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Volume 2, Issue 12, December 09

## New Year's Resolution for 2010

Top of the agenda is to impart quality education in all disciplines said Professor Dr. Nilofer Shaikh, VC, SALU.



“To win Co-operation & Collaboration across the World in functioning Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation in SALU Pakistan”. ~Dr. G Raza Bhatti, Director, SLUBGH.



Hello, this is Shireen Akhtar, the Keeper of Herbarium; I'm going to finish up 2009 by keeping in mind the resolution of 2009 that "Get involved in Research". Well I triggered the process of research with the revision of few of genera of family of Apocyanaceae like *Almanda cathertica*, *Almanda blanchetti* & *Thevitia peruviana*. By the grace of Allah mighty & availing advanced microscope, I have explored so many micro-characters in these genera & still the peregrination of exploration is going on that will carry on in 2010 as well.



Mr. Shakeel Ahmed, Botanical Artist in SLUBGH, conclude 2009 with like Plants photography of protected areas, Nara wildlife sanctuary (flora, vegetation & landscape) Takkar Wildlife Sanctuary (flora, vegetation & landscape) & remarkable Illustration of weed of cotton, wheat crops & Choteari wetland complex mostly rare & wild plants species. Mr. Shakeel enthusiastically want to work in coming year 2010 on Biodiversity of Indus eco-region and protected areas of Khairpur (Flora & Fauna) and the vegetation of Nara Desert species (Illustration & Photography).

I'm Mr. Rashid Hussein the horticulturist officer & would like to wrap up 2009 with striking landscaping of glass house, desert, Indus arboretum, nursery & Khyber succulent at SLUBGH. Want to contribute more for SLUBGH with same enthusiasm in 2010 in order to set up nursery in glass house, where orchids & different exotic species will propagate, also eager to domesticate wild plant species in garden. My biggest task in 2010 to arrange flower show which represents SLUBGH countrywide.

*Lobularia maritima (L.) Desv.*

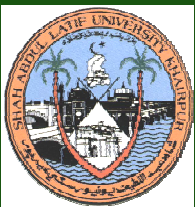
## SLUBGH Team

Dr Raza Bhatti,  
DirectorMiss Shireen Akhtar Soomro,  
KeeperMr. Shakeel Ahmed Khaskheli,  
ArtistMr. Arslan Ahmed Larik,  
I.TMr. Rashid Hussain Amur,  
Horticulture Officer

Hi, I am Arslan Ahmed, I.T Assistant in SLUBGH, windup year 2009 by extraordinary work like Database & Website for SLUBGH, I want to keep continue with same sprit in coming year 2010 as well.



Happy New  
Year 2010 to  
all E-Talk  
Readers



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NEWSLETTER

Shah Latif University Botanical Garden & Herbarium



## Workshop on “Micro Morphological Advance in Plant Taxonomy”

Three days workshop “Micro Morphological Advance in Plant Taxonomy” was held on 8-10 December. It was organized by Shah Latif University Botanical Garden & Herbarium (SLUBGH) in collaboration with “**Learning Innovation Division**” Higher Education Commission, Islamabad. Thirty faculties of botany subject from different colleges of Sukkur region participated in the workshop. In addition, the Foresters from Sindh Forest Department of Sukkur and Khairpur were attended this workshop.

Dr. Muqarrab Shah, Head of the Microbiology University of Hazara, Mahnsara was the chief guest at opening ceremony. Dr. G. Raza Bhatti, the director of SLUBGH was coordinator whereas; Ms Shireen Akhtar Soomro was the workshop Secretary.

The contents of course for workshop were envisaged based on the followings:

- Taxonomy course being taught at B.Sc in Colleges;
- Taxonomy become more dynamic nowadays: keeps reshuffling classification and transferring Taxa from one category to another one;
- Emergence of new concepts of evolutionary trends in classification;
- New discoveries of characters due to advance tools. such as Microscopes, scanning Electron Microscope, etc.
- New & extensive vocabulary;
- An international agenda of Global Taxonomic Initiatives (GTI).

