



PSN NEWS LETTER

A Biannual Publication of Pakistan Society of Nematologists

Volume 19, No. 2

July-December, 2020

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PROF. DR. MUHAMMAD ABID

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Abid, Plant Pathologist and Nematologist, has been retired on 5th May, 2020 after a long and active teaching and research career spread over 30 years. He has been one of a brilliant Ph. D. scholar of Dr. M. A. Maqbool, founder father of National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi with outstanding research, academic and administrative abilities.



Dr. Abid started his professional career as a Lecturer, after receiving Ph. D. degree he was promoted to Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and finally become Professor at the Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and Technology (FUUAST), Karachi, Pakistan till his retirement. Dr. Abid earned his Ph. D. in Botany (Nematology) from National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi in 1997; dissertation title was "Studies on the control of root-knot nematodes (*Meloidogynespp.*) with botanical toxicants" under the supervision of Dr. M.A. Maqbool. He proceeded to Japan for Post Doctoral studies on "Screening and isolation of nematicidal compounds from marine organisms" at the Department of Chemistry, Biology and Marine Science, University of the Ryukyus, Okinawa, Japan under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Tatsuo Higa in 1999. He went to UK for another Post Doctoral studies on "Biological control of plant parasitic nematodes" at the Department of Plant Protection, School of Agriculture, Policy and Development, University of Reading, Reading, United Kingdom in 2008 with Dr. Simon R. Gowen.

He served on different principal positions of academic, research and administrative; he appointed as Chairman/HOD in the Department of Botany, Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and Technology (FUUAST), Karachi, Pakistan (2016-2019), as Member of University Academic Council at FUUAST (2016-2019), as Member of University Syndicate at FUUAST (2018-2020); as Director ORIC (Office of the Research, Innovation and Commercialization), at FUUAST (2016-2020), Karachi, Pakistan.

Besides his various responsibilities Dr. Abid is an Associate editor of "FUUAST Journal of Biology and Managing Editor of International Journal of Biology and Biotechnology". He is a life member of different professional societies like Botanical Society of Pakistan, Pakistan Society of Nematologists, Pakistan Phytopathological Society and Myco-Phytopathological Society of Pakistan. He has also participated in different events, training courses, symposium, seminars and conferences on national and international basis. Dr. Abid has more than 62 publications and review articles to his credit and also published three books. He has successfully guided eight B.S. thesis/projects; five research students got Ph.D. degrees under his supervision; four students are doing research on different research themes; while the same number of students of Ph.D. and M. Phil are working under his co-supervision. Moreover, he had many research projects to his credit.

AMENDED BY LAWS OF PSN

PAKISTAN SOCIETY OF NEMATOLOGISTS BY LAWS

1. NAME

- i. The Society shall be known as “Pakistan Society of Nematologists (PSN)”.

2. HEADQUARTER/OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY

- i. The permanent headquarter/office of the Society shall be at National Nematological Research Centre (NNRC), University of Karachi, Karachi.
- ii. All activities related to official publications of the Society, Society records, correspondence, financial matters shall be kept and regulated from this permanent headquarter/office of the Society.

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- i. To promote the cause of Nematology in Pakistan.
- ii. To disseminate the knowledge of Nematology and its applications.
- iii. To facilitate free interchange of information and ideas between Nematologists both within and outside the country.
- iv. To enable the Nematologists to play their role in the development of science and technology in the country.

4. ACTIVITIES/FUNCTIONS OF THE SOCIETY

- i. The Society shall organize seminars, symposia and training courses on topics related to Nematology with special reference to national and international priorities.
- ii. The Society shall publish scientific journals(s), newsletter(s), proceedings, monographs and other scientific and academic literature.

5. SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP

(a) TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

There shall be six types of memberships:

- i. **FOUNDER MEMBERS:** All those who constituted and established the Society shall be the founder members. They shall also be the life members.
- ii. **LIFE MEMBERS:** Membership shall be for lifetime. Formal applications for life membership may be submitted along with the subscription fees at any time during the year. The Executive Council, after careful scrutiny of the applications shall vote for the election of the candidate(s) for life membership. The Executive Council may reject any application for membership.
- iii. **ANNUAL MEMBERS:** Membership shall be for a year only. Researchers/Scientists can apply for an annual membership on prescribed proforma available on Society's website as well as in the Society office.
- iv. **STUDENT MEMBERS:** Any student of Nematology, Plant Pathology or relevant discipline who may be studying for a graduate degree, can apply for student membership. Students must attach a confirmation certificate from the University administration.

