

UPSIGN Newsletter 3

Winter 20 / Spring 21



Welcome Message: Welcome to UPSIGN's third newsletter. 2020 was a breakthrough year for UPSIGN and established us as part of the fabric of the UK's charitable efforts in Pakistan. At the end of 2020, we expanded our online efforts to cover a broad range of topics that are in line with our mission. We have also been forging key relationships with senior scientists, the UK High Commission (in Islamabad), and partners in support of UK-Pak academic links and trade. I hope you enjoy reading about some of our work which is going strong in 2021.

Dr. Khalid Mahmood
(Co-founder of UPSIGN Network)

UPSIGN is an inclusive, voluntary group that operates on a secular and non-political basis. We consist of students and educators who are interested in uplifting Pakistanis. To see a short video about our work (in English and Urdu), [Click Here](#).

Spotlight on...



Feature Article:

Improving Girl's Education

UPSIGN talks to Dr. Tamjid Mujtaba (Senior Research Associate at the Institute of Education, UCL) about her work that focuses on girl's attainment in science and education and why some girls are more likely to progress than others. To read more, [Click Here](#)

UPSIGN Upcoming 2021 Event

UPSIGN Webinar with Q&A UK Volunteering Opportunities for British Pakistanis.

Find out how volunteering can help your career and give back to the community. Speakers include Moawia Bin-Sufyan, Mudasser Ahmed and Rt Peter Riddell. To get your ticket, [Click Here](#)

VOLUNTEER



UPSIGN Training & Leadership Events



What Makes a Successful International Proposal? and Practical Consortia

Considerations: UPSIGN in association with HEC supported a webinar by Professor Nicola Lowe & Professor Jawwad Darr who shared their insights. To watch the video [Click here](#)



Women in Leadership: This webinar focused on reflections and personal experiences of two prominent and inspiring Pakistani women (Dr. Maryam Rab & Ms. Bushra Zulfiqar) discussing the changing landscape for Pakistani women in leadership roles. To see the full article, [Click here](#)

Challenges (& Opportunities) for British Pakistanis in Top UK Universities; From Bradford to University College London



Challenges & Opportunities for British Pakistanis in Top UK

Universities: Professor Jawwad Darr, shared his education journey and discussed the challenges and opportunities for ethnic minorities in the top universities. To see the webinar, [Click Here](#)

UPSIGN Annual Virtual Conference 2020

The UPSIGN Annual Virtual Conference: **Pakistan's Development Challenges & Opportunities; Where we are now and where we are going?**

was held over four days (30th Nov to 3rd Dec 2020) and included interactive webinars on Food Security, Healthcare Training, Knowledge-Economy & Pakistan's Global Ready Graduates. To access all 4 days content, [Click Here](#)

Conference Day 1: Food Security - Grow, Nourish & Sustain Together.

In this webinar the focus was on developing sustainable food production to strengthen food security, which benefits farmers and consumers alike in Pakistan. To read an overview of the talks and watch the webinar, [Click Here](#)



Conference Day 2: Developing Future Healthcare Workforce.

This webinar focused on the challenges and opportunities in Pakistan's healthcare training. Dr. Parveen Ali (chair) was joined by speakers including Dr. Abdul Bari & Dr. Shabnum Sarfraz. To read more and see the webinar, [Click Here](#)



Conference Day 3: Knowledge-Economy in Pakistani & UK Universities.

This webinar focused on International and Pakistani knowledge exploitation models and challenges in translational research. The plenary speech was given by Professor Atta Rehman. To read more, [Click Here](#)



Conference Day 4: Pakistan's Global-ready Graduates.

This webinar focused on understanding the needs, skills gap, and challenges faced by Pakistani graduates so that they can be ready for international postgraduate education overseas. To read more and see the webinar, [Click here](#)



UPSIGN Agriculture Webinars

UPSIGN Agri-Nutrition Group has hosted several international webinars to discuss topics from sustainable food production to locust control. See below for some of the recent online events.

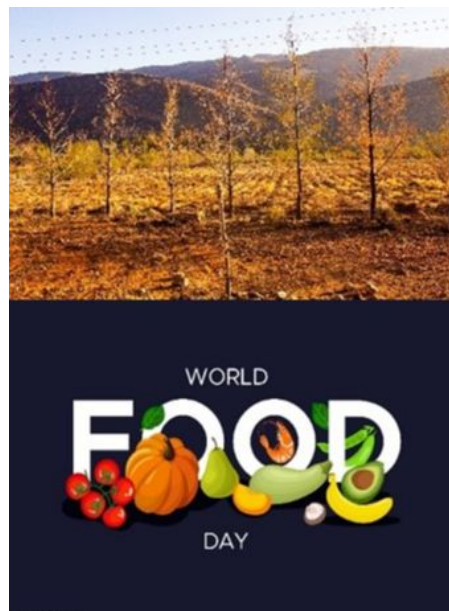
Locust Control Strategies; Success Stories & New Approaches: [Click Here](#)

Pakistan's Food Security Challenges; Pests & Disease Control: [Click Here](#)

Saline Agriculture; Solution to Global Food Security: To read more, [Click Here](#)

Sustainable Rice Production for Boosting Rice Exports of Pakistan: [Click Here](#)

World Food Day; Grow, Nourish & Sustain Together: To read more, [Click Here](#)



International Updates...

The New Breed of Pakistan's International Universities. Pak-Austria Fachhochschule: Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology (PAF-IAST) was inaugurated by PM

Imran Khan on 17th September 2020 in Haripur. To find out more, [Click Here](#)



Virgin Atlantic flies to Pakistan. From December 2020, Virgin will be flying four times a week from London Heathrow to Lahore, three times a week from London Heathrow to Islamabad, and four times weekly from Manchester to Islamabad. To learn more, [Click Here](#)



England Cricket Team to visit Pakistan. England will play cricket in Pakistan after a 16-year absence, with a T20I tour in October 2021 announced. For the press release, [Click Here](#)



Did You Know About?...

YAYA Awards for Asian Young Achievers: Successful young people from across the UK were vying for the first Yorkshire Asian Young Achievers award on Wednesday 11th November 2020. To see the video, [Click Here](#)



PAKISTAN100: A new programme for Pakistani Diaspora youth run by Common Purpose (now closed for 2020). Pakistan is going to be 100 years old in 2047. What does this mean for the current and future generations of Pakistan? What will be the legacy of Pakistan @100? To read more, [Click here](#)



Support UPSIGN

Individual donors: Support us to lead and create a more sustainable and flourishing future for Pakistanis and its diaspora. The funds will 100% be used to pay for UK based events, seminars, and debates that are used to educate the diaspora or to support mentoring programmes (all our active members are volunteers). [Click here](#) if you wish to donate towards UPSIGN's work and help support our cause.

Corporate donors: UPSIGN is always interested to hear from corporate donors who wish to work with us to develop initiatives ([Click here](#)). Please get in contact with us via farzana.hussain@ucl.ac.uk. Current organisations who have supported or funded us to date can be found on the following link; [Click here](#).

Get Involved and Make a Difference



We have a number of varied opportunities for students and professionals to get involved in.

If you are interested in writing articles for UPSIGN's newsletter, please contact Farzana Hussain at farzana.hussain@ucl.ac.uk

Keep in Touch



For all the latest updates on UPSIGN's progress, opportunities and updates regarding the Pakistani diaspora, please follow our social media by clicking the icons below. If you want to get involved in our subject-specific discussions, join our WhatsApp groups, [Click here](#).

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RANGOONWALA FOUNDATION

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