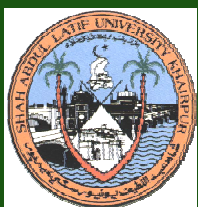


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## Workshop on "Micro Morphological Advance in Plant Taxonomy"

As a matter of fact, a lot of new characters and character states have been discovered and used by taxonomists due to the advanced technologies, such as Electron Microscopic and CCD camera with different types of light microscopes as well.

All the parameters range in between 4.45 to 4.90 values. As per this graph, the workshop falls under "very good" rank. Variations amongst the bars are clearly depicting the value of each parameter.

The advent of these digital devices in the field of plant taxonomy has broadened the vision of researchers to understand character's evolution and their used in traditional Taxonomy as well as in phylogenetic classification. This sort of knowledge for college teachers in teaching taxonomy would be a great strength to students as well.

In addition to curriculum update, this workshop has been designed to address and evaluate the issues under an umbrella of Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI).

The Global Taxonomy Initiative (GTI) was set up under the Convention on Biological Diversity. Effective conservation and management of biodiversity depends in large part on our understanding of taxonomy. Unfortunately, inadequate taxonomic information and infrastructure, coupled with declining taxonomic expertise, hinders our ability to make informed decisions about conservation, sustainable use and sharing of the benefits derived from genetic resources. Governments, through the Convention on Biological Diversity, have acknowledged the existence of a "taxonomic impediment" to the sound management of biodiversity, and have developed the Global Taxonomic Initiative to remove or reduce the impediment.

Newly established SLUBGH funded by HEC is equipped with some facilities. It is resulted in reducing the 'Taxonomic Impediment' as mentioned in GTI. The outcome of this workshop would certainly contribute to achieve some of the targets of CBD.

Workshop was consist of 12 sessions. The following were resource persons:

Dr. M. Tahir Rajput, Dean Faculty of Natural Science, Sindh University, Jamshoro,

Dr. Syeda Saleha Hassney, Director, Institute of Plant Sciences University of Sindh, Jamshoro.

Dr. Muqarrab Shah, University Hazara, Mahnasera,

Dr. Surraya Khatoon Chairperson, Dept. of Botany, Karachi University

Dr. G. Raza Bhatti, Director SLUBGH,

Ms Shireen Akhtar Soomro, Herbarium Keeper, SLUBGH.

Concluding session was presided over by Ms. Shahida Pirzado, the Regional Director Education Sukkur. She appreciated the Vice Chancellor and the team of SLUBGH who have organized such innovate workshop in the Botanical Garden, such a refreshing and soothing environment around. Furthermore, she emphasized to have more workshops in various disciplines for college teacher at Shah Abdul Latif University.

Ms. Pirzado distributed shields, souvenirs & certificates among participant and resource persons. Aspiration behind this workshop was to make college lectures & professors well equipped with new-fangled of plant taxonomy.

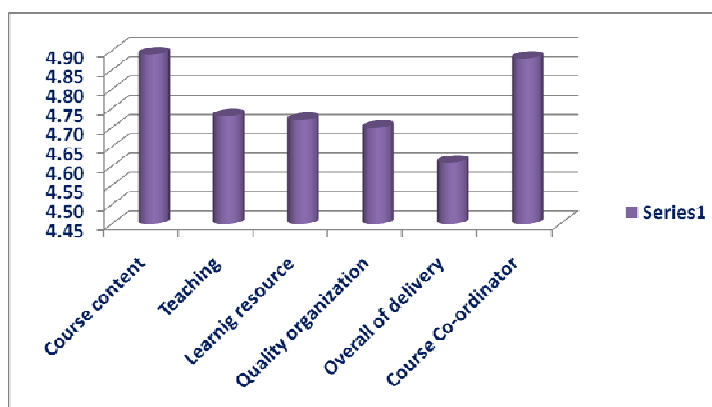
A feedback on workshop was obtained from participants in order to add more improvement in such types of workshop in future based on the undertaken workshop. In this regard, Performa designed by "Learning Innovation Division" was filled in by the participants on various aspects of workshop as follows:

### Course Content:

- Use of teaching strategies and learning environment;
- Learning resources/ AV aids
- Quality of delivery
- Overall organization;
- Course Coordinator.

Evaluation ranking has been indicated numerically as 5 is the highest rank 1 is negative (in descending order 5-4-3-2-1) Hence, its assumed that 5 indicate excellent, 4 for very good, 3 for good, 2 fair and 1 for negative).

All the data analysed after getting average value of all the above six parameters of workshop. The maximum value is 5.00. The results are presenting in chart bar graph.



All the parameters range in between 4.45 to 4.90 values. As per this graph, the workshop falls under "very good" rank. Variations amongst the bars are clearly depicting the value of each parameter.



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Notification regarding establishment of Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation (CBC)

Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur

Admn.Teach/3369

Dated: 24.12.2009

NOTIFICATION

It is notified for the information of all concerned that the "*Statutes for the Establishment of Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation at Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur*" recommended in its 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of Academic Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2006 vide resolution No. 09 approved by 61<sup>st</sup> meeting of Syndicate held on 25.08.2007 vide resolution No.11 and 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate held on 23.03.2008 vide resolution No.05 and finally approved by the Governor's/Chancellor's, Universities of Sindh conveyed vide letter No: GS/6-9/2008(SO-I)/1226 dated: 07<sup>th</sup> November 2009, are hereby adopted for implementation with immediate effect. It is further notified that the newly established *Shah Latif University Botanical Garden & Herbarium (SLUBGH)* funded by the Higher Education Commission will be the component of Centre for Biodiversity & Conservation (CBC). The Centre for Bio-diversity & Conservation (CBC) shall undertake advance research and studies in the field of Biological & Environmental aspects with mission statement as under:

"Protection and sustainable use of natural resources by the people; keeping high priority in maintaining the ecological balance in various ecological zones of Pakistan. To develop human resources with teaching/research oriented programmes for the degree of Bachelor, Master and Doctorate in defined disciplines/Divisions. The Centre would comprise following three divisions:

1. Floristic Diversity Division;
2. Faunistic Diversity Division;
3. Environmental Science Division.

By order of the Vice Chancellor

Copy to all concerned

Registrar  
REGISTRAR  
Shah Abdul Latif University  
KHAIRPUR

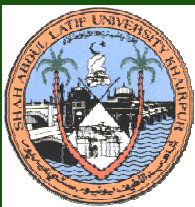


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### School Education Programme for all Levels (SEPAL)

School Educational Programme for All Levels is key activity of SLUBGH in order to make school children aware about environmental issues. In this connection so many activities done by SLUBGH. Earth Day (21st. April) was celebrated with students of Scholar School in order to make them understand that how to take care of Earth by growing more tree around. Demonstration on sowing of seeds & watering them was carried out. Besides, there are routine visits of various school all around the year. 2725 school students visited SLUBGH. Students after spending half a day with trained staff at garden went back to their schools carry few messages as keep surrounding clean, if you want to keep healthy yourself. Take care of water for all living beings & do good care of plants for you, us & all. These students work as ambassadors to convey message to their home, school, locality & region. Simple questioner that mainly given to students after visit, so that the Education Officer can evaluate an extent of knowledge imparted and its understanding by the students. One of the interesting questions is to draw plant of their choice. As result, they drew number of plants growing in the garden but majority of them date palms & cactus plants, few illustrations are presented. Such programme is always acknowledged and appreciated by the parents and school management. As Mr. Osman Arslanhan, Principal, PAKTURK International Schools & Colleges, Khairpur Branch commented as under:

“After having our students visited the Herbarium, I have once again remembered the role of such establishment in the perfect education of the young students and their practical learning. It was worthy to see the students’ joy and enthusiasm on their return. Their extra ordinary remarks encouraged me to remark on the said visit. With all the facilitation, explanations, guidance, short quiz etc., SLUBGH has made a permanent positive effect in their study life.

It was a two hour excursion within their One week “self development camp” between December 19th to 24th 2009. But it was the best part which will ever be remembered in their program”.



### Congratulations

### Visit of Ms. Noorjehan Bilgiri on 31st, December 09

Ms. Noorjehan Bilgiri said “This has been exhilarating experience visiting the Herbarium of Shah Abdul Latif University. I was particularly impressed by sensitive usage and propagation of indigenous plants in the Garden. Thank you for sharing this labour of Love, effort and patients. Wish you all the success”.

