshop keeping in view the importance of water in human life with respect to Integrated Water Management. He endorsed the suggestions from Dr. Akhtar Abbas for paying special attention to observation wells and GIS mapping at campus level.





## **INTERNATIONAL WEBINAR ON HEAT STRESS IN POULTRY- MNSUAM**

Department of Poultry Science, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences in collaboration with ORIC arranged an international webinar on “Heat Stress in Poultry: Brain Endocrinology and Physiology”. The event was led by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Asif Raza Dean FVAS, and Principal Officer ORIC Prof. Dr. Junaid Ali Khan. Our guest speaker, Dr. Gregory S. Fraley was from Animal Sciences, Purdue University, West Lafayette, USA.

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), elaborated the harsh climate challenges that poultry industry in Pakistan faces during summer season. He said an understanding of the whole mechanism of heat stress in poultry is important to decimate this issue.

Guest speaker, Dr. Gregory S. Fraley shared his research about different species of poultry. His talk was mainly focused on the changes in brain endocrinology and physiology in response to travelling stress and heat stress. He explained the mechanism through which birds feel stressed and what should be the possible ways to evaluate the stress levels in birds.

According to him, only one measure to evaluate the stress in birds is not enough, therefore, there should be a combination of parameters that can comprehensively evaluate the stress and welfare status of birds. Dr. Fraley explained that heat stress can be reduced by proper designing and ventilation of poultry houses moreover decreasing the activity of birds during harsh climate can help to reduce the stress. Dr. Junaid Ali Khan in his concluding remarks talked about the physiological changes in poultry due to stress and put emphases on the need to understand this issue on micro level.

“A combination of parameters like proper designing and ventilation of poultry houses along with decrease in the activity of birds during harsh climate can comprehensively evaluate the stress and welfare status of birds.”

Dr. Fraley





## **TRAINING WORKSHOP ON BIRD FEEDING-MNSUAM**

A Training Workshop on the topic of Bird Feeding was organized by Plant for Life Society at MNS Agricultural University. Asif Rauf Khan, DG, PHA Multan graced the event as chief guest. On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice-Chancellor assured all possible support to take special measures in bird care with reference to extreme climatic conditions and to do it on a large scale. He further opined that the university is following the vision of community services and birds are ornaments of trees. The survival of birds in urban areas has become questionable in the current situation. For their survival, students and all citizens should take strong measures in collaboration with PHA and University to maintain ecological balance. Asif Rauf Khan, DG, PHA made the participants realize that being the best of ALLAH'S creations, it is our existential duty that we should take special care of the birds during heavy fog season. He further reiterated his commitment that this year too, Good Multan Club will give special attention to breeding and maintenance of birds in parks. Dr. Muqrab Ali, in-charge Plant for Life Society, briefed the participants about the project related to provision of plastic and other materials for birds to live and eat. In the end, Professor Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq thanked all the participants. A large number of faculty and students including Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmed Baig, Prof. Dr. Junaid Ali Khan, Dr. Tanveer Ahmed, Dr. Atif Rahman were present on this occasion.



“Being the best of ALLAH'S creations, it is our existential duty that we should take special care of birds during heavy fog season.”  
Asif Rauf Khan



## **TRAINING WORKSHOP ON KITCHEN GARDENING - MNSUAM**

MNS-University of Agriculture Multan in collaboration with ACIAR-ASSIB organized a capacity building session for farmers of Project Bright Spot-2 Dera Habbat. The workshop provided training about advanced vegetable nursery raising techniques and management of kitchen garden under saline conditions to 14 participants. The focus of the workshop was hands on training of participants regarding growing media preparation, filling of multipot trays, sowing of Tomato, Pumpkin, Cauliflower and luffa seeds and management of tomato, bell pepper, fenugreek, pakcho and broccoli plants in pots with the aim to promote clean vegetable production at house hold level. This training enabled the participants to understand the advanced techniques for raising of vegetable nursery, vegetable transplanting methods, nursery hardening, root pruning of vegetable nursery and management strategies of plants in a kitchen garden. Mr. Syed Ali member SOFT team said that People who eat fruits and vegetables as part of their daily diet have a reduced risk of many chronic diseases and kitchen gardening is the only option which provide us healthy and chemical free vegetable production.