- v. **CORPORATE MEMBERS:** All those who represent a company, growers and other stakeholders are eligible for corporate membership.
- vi. **HONORARY MEMBERS:** Pakistan Society of Nematologists may award Honorary Membership to individuals who have made exceptional contributions in any way to the advancement of Nematology and allied disciplines. PSN Honorary Membership is an exclusive acknowledgment and should be awarded for high eminence irrespective of nationality. Honorary Members shall be selected by the Executive Council of the PSN. Honorary Members shall be non-voting members, exempted from the payment of membership dues and shall not be eligible for contesting society elections; however, they shall be entitled to receive Society's publications free of cost.

(b) **ELIGIBILITY**

- i. Graduates of Agricultural & Biological Sciences interested in Nematology shall be eligible for 'LIFE MEMBERS' and 'ANNUAL MEMBERS'
- ii. No specific criteria shall be prescribed for CORPORATE MEMBERS and HONORARY MEMBERS. Executive Council shall be authorized for the approval of the application of CORPORATE MEMBERS and HONORARY MEMBERS.

(c) **MEMBERSHIP FEES**

- i. Life membership fee shall be Rs. 5,000/= for Pakistani Citizens and 500 US\$ for overseas members.
- ii. Annual membership fee shall be Rs. 1000/= for Pakistani Citizens and 100 US\$ for overseas members.
- iii. Annual student membership fee shall be Rs. 500/=
- iv. Corporate membership fee shall be Rs. 10,000/=.

(d) **PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERS**

- i. Only, Founder Members, Lifetime Members and Annual Members shall have the right to contest the Society election, to vote at all meetings of the Society and to propose candidates for admission to the Society.
- ii. All members including Founder Members, Lifetime Members, Annual Members, Student Members, Corporate members and Honorary Members shall be entitled to receive publications of the Society as the Executive Council may determine.

(e) **WITHDRAWAL OR REMOVAL OF MEMBERS**

- i. A member may withdraw from the Society by signifying his/her desire to do so in a letter addressed to the Secretary. The Society however shall not be liable to return any fee that may have been paid by the member in advance.
- ii. Members whose membership fees happen to be in arrears for more than a year shall be excluded from the privileges of membership until they have paid their arrears. A list of all such members, showing the amount due from them, shall be submitted by the General Secretary to the President at each Annual Meeting and it shall be read out at the request of any member present in the meeting.
- iii. Towards the end of the year the Treasurer shall send a reminder to every member whose membership is in arrears and if the arrears are for more than two years standing; the member's name shall be automatically removed from the Society's register. Three months' notice shall be given before actually removing the names.
- iv. A member who has withdrawn and whose subscription is not in arrears shall automatically recover the privileges of membership without re-election, if s/he joins the Society within a year of withdrawal. S/He shall however be liable to pay all dues as if he had not withdrawn at all.
- v. The General Body shall have power to remove any member of the Society from its rolls.

6. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

(a) COMPOSITION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

S.#.	Name of the Post/office	Appointment/Selection method & Duration
1.	Patron-in-Chief	Selected by the General Body with the consensus without any formal election for indefinite period
2.	President	By election, for a period of two years
	Vice President-Federal	By election, for a period of two years
3.	Vice President-Sindh	By election, for a period of two years
4.	Vice President-Punjab	By election, for a period of two years
5.	Vice President-KP	By election, for a period of two years
6.	Vice President-Balochistan	By election, for a period of two years
7.	Vice President-Azad Jammu & Kashmir	By election, for a period of two years
8.	Vice President-Gilgit-Baltistan	By election, for a period of two years
9.	General Secretary	By election, for a period of two years
10.	Permanent Secretary/Treasurer	By default, the Director NNRC, No election shall be held for this post
11.	Joint Secretary	By election, for a period of two years
12.	Editor-in-Chief	By default/ Ex-officio member
13.	Managing Editor	By default/ ex-officio member
14.	Immediate Past President	By default/ ex-officio member
15.	Immediate Past General Secretary	By default/ ex-officio member
16.	7 Councilors	By election, for a period of two years. One from each province/region/territory (same as of Vice President).