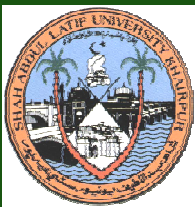


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## National Year of Environment 2009

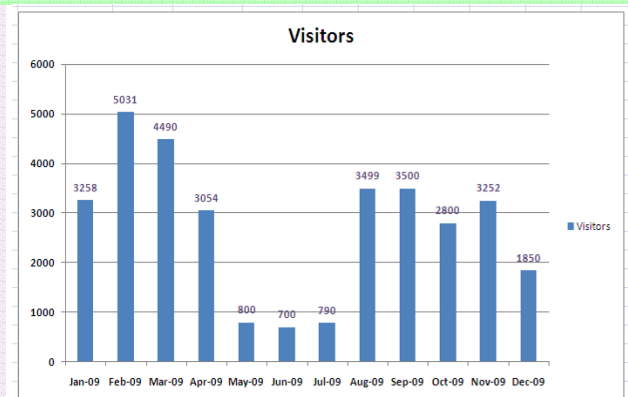
The Government of Pakistan declared 2009 as a "National Year of Environment". In this regard, Chief Conservator, Sindh Forest, Mr. Rahim Bux Awan prepared a comprehensive plan to celebrate with SLUBGH the following events took place across the year 2009.

1. International Symposium on "Compatible With Climate Change". 27-30 March 2009.
2. World Environment Day Participation at Sukkur 6th June 2009.
3. World Environment Day Celebration at SLUBGH early morning 6th June 2009.
4. Plant Conservation Day at Takkar Wild Life Sanctuary 18th May 2009.
5. One Day Seminar "Biodiversity & Invasive Alien Species" at SALU, Khairpur 22nd May 2009.
6. Participation in "Earth Day 2009 Mela" at Sukkur 21st April 2009.
7. Celebration "Earth Day 2009" with School Children at SLUBGH 22nd April 2009.
8. Walk for Environment Awareness on 2nd April, 2009.
9. Ozone Layer Protection Day "The World Ozone Layer Protection Day (WOLPD): 16 September 2009.
10. National Tree Plantation Day: 18th August 2009 organized by SLUBGH and District Officer Forest, Sindh Forest Department.



## Visitor's Record: 33024.

Visitor's Data for Year 2009 has been assessed graphically. Data varies according to seasons. Total number of visitors are 33024. This graph shows the trend of visitors in different seasons of the year. Maximum number 8424 of visitors recorded in spring season. It is due to pleasant weather & annual blossoms. Whereas, in May-July the number of visitors are 2290. The less number of visitors is because of scorching summer and closure of the university.



## Thanks

Dr. G. Raza Bhatti, accompanied by Ms. Raziaazizudin paid visit to renowned horticulturalist Dr A. K. Khan. Dr Khan was the founder of Horticultural Society of Pakistan in 1948. Dr Khan presented all his Published Books to Dr Bhatti for SLUBGH. SLUBGH team thanked to Dr Khan for his valuable gift to SLUBGH's Linnaeus Systematic Corner.



## New Plants Arrived to SLUBGH.

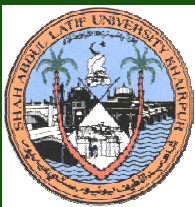
Generous donation of Ms. Raziaazizudin to SLUBGH in shape of number of orchids is worth to be appreciated. Thanks you very much Adi.. In addition, Mr Abbass, Mr Shahid and Choudry Arshad presented wonderful wealth of Palms and cactus to SLUBGH. Great... Great... Great....

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### December 2009 Events



Dr. G. Raza Bhatti delivering talk on "Indigenous Landscaping and Gardening" in workshop organized by Pakistan Wetlands Programme's for Natural Resource Management for Naval Officers at PNS Bahadur, Karachi



Examination of Plant Taxonomy was conducted in Leaf Lawn

Documentary on "Natural Treasures of Khairpur" being shown at Dinner for Members of Board of Director Engro Foods



### Drama Shooting at SLUBGH By Mulhar Production on 17th December 2009

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