“Kitchen gardening is the best option which provide us healthy and chemical free vegetable production, in turn reducing the risk of many chronic diseases.”

Dr. Nabeel Ikram





## **AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN MNSUAM & RISE AG, PAKISTAN**

The signing ceremony of “Agreement of Cooperation” was held between MNS University of Agriculture, Multan and Rise AG, Pakistan on Jan 12, 2022. At this event, both parties committed to work together for the benefit of farming community. According to this AoC, Rise AG, Pakistan will help to establish research laboratories at MNS University of Agriculture Multan. This joint venture will focus on the development and commercialization of bio-stimulants and bio-pesticides for Mango, Cotton, Maize and other crops. Such environment friendly approaches will help in reducing the harmful effects of synthetic agrochemicals on public health and environment. Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) Vice Chancellor, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan thanked Mr. Ghulam Farid (CEO Rise AG) and wished that Rise AG Pakistan will extend their cooperation in other areas of research for betterment of Agriculture. Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed (Dean, Faculty of Agriculture and Environmental Science), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashfaq (Director, Institute of Plant Protection), Dr. Mohkim Hammad (Director External Linkages), Prof. Dr. Junaid Ali Khan (Director ORIC), Dr. Unsar Naeem Ullah (Associate Professor), Dr. Abid Hussain (Manager Industrial Linkages), Dr. Naeem Iqbal (Assistant Professor), Mohsin Qayoom (Rise AG) and Abdul Shakoor (Rise AG) were present in this ceremony.

“Bio-stimulants and bio-pesticides developed and commercialized in this joint venture will help in reducing the harmful effects of synthetic agrochemicals on public health and environment.”

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)





## **HEC INTERVARSITY BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2022-23 ZONE-J**

The Higher Education Commission of Pakistan gave the task of conducting the zonal round of HEC Intervarsity Men Basketball Championship 2022-23 to MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. The event was inaugurated by the worthy Vice Chancellor MNSUAM, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I). Registrar, Mr. Imran Mehmood, Senior Tutor, Dr. Usman Jamshaid, Hall Warden, Dr. Abdul Qayyum, Chief Security Officer, Major Safdar Hussain and Director Sports, Muhammad Arqam Iqbal were also present besides other academic and supportive staff to grace the occasion. The worthy Vice Chancellor MNS University of Agriculture, Multan Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) urged the students to manifest sportsman's spirit so that they can face the odds and play their effective role in the development of a healthy and prosperous society. Moreover, sports enhance physical and mental capabilities and play a very significant role in building any nation character by protecting youth from detrimental pursuits. He praised the initiatives taken by Higher Education Commission (HEC) to promote sports activities. HEC Intervarsity Men Basketball Championship 2022-23 got participation from Islamiyah University, Bahawalpur, BZU, Multan and MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. The event continued for two days from 12-14 January 2023. BZU, Multan won the championship and qualified for the final round event.

“Sports enhance physical and mental capabilities and play a very significant role in building any nation's character by protecting youth from detrimental pursuits and instilling sportsman's spirit in them.”

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali(T.I)





## **5TH MEETING OF SOUTH PUNJAB AGRICULTURE FORUM AT MNSUAM**

South Punjab Agricultural Forum-5<sup>th</sup> meeting chaired by Mr. Faisal Zahoor, Secretary Agriculture, South Punjab and Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice chancellor MNSUAM, was held at Syndicate Hall, MNSUAM on 19 January 2023. Director Generals of all wings of agriculture department participated to group think about the possible collaborative efforts to comprehend the upcoming challenges and possible solutions regarding climate change, farmers' awareness and rural industrialization. Mr. Faisal Zahoor, Secretary Agriculture South Punjab started the session by briefly discussing the agenda of the meeting with directors of all institutes and directorates under the Punjab Agricultural Department like water management, extension, soil & water testing, AMRI, MRI, CCRI, and pest management departments in south Punjab. He expressed that being an agriculture based economy, the situation is very critical as we are importing a lot of food items from other nations to meet our domestic demands and our productivity is decreasing day by day.

Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice chancellor MNSUAM welcomed the spirit of collaboration and adverted about the situation that although there is a deficit in innovative research, but adoption level of farmers and industry is also very low and we need to find innovative ways to bridge that gap. The University is available for any kind of assistance in this regard. The forum's meeting was arranged to analyze the current situation of our agriculture institutions and make necessary arrangements and collaborations with the philosophy of mutual learning. With reference to the crucial issue of water scarcity, it was discussed that there is a dire need to reduce the application losses of water which is only possible through mega awareness campaigns.

**“There is a deficit in innovative research, but the adoption level of the available research by the farmers and industry is very low and there is a dire need to bridge that gap innovatively with collaborative efforts as they are prerequisite for the betterment of our farmers and society.”**

**Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)**



## **5TH MEETING OF SOUTH PUNJAB AGRICULTURE FORUM AT MNSUAM**

Currently, we are employing supply-push water distribution system while the world is focusing on demand-based system for water distribution. Prof. Dr. Ashfaq added that we are facing lowest water use efficiency in the world. The farms under agricultural departments are producing very low per acres' income due to lack of disintermediation between farmers and seed producing farms as well as tenancy of farms. Long-term business was developed with the university to disintermediate as the vice chancellor shared two successful models the university is adopting. The main issue of failure of machinery efficiency in farms was also discussed reason being the inappropriate use of machinery by the farmers. AMRI is working on 3D Virtual Video Training for tractors operators. The Mango Research Institute has picked up Small Tree System (STS) model introduced by the University and is working with the farmers for planting and maintaining STS mango orchard. The director said that the technology should move through extension department to the farmers. Social media groups at village levels with engagement of high officials for better dissemination of information and technology should be developed. University will help in creating application and software for monitoring of activities. In order to improve the monitoring system of the pest warning system, the Vice Chancellor asked the DG pest warning to test and install the Smart traps developed by the university for monitoring of the insects/pests in the field through their Android phones.





## **18TH MEETING OF BOARD OF ADVANCED STUDIES AND RESEARCH -MNSUAM**

The 18th meeting of Board of Advanced Studies and Research-MNSUAM was officiated by Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan. The meeting was attended by Prof. Dr. Shafqat Saeed, Prof. Dr. Irfan Ahmad Baig, Zulfikar Ali Tabasim , Controller Examinations, Dr. Ashfaq, Dr. Saeed Akhtar, Zulfikar Ali Tabasim, Dr. Ashfaq, Dr. Abid Ali (Chief Executive PARB), Muhammad Nawaz Khan, Dr. Junaid Ali Khan, Dr. Muhammad Hamad Nadeem Tahir, Dr. Nasir Nadeem, Dr. Omer Farooq, Dr. Tanveer ul Haq, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Dr. Tanveer Ahmed, Dr. Salman Qadri, Dr. Ambreen Naz, Dr. Binyamin, Dr. Sarfraz Hashim, Ms. Somiya Ambreen and Dr. Ikram. The session was initiated with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran. The decisions of the previous Board of Advanced Studies and Research were brought into discussion and were unanimously agreed upon. The meeting generally focused on the discussion and approval of research thesis topics. The matter of late submission of dissertations was deliberated as well and it was decided that late submission will be allowed but with valid reasons. Higher Education Commission's new Ph.D. policy was considered and decisions were taken. Doctoral theses of Ph.D. scholars were selected for defense after foreign and domestic experts' opinion. In addition to these other major and minor educational issues were discussed which foregrounded the efficacy of this forum. The meeting was concluded upon the extension of vote of thanks to all the distinguished guests by Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor, MNS University of Agriculture, Multan.



“The session deliberated on issues of approval of research thesis topics, late submission of doctoral dissertations, new Ph.D. policy of HEC and other minor educational issues, foregrounding the efficacy of this forum”.



## **AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN MNSUAM & PACP**

MNS University of Agriculture Multan and Punjab AIDS control Program, Primary and secondary Healthcare Department Punjab has signed an Agreement of Cooperation on 16th of January, 2023 at MNS-University of Agriculture Multan for mutual cooperation in combating diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis. The AoC has provided a framework both institutions to play their moral and social duty towards these ailments of terminal nature. During the signing ceremony, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), welcomed the PACP team and ensured total cooperation. In addition, he also mentioned that our university is trying hard to assist the vulnerable communities to achieve better health. He also added that we have state of the art facilities in the university and our institution has improved exponentially in the last decade in terms of faculty development, research, human, animal and plant health, community engagement and student intellectual and social development. The director PACP, Dr. Muhammad Farooq Ahmed said that they are committed in developing relationships with other institutions in terms of abating the outbreaks of HIV and Hepatitis. He also committed that they will run free screening medical camp at MNSUAM for the early diagnosis of HIV and Hepatitis cases.

Standing true to its commitment of a Healthy Intellectual Pakistan, MNSUAM signs an AoC with PACP ensuring its optimum assistance to vulnerable communities in achieving better health.





## ***AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN MNSUAM & PACP***

Dr. Hussain Javed, Incharge, Advanced Diagnostic Laboratory and Biosafety Laboratory Level 2, expressed that they have world class facilities for the diagnosis of chronic ailments and they have set these facilities in all districts of Punjab. Dr. Atif Ali, Provisional Treatment Coordinator, PACP, elaborated on the current prevalence of HIV in Pakistan and emphasized on safe and healthy lifestyle. Mr. Azhar Hussain, Manager Director, PACP, thanked the visionary leadership of MNSUAM for this progressive initiative and invited them to their facility. Dr. Muhammad Umair Waqas, Convenor, Public Health Society, presented the health calendar to the guests and explained the activities they are doing in the university. Dr. Ali Haider and Dr. Imran Durrani were also present during the ceremony. Later on, the team visited the central lab system and also had a meet up with the students of the university.





## **NCEAC'S TEAM ACCREDITATION VISIT-MNSUAM**

The team of National Computing Education Accreditation Council (NCEAC) visited MNS Agricultural University for accreditation of Information Technology Program. The team's visit constituted on meetings with Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor-MNSUAM, Prof. Dr. Irfan Baig, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences Dr. Salman Qadri, Chairman, Dept. of Computer Science, Dr. Abdul Razzaq, Director IT, Dr. Ayesha Hakeem, Coordinator LMS, Dr. Amir Hussain, Coordinator IT Program along with all the other faculty members and students of Department of Computer Science. All modern labs within the university, especially the computer lab and all the records of IT department were inspected. The team appreciated the excellent arrangements and progressive vision of the leadership.





## **GERMAN AMBASSADOR, ALFRED GRANNAS VISITED MNSUAM**

German Ambassador to Pakistan, Alfred Grannas visited MNS Agricultural University, Multan and met Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor-MNSUAM. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), Vice Chancellor-MNSUAM, elaborated that MNSUAM is collaborating with Germany on numerous projects like faculty development, students exchange programs and mutual research projects. The Vice-Chancellor appreciated that the German universities and institutions are cooperating with us for food security and climate change. On this occasion, the German ambassador appreciated the initiatives taken by MNSUAM within its short period of establishment which bridged the gap between Agriculture and Industry of South Punjab benefiting both in their development. His excellency delineated that in view of MNSUAM's commitment to achieve excellence we will help in expanding research relations between Agricultural University Multan and other universities in Germany. Mr. Parvez Akhtar, Director, Star Farm and Metro, appreciated the efforts made by the University for the improvement of agriculture and offered support. Vice Chancellors of Multan Universities Prof. Dr. Mansoor Akbar Kundi, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ramzan, Prof. Dr. Kamran conveyed in their address that the visit of the German ambassador will open new avenues of cooperation between the universities and industry of South Punjab with Germany. The German ambassador along with the Vice Chancellor also planted a sapling in the university. Khawaja Muhammad Hussain, the former president of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry also welcomed the Excellency.