- i. There shall be an Executive Council to carry out all the affairs of the Society. The Executive Council shall have the authority to make policy decisions.
- ii. The President, seven Vice Presidents, General Secretary, Joint Secretary and seven Councilors shall be elected by the General Body (Lifetime members and Annual members) through the process of election.
- iii. All these office bearers shall be elected for a period of two years. Any position, which become vacant within the period of two years, shall be filled by the approval of the executive council.
- iv. Permanent Secretary/Treasurer is not an electable post. By default, the Director, NNRC shall be the Permanent Secretary/Treasurer of the PSN.
- v. The Editor-in Chief and Managing Editor shall be Ex-officio members of the Executive Council.
- vi. Immediate Past President and General Secretary shall be Ex-officio members of the Executive Council.

(b) ELECTION OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

- i. The election shall be conducted by the Election Commissioner, nominated by the General Body.
- ii. Necessary formalities in connection with the elections (inviting nominations, dispatch of ballot papers, voting, announcement of election results etc.) shall be conducted by the Election Commissioner and facilitated by the Permanent Secretary.
- iii. Voting by proxy shall not be permissible.
- iv. Only Lifetime members and Annual members shall be entitled to contest the election and to vote the candidates.

7. RESPONSIBILITIES OF OFFICE BEARERS

- i.** The General Secretary shall be responsible for recording the proceedings of the meetings of the Society and of the Executive Council, and for conducting the business of the Society.
- ii.** The Treasurer/ Permanent Secretary shall keep the accounts, shall receive deposits and disburse money on behalf of the Society according to the directives of the Executive Council.
- iii.** The funds of the Society shall be maintained in an account in the name of Pakistan Society of Nematologists operated by Treasurer/ Permanent Secretary who would make payments endorsed by the General Secretary/President.
- iv.** The time of expiry of tenure of the office bearers shall be immediately after the closing of the Annual Meeting.
- v.** All accounts of the Society shall be audited annually by an Accountant/Auditor/person or committee nominated by the Executive Council. The financial year of the Society shall be the calendar year.
- vi.** The Auditor's statement of accounts shall be circulated to all the members before the General Body Meeting or during the meeting.

8. MEETINGS OF THE COUNCIL

- i.** Executive Council meetings shall be held periodically at the discretion of the President or at the request of one third of the members of the Executive Council.
- ii.** The date and time of holding each meeting of the Executive Council shall be communicated by the General Secretary to each member of the Council at least two weeks before the date on which such meetings are to be held. Non-receipt of such notice by any member of the Executive Council shall in no way invalidate the proceedings of the meeting. Fifty percent of the members of the Executive Council shall form a quorum.
- iii.** Ordinary meetings of the Society shall be presided over by the President or, in her/his absence, by the Vice President or by one of the members of the Executive Council present or by a member elected at the meetings.
- iv.** An extraordinary meeting of the Society shall be called, if one-third of the ordinary members of the Society send a signed requisition to the General Secretary for such a meeting.

9. SOCIETY'S PUBLICATIONS

- i.** The Society shall publish a Nematological journal entitled "Pakistan Journal of Nematology (PJN)". There shall be an Editor-in-Chief and a Managing Editor, who would be appointed by the General Body and shall be assisted by an Editorial Board of three or more members who shall be nominated by him/her in consultation with the President. One volume shall be published in two parts appearing in the months of June and December each year. Frequency of PJN publication would be increased with the approval of PSN Executive Council, if so needed.
- ii.** A panel of referees consisting of specialists shall be set up whose services shall be utilized for scrutinizing/reviewing the papers received for publication.
- iii.** The non-member/library subscription to the "Pakistan Journal of Nematology" shall be
Rs. 1000/- or US\$ 50 (for overseas) for each issue and Rs. 2000/-US\$ 100 (for overseas) for complete volume.
- iv.** The annual subscription fees shall be payable in advance and shall become due on 15th of January every year. Individuals and institutional subscribers shall have to bear the bank commission in cases of out station house.
- v.** The paper publication charges/publication cost shall be decided by the Editorial Board with the consultation of Executive Council.

10. PSN AWARDS

In the recognition of the services of Eminent Nematologists; Dr. M. A. Maqbool and Dr. Shahina Fayyaz, PSN Gold Medals have been instituted under the “PSN ENDOWMENTFUND”. These gold medals are designated as:

- i. **DR. M. A. MAQBOOL GOLD MEDAL**
- ii. **DR. SHAHINA FAYYAZ GOLD MEDAL**

Terms & Conditions:

- i. The purpose of the awards is to encourage the young researchers and to promote the discipline of Nematology in Pakistan, thus the maximum age limit for applicants is 45 years.
- ii. Each award shall consist of a Gold medallion, a certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/.
- iii. The applicant should be a member of Pakistan Society of Nematologists (PSN).
- iv. The applicant must have some major contributions/achievements in Nematology in Pakistan.
- v. The awards shall be given on the occasion of PSN Conference whenever held, not necessarily every year.
- vi. The General Secretary or Permanent Secretary shall call for applications along with the 1st circular of every Nematological conference/event.
- vii. PSN reserves the right to cancel, withdraw or amend the award without prior notice.
- viii. The applications shall be reviewed by 5-member panel of experts to be nominated by the Executive Council of PSN.
- ix. Those who are interested to support this cause financially can contribute in “PSN Endowment Fund”. Contributed amount can be deposited in the name of “Pakistan Society of Nematologists” and receipts sent to the Treasurer/ Permanent Secretary.
- x. PSN may institute any new Gold Medal as and when so required subject to sponsorship by a donor company or a professional scientist.

AMENDMENT TO THE RULES/BYLAWS

- i. The above rules may be amended at any Annual General Meeting or at an extraordinary general meeting of the Society, called for the purpose, by a two third majority vote of the members present.
- ii. Proposals for an amendment of these rules may be made either by the Council or by any member duly seconded by another. In the latter case, it must reach the Secretary in writing in time for circulation to all members of the Society at least one month before the extra-ordinary meeting or before the Annual Meeting.
- iii. The Council may, with the approval of the General Body of PSN, frame or alter bylaws for the working of the Society.

PSN GOLD MEDAL AWARDS

Reference to the video conference of the PSN Executive Council dated 16 May, 2020, PSN-Executive Council is pleased to commence the two gold medal awards in the name of Eminent Nematologists **Dr. M. A. Maqbool** and **Dr. Shahina Fayyaz** in recognition of their services under the “**PSN ENDOWMENT FUND**”. The two gold medals are designated as:

1. DR. M. A. MAQBOOL GOLD MEDAL

2. DR. SHAHINA FAYYAZ GOLD MEDAL

Terms & Conditions:

- i. The purpose of the awards is to encourage the young researchers and to promote the discipline of Nematology in Pakistan, thus the maximum age limit for applicants is 45 years.
- ii. Each award shall consist of a Gold Medallion, Certificate and a Cash Prize of Rs. 10,000/.
- iii. The applicant must be a member of Pakistan Society of Nematologists (PSN).
- iv. The applicant must have major achievements and contributions in the field of Nematology in Pakistan.
- v. A person once awarded a Gold Medal, would not be considered again.
- vi. The awards shall be given on occasion of PSN Conference, whenever held, not necessarily every year.
- vii. The General Secretary/Permanent Secretary shall invite applications through the 1st circular of every Nematological conference.
- viii. PSN reserves the right to cancel, withdraw or amend the award without prior notice.
- ix. The applications shall be reviewed by 5-members panel of experts to be nominated by the Executive Council of PSN.
- x. For the current year, the following Committee has been approved:

Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro
Dr. Saleem Shahzad
Dr. Nazir Javed.
Dr. Firoza Kazi
Dr. Rafia Rehana Ghazi

Those willing to financially support this cause can contribute in “PSN Endowment Fund”. Contributed amount be deposited in favour of “Pakistan Society of Nematologists” and sent to the Treasurer/Permanent Secretary. Payments can also be made directly via swift wire or online transfer system into the following account of the Society:

Swift NBP-APKKA-666

Title of Account: Pakistan Society of Nematology

IBAN Number: PK82NBPA0071004100065641

Account Number: 4100065641

National Bank of Pakistan (NBP)

University of Karachi Branch, Branch Code: 071

Karachi, Pakistan

OR

Through Bank Draft drawn on National Bank of Pakistan (NBP), University of Karachi Branch, Karachi, Pakistan in favor of Pakistan Society of Nematologists, Account No. 4100065641

All inquiries of payments should be made to:

Dr. SaboohiRaza
Treasurer / Permanent Secretary
Office of Pakistan Society of Nematologists

National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi, Karachi-75270 Pakistan

