



Citations of Newly Elected Fellows of PAS

The following eminent scientists were elected Fellows of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences during 2012:

Dr. Farhat Abbas

Dr. Farhat Abbas graduated from Dow Medical College in 1984 and completed his training in General Surgery and Urology from Aga Khan University, Karachi in 1992. He obtained his FCPS from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Pakistan in 1992, FRCS from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1993, FRCS from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Glasgow in 1993, Fellowship in Urology from the European Board of Urology in 2002, and Fellowship of American College of Surgeons in 2006. He completed Fellowship in Urologic Oncology at Jackson Memorial Hospital, University of Miami, Florida, USA in 1995 and completed a Research and Clinical Fellowship in Urologic Oncology at the Scott Department of Urology, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA in 1997. Dr. Abbas re-joined Aga Khan University in 1998 as Assistant Professor and was promoted to Associate Professor in 1999 and full Professor in 2008 in the Section of Urology, Department of Surgery.

Dr. Abbas has served as Associate Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education from January 2002 to October 2003, as Acting Dean, Medical College from December 2002 to August 2003, as Medical Director & Associate Dean, Clinical Affairs from November 2003 to December 2006 and Chief Operating Officer of Aga Khan University Hospital, Karachi from January 2007. Currently, he is the Dean, Medical College, Aga Khan University.

Dr. Abbas has been awarded the G.B. Ong Gold Medal by Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 1992-93, International Guest Scholarship by American College of Surgeons in 2002, and *Tamgha-e-Imtiaz* (medal of excellence) by President of Pakistan in 2010 for his achievements in the field

of medicine.

Dr. Abbas serves on several administrative and academic committees of the Aga Khan University. He also serves on the Editorial Board of several national journals and as a reviewer for several leading international journals of Urology. He has over 50 publications in indexed/non-indexed journals and several book chapters in leading text books. He is an active researcher mainly in the area of molecular research on prostate cancer. His other key interests include Medical Education and Quality in Healthcare.

Dr. Abbas is an Examiner in Urology and Secretary of Urology Faculty of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Pakistan. He has served a two-year term as General Secretary of Pakistan Association of Urological Surgeons. He is on the Faculty of Asian School of Urology and an active Executive Member of the Uro-oncology Society of Asia – a subsidiary of Urological Association of Asia. He was an Executive Member for 3rd and 6th International Consultations for Prostate Cancer, in 2002 and 2005, as well as for 1st International Consultation on Bladder Cancer in 2004, all organized jointly by WHO, IUCD, SIU and UICC.

In recognition of his exceptional contributions and professional standing, Dr. Farhat Abbas has been elected to Fellowship of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Saqib Ali

Dr. Saqib Ali did his MSc in Inorganic/Analytical Chemistry in 1977 from University of Peshawar. In 1980, Government of Pakistan awarded him Cultural Exchange Scholarship for PhD studies in Poland. After completing his PhD in 1984, he joined the Department of Chemistry, University of Peshawar as a Lecturer in 1985, and in 1986 was appointed Lecturer in Department of Chemistry, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad. At Quaid-i-

Azam University, he became Assistant Professor in 1988, Associate Professor in 1999 and Professor in 2001. In July 2007, he was selected as Tenure Professor in the Department of Chemistry, Quaid-i-Azam University. He also worked as Chairman, Department of Chemistry during August 2009-August 2012.

Research interests of Dr. Saqib Ali, include synthesis and characterization of organometallic complexes, particularly organotin (IV) carboxylates and coordination complexes of oxygen, and sulfur and nitrogen donor ligands of biological importance with various transition metal ions. These complexes are characterized using various analytical techniques while their applications are studied in biological and industrial fields. He has also done some work on purification and functionalization of carbon nanotubes (MWCNTs and SWCNTs) as well as synthesis and characterization of biodiesel from vegetable oils and the application of metal complexes as catalysts for the synthesis of biodiesel.

Prof. Dr. Saqib Ali has more than 380 publications in HEC-recognized journals of high impact factors. He is ranked at 6th position in the list of productive scientists of Pakistan compiled by the PCST, Islamabad. His name is also included in Leading Scientists and Engineers of OIC Member States, edited by S.T.K. Naim and published by COMSTECH, Islamabad, Pakistan. He has published four reviews and two chapters in books. He is also a HEC-approved supervisor for PhD scholars.

Dr. Saqib Ali has presented his research work in more than 40 national and international conferences. Also, he has been awarded prestigious scholarships, like Alexander von Humboldt (AvH), DAAD, British Council and Marie Curie.

Dr. Saqib Ali has supervised 25 PhD and 42 MPhil. students, co-supervised 6 PhD, 9 MPhil. students, and supervised two postdoctoral fellows. He has received several research grants from PSF, HEC and Quaid-i-Azam University Research Fund. In recognition of his scientific contributions, he is a regular recipient of Research Productivity Award from PCST since its inception. He is life member and fellow of The Chemical Society of Pakistan

and Pakistan Institute of Chemists. Acknowledging his scientific achievements, President of Pakistan bestowed him with "Pride of Performance" and HEC awarded him as Distinguished National Professor in Chemistry.