“The initiatives taken by MNSUAM within its short period of establishment, not only bridged the gap between Agriculture and Industry of South Punjab but also benefitted both the domains in their development.”  
Alfred Grannas





## **WORLD EDUCATION DAY**

On the occasion of World Education Day, a seminar was organized by the Directorate of Public Relations and Senior Tutor Office at MNS Agricultural University, which was presided over by Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I) the vice chancellor, MNSUAM and the guest speaker was Raziuddin Razi. On this occasion, Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I), conveyed that in today era, there is an exigent equisite to impart equal significance to both training and education. The main purpose of education is to create means of welfare and service for society and humanity. He added that education is the foundation of a nation which helps people to become good human beings along with procuring employment. But the tragedy is that despite being rich in natural resources, Pakistan has a very low literacy rate. There is a need to improve the environment and teaching strategies during primary education, because these two factors can lead children towards becoming progressive citizens. Guest speaker Raziuddin Razi said that earlier teachers were free in research and curriculum development and the government was trying to “facilitate rather than interfere” in institutions, but now, in comparison, educational institutions are forced to follow the government curriculum. Dr. Salman Qadri, Dr. Abdul Qayyum, Dr. Mohammad Shahbaz, Dr. Nighat Raza, Dr. Usman Jamshaid, Dr. Palusha Khanum along with other faculty members and students were present on the occasion.



“Education is the foundation of a nation which transform people into good human beings and progressive literate citizens.”  
Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I)





# **DEFENSE DECLARATIONS**

## **Synopsis/Thesis Defense**

**Mr. Asif-ur-Rehman**, Reg. No. 2018-uam-1017, Ph.D. Horticulture Department will defend his Ph.D. thesis in Online (Hybrid) mode on January 19, 2023 at 11:30 AM. The title of his thesis is "Postharvest Quarantine Heat Treatments and Shipping potential of Emerging Mango cvs. Chenab Gold and Azeem Chaunsa".

**Mr. Ijaz Hussain**, Reg. No. 2021-uam-3702, Ph.D. Agronomy Department will defend his Ph.D. Synopsis in Online (Hybrid) mode on January 26, 2023 at 10:00 AM. The title of his Synopsis is "Inducing heat tolerance in maize using seed inoculation of plant beneficial bacteria and silicon application under changing climate".

**Mr. Muhammad Afzal**, Reg. No. 2017-uam-910, Ph.D. Institute of Plant Protection has successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis in Online (Hybrid) mode on January 17, 2023 at 11:30 AM in the Video Conference Room No. 328, Academic Block, MNSUAM. The title of his thesis is "Molecular Characterization of Whitefly Mitotypes Associated with the Cotton Leaf Curl Disease in Pakistan"



## ***DEFENSE DECLARATIONS***

### **Synopsis/Thesis Defense**

**Mr. Muhammad Saleem**, Reg. No. 2018-uam-901, Ph.D. Agronomy Department has successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis in Online (Hybrid) mode on January 12, 2023 at 10:30 AM in the Video Conference Room No. 328, Academic Block, MNSUAM. The title of his thesis is ""Interactive Effects of Rhizobacteria and Silicon to Improve Drought Tolerance in Maize (Zea mays L.)".

**Mr. Hammad Naeem**, Reg. No. 2021-UAM-3701, Ph.D. Food Science & Technology Department has successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis in Online (Hybrid) mode on January 31, 2023 at 10:30 AM. The title of his thesis is ""Synbiotic encapsulation of probiotic bacteria. for food applications."