Phone & Fax: 92-021-99261387

Email: psn.nematologists@gmail.com; pakjnema@gmail.com

VISIT TO NNRC

❖ Visit of Students of Genetics Department, University of Karachi

Some 15-20 students of Genetics Department, University of Karachi along with their senior teacher visited National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi. They were welcomed by the Director, Dr. SaboohiRaza and staff of NNRC. Research staff briefed them about the nematodes and their role in crop destruction. They were shown movies of nematodes on different aspects. Lectures were also delivered about the symptoms of nematodes on plants and roots; sampling techniques; processing of soil samples; morphological identification of different plant parasitic nematode genera. Students also visited the research laboratories; saw the live nematodes under microscope. Students were amazed, impressed and shown keen interest in nematodes and their related research.

❖ Visit of Students from Dow Medical University

A group of 5-8 students from Dow Medical University visited National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi to get the complete information about the Centre, about nematodes their importance in agriculture in Pakistan and at world level and the nematological research. They were provided thorough and full response of their queries. Detailed information about the centre and the related research was given to them. They were also shown the videos about nematodes, their symptoms on plants, their damage on agricultural crops and their different management strategies.

PH. D. DEGREE AWARDED

- ❖ **Mr. Sagir Hussain:** Ph. D. degree in Nematology has been awarded to Mr. Sagir Hussain. He completed his research on “Important plant parasitic nematodes of cereals, fruits and vegetables of districts Hunza, Nager, Gilgit and Ghizer of Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistan” under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Shahina Fayyaz.

PH. D. THESES SUBMITTED

- ❖ **Ms. Sonum Khatri:** Ms. Sonum Khatri submitted her Ph. D. thesis in Nematology to Advanced Studies and Research Board, University of Karachi. Her doctoral research work was based on “The effect of *Citrullus colocynthis* extract against phytonematodes” under supervision of Prof. Dr. Shahina Fayyaz and co-supervisor Prof. Dr. Shaheen Faizi.
- ❖ **Mr. Nasir Mehmood:** Ph. D. thesis of Mr. Nasir Mehmood has been submitted to Advanced Studies and Research Board, University of Karachi. His research work on “Studies of plant and soil nematodes offruit from different agroclimatic areas of Sindh and Balochistan” was completed under the supervision of Dr. Tabassum Ara Khanum, Research Officer, NNRC, KU.

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi has been providing the facilities of internship program throughout the year for the biological students of University of Karachi and other Universities and research institutions of Pakistan. The program is initiated for the benefit of the students so that they get the knowledge about nematodes, their importance in agriculture, their disease symptoms and identification.

- ❖ Mr. Abid Ali and Mr. Noman Mubarak from Agriculture Department, University of Karachi completed their six weeks internship (August 10 – September 20, 2020) on the basic training on “Isolation and identification of entomopathogenic nematodes” under the supervision of Dr. TabassumAraKhanum, Research Officer, NNRC, KU.
- ❖ Mr. Azmatullah and Mr. Baha-uddin Peer Bukhsh from Agriculture Department, University of Karachi successfully completed their internship of seven weeks during November 16, 2020 - January 4, 2021 on the basic techniques on “Isolation and identification of plant parasitic nematodes” under the guidance of Dr. Tabassum Ara Khanum, Research Officer, NNRC, KU.

FUTURE EVENTS

- **15-18, March, 2021**
Tenth International Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Symposium
Denver, Colorado
Contact Name: Eric Adrian
Contact Email: europathologycongress@mail.co.uk
Website: <https://worldpathology.conferenceseries.com>
- **7-8 April, 2021**
16th Nematological Event: “Present Era of Eco-friendly Nematode Management Strategies”
Location: National Nematological Research Centre, University of Karachi, Karachi-75270, Pakistan
Email: nnrc@uok.edu.pk
www.pjn.com.pk
- **12-16 September, 2021**
Society of Nematologists Meeting
Location: The Lodge at Gulf State Park, A Hilton Hotel
Contact: Auburn University, College of Agriculture
107 Comer Hall, Auburn, AL 36849
E-mail: agcomm@auburn.edu
- **22-24 September, 2021**
Plant Health, Agriculture & Bioscience conference (PHAB)
<https://phab-conference.com/>
<https://phab2020.com/>
- **1-6 May, 2022**
The Seventh International Congress of Nematology
Palais des Congrès in Antibes Juan-Les-Pins (France).
E-mail: wduncan@ufl.edu.