In recognition of his outstanding achievements and professional standing, Dr. Saqib Ali has been elected as a Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Hamid Saleem

Dr. Hamid Saleem is one of the Pakistani physicists who obtained his PhD from the country and went on to attain an international standing in his field. He has published more than 100 research papers in international journals with a total impact factor of over 200 and over 800 citations. He has 18 single author papers published in top journals of physics. He has been an invited speaker at several international conferences in Europe, is Adjunct Professor at various national universities, and has supervised 4 PhD and 6 MPhil/MS students. Presently, several young researchers of various universities/institutes are working under his guidance. He has been external examiner of 2 PhD students at K-Leuven University, Belgium.

Dr. Saleem has wide international exposure. He has been on DAAD scholarship, Germany, for two and a half years, to do PhD research in Ruhr University Bochum, Germany. He obtained 2-year Japanese post-doc (JSPS) and worked at National Institute for Fusion Science, Toki, Japan. He is a Senior Associate Member of the AS-ICTP, Italy, since the last 13 years, and has visited universities of Europe and Japan, many times, for collaborative research.

Dr. Saleem has done substantial amount of research concentrating on quality rather than quantity; his forte being to question conventional wisdom and find different ways of looking at problems that lead to a new understanding of the processes. A special scientific innovation stems from the fact that Dr. Saleem is also a poet of note. He has published two books of his *Urdu* poetry and has associated to literary activities with the Physics conferences.

Apart from research, he has contributed towards the promotion of science in Pakistan. He established Theoretical Plasma Physics Division (TPPD) at Pakistan Institute for Nuclear Science & Technology (PINSTECH), Islamabad during his more than 20 years service at this Institute. He was the first head of this Division. He is working as Director General, National Centre for Physics (NCP), Islamabad since 2008. During the last five years, NCP has emerged as a unique centre of physics in the country which publishes more than 200 research papers every year in reputed international journals.

Dr. Saleem has strengthened the links of NCP with Abdus-Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy, and now both the Centers are jointly arranging International Scientific Spring in Pakistan in which more than 350 physicists of the country and many foreign experts participate.

In recognition of his exceptional scientific contributions and professional standing, Dr. Hamid Saleem has been elected as a Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences.

Engr. Dr. M. Akram Sheikh

Engr. Dr. M. Akram Sheikh, a gold medallist from University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Lahore, holds a PhD in Structural Engineering from the University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada (1967). His outstanding contributions have been recognized by all stakeholders – by civil society and industry (2 gold medals awarded by the private sector Engineering Industry), by the Government (the prestigious Public Service Award of *Hilal-e-Imtiaz* by President of Pakistan in 2005), and by the Academia (“PhD Degree Honoris Causa” by the University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore in the 19th Convocation held on 11th December, 2010).

Dr. Sheikh held the important post of Federal Minister / Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan. He also served as Federal Secretary of the Ministries of Communication, Water & Power, and Industries & Production. He headed some of Pakistan’s largest public sector industrial

establishments, including State Engineering Corporation, Pakistan Steel Mills and Heavy Mechanical Complex. Dr. Sheikh is currently Professor Emeritus at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Islamabad, Pakistan, and Advisor (Planning and Development) to some strategic national organizations, in addition to being Advisor to the International Steels Limited, a Pakistani multinational joint venture. He is the founding Co-Chair of the NUST Global Think Tank Network (GTTN) and has been given the position of Distinguished Fellow GTTN. Dr. Sheikh is also the founding Co-Chair of the NUST Corporate Advisory Council (CAC), and Co-Chair of the China-Pakistan Joint Think Tank, GTTN’s first node, jointly formed between NUST, Tsinghua University, Beijing and Southwest University of Political Science & Law, Chongqing.

A true visionary, Dr. Sheikh has spearheaded some of the most significant strategic policy initiatives in Pakistan, including the Telecommunication Policy 1999, Pakistan Patent Ordinance 2000, Power Policy 2001-02, Engineering Vision 2002, Energy Security Action Plan (2005-30), Medium Term Development Framework (2005-10), Social Protection Strategy (2007), Export Plan (2006-13) and the long term National Framework titled VISION 2030. Last, but not the least, his commitment and contribution to various aspects of the knowledge economy (including higher education, science, technology and engineering), during his entire career, particularly as Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, Government of Pakistan, has been recognized and appreciated broadly.

Under the able leadership of Dr. Sheikh, the institutions and organizations headed by him have prospered, and delivered great value to Pakistan. His intellect and experience is a great asset for NUST as well as for the nation.

In recognition of his exceptional professional standing and tremendous contributions towards the development of science and higher education in the country, Dr. Sheikh was unanimously elected Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), by the PAS General Body, on 5th December 2012.

Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasinzai

Dr. Masoom Yasinzai, Meritorious Professor of Biochemistry, Vice Chancellor, Quaid-i-Azam University and Rector, International Islamic University, is one of the leading scientists and educationists of Pakistan. He has authored over 110 research publications in top international journals of science. The Pakistan Council for Science & Technology, Ministry of S & T, graded him as a productive scientist over the past decade and a half. He spent 30 years in University of Balochistan as Professor, Dean and Vice Chancellor and played a key role in the establishment of science & scientific activities in Balochistan. His research work has resulted in a number of scientific discoveries, the recent one being development of a new chemotherapeutic agent against Leishmaniasis, a parasitic disease highly endemic in Pakistan. Dr. Yasinzai has worked as visiting faculty & research associate in many prestigious academic institutions of the world, including Chicago Medical School, USA; Perugia Medical School, Italy; Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine, UK; and Calcutta Institute of Chem. Biology, India. He has developed academic and scientific linkages within the country and abroad.

Since earning PhD in 1985, Dr. Yasinzai has produced 8 PhDs, 20 MPhils, and more than 70 MSc theses, while 10 MPhil/PhD students are currently under his supervision. He has attracted many research grants from within the country and abroad. In recognition of his academic and research contributions, he has received many honors and awards, including *Ibn-Al-Hythum* Gold Medal & prize, 1995; senior Fulbright fellowship, 1993-94; professorial position at the age of 37; young scientist award, 1998; and Raziuddin Siddiqi Gold Medal & prize, 1998. The Prime Minister of Pakistan appointed him as a member of Pakistan Atomic Energy Council, from 1998 to 2004. In recognition of his services to the cause of education at university level, the President of Pakistan awarded him *Aizaz-i-Fazeelat* in 1999 and Best University Teacher Award in 2002. The Ministry of Science & Technology has declared him a national PhD supervisor. In recognition of his achievements in S&T and education, the President of Pakistan

awarded him *Sitara-i-Imtiaz* in 2009.

Dr. Yasinzai is a member of many prestigious professional societies, and has represented Pakistan in many international conferences. Currently, as Vice Chancellor, he is applying his vision to strengthen internal system of Quaid-i-Azam University and internationalize this institution. The President of Pakistan, in his capacity as Chancellor, has also given him additional charge of Rector, International Islamic University, Islamabad. Also, he is serving many other institutions of higher learning in the country in the capacity of member Syndicate or Senate.

In recognition of his exceptional scientific and academic contributions and professional standing, Prof. Dr. Masoom Yasinzai has been elected as a Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences.

Citation of Newly Elected Foreign Fellow of PAS

The following eminent scientist was elected Foreign Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences during 2012:

Prof. Dr. Peter Langer

Peter Langer was born in Hannover (Germany) in 1969. He studied chemistry at the University of Hannover and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT, USA). In 1997, he obtained his doctoral degree at the University of Hannover. After a postdoctoral research in Cambridge (UK), he moved to the University of Göttingen as assistant professor where he completed his habilitation in 2001. In 2002, he took a permanent position as a full professor (C4) at the University of Greifswald, and in 2004 he moved to a new position as a full professor (C4) and head of department of organic chemistry at the University of Rostock. In addition, he is head of the department of organic synthesis of Leibniz Institute of Catalysis Rostock (LIKAT) which is the biggest non-profit research institute for catalysis in Europe.

Under his personal supervision more than 65 PhD theses and 50 MSc theses were completed.

Currently, he is supervising 25 PhD students, 4 MSc students, several guest scientists and postdocs. Prof. Langer published more than 500 publications including 20 reviews in international journals (about 1500 impact factor points). He gave about 100 international lectures. Prof. Langer is member of the editorial board of several scientific journals and also serves as associate editor of a number of scientific journals, including 'Journal of the Chemical Society of Pakistan', 'Current Bioactive Compounds' and 'Current Organic Synthesis'.

Contributions for Pakistan: 25 Pakistani students received their PhD under his supervision at the University of Rostock. This is probably the highest number of Pakistani PhD students educated by a single foreign professor. Many additional Pakistani guest scientists completed 6-12 month research stays in his laboratories. This amounts to 850 months of scientific supervision and education for Pakistani PhD students and guest scientists. About 180 scientific publications were published by him together with Pakistani students. Prof. Langer supported the research of Pakistan students with

about 1 Mio Euro. Most of his former students are now assistant professors in Pakistan. Prof. Langer organized welfare projects to support education in Pakistan. In addition, he organized intercultural events in Germany to promote the understanding of Pakistan and German people.

Prof. Langer received several national and international awards, including the Award of the Faculty of Chemistry of the University of Hannover (1997); Thieme-Journal-Award (2000); Gold Medal of Yerevan State University, Armenia (2010); Doctor Honoris Causa, Yerevan State University, Armenia (2011); Doctor Honoris Causa, Vietnam National University, Hanoi, Vietnam (2012); Professor Honoris Causa, University of Mosul, Iraq (2012); Doctor Honoris Causa, Tishreen University Lattakia, Syria (2012).

In recognition of his exceptional professional standing and scientific contributions relevant to Pakistan, Prof. Dr. Peter Langer has been elected as a Foreign Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences.