

2nd Meeting of “Botanical Society of Pakistan” Office Bearers at UAJK

A meeting of “Botanical Society of Pakistan” (BSP) was held on 19/11/2025 at Department of Botany, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir (UAJK), Muzaffarabad, to discuss upcoming conference at University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The meeting started under the mentorship of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Qaiser (Chief Editor, Pakistan Journal of Botany) and Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadar Marwat, Professor Emeritus. The meeting was formally started with the recitation of Holy Quran by Dr. Tariq Habib (Associate Professor, UAJK). The President of BSP (Dr Rehana Kausar) welcomed all delegates who travelled from all over Pakistan to participate. She also presented the welcome message from the Worthy Vice Chancellor of UAJK, Dr. Nasir Jamal Khattak.

Following members attended the meeting:

1. Dr. Rehana Kausar	President
2. Prof. Dr. Mushtaq Ahmad	Vice President Federal Capital
3. Dr. Saeed Kakar	Vice President (Baluchistan)
4. Dr. Zia Ur Rehman Mashwani	Joint Secretary
5. Dr. Muhammad Ejaz Ul Islam Dar	General Secretary

Following agenda items were discussed:

Item 1. Prayers for Dr Haider Ali (Late)

Dr Haider Ali was Vice President (KPK) of BPS and died on October 28, 2025. The forum was requested for condolences and prayers and all the members prayed for the departed soul.

Item 2. Approval of the minutes of first meeting

First meeting regarding the upcoming conference was held at Department of Botany, UAJK on May 25, 2025, and the minutes of the meeting were presented for approval. The Board unanimously approved the minutes.

Item 3. Recommendations for Young Scientist Award

According to agenda item 6 of previous meeting of the society, the committee was constituted for the said purpose, and the minutes of the said committee's meeting were presented before this forum for discussion and approval.

As per report of the committee, following recommendations are approved;

1. It was recommended that the Young Scientist Award for best presentation will be conferred upon plant scientists, having life membership of BSP and being less than 40 years of age.
2. The members discussed various strategies to encourage more Botanists to join as Lifetime members of BSP and recommended that:
 - 2.1 Discount on lifetime membership fees (20%) will be offered to young botanists, with eligibility as prescribed in Item No. 1

2.2 Group registration from any Department/Institute/Centre consisting of at least five (05) botanists applying together will be entitled to a 25% discount on lifetime membership to all such members.

3. These awards will be subject-wise and distributed in the following categories:

- Physiology/Biochemistry
- Taxonomy of higher plants
- Lower plants including Algae and Fungi
- Ecology and Environmental Biology
- Biodiversity and Conservation
- Genetics/Genomics/Proteomics
- Ethnobotany/Medicinal & Aromatic Plants/Phytochemistry
- Agriculture and Forestry

4. Young Scientists of the Year spotlight will be introduced and highlighted on BSP platforms.

5. BSP should actively maintain and promote its presence on social media platforms including Facebook, Instagram, Research-Gate, and LinkedIn, to showcase the achievements of members and other activities.

6. The meeting concluded with a note of thanks by the convener to all members for their valuable contributions and commitment to the growth of BSP.

Item 4: Dates of Conference

The Tentative schedule for the upcoming 10th International and 19th National Conference of Plant Science was decided in April 2026, and this forum was requested to finalize the date. As per discussion the following date was finalized: April 27-29 (Monday to Wednesday) 2026.

Item 5: Conference Themes & Sub-themes

The title of Conference was decided in last meeting but with some more deliberations, the title was rephrased as **“Botanical Approaches for Sustainable Food Security in Changing Climate”**

Item 6: Conference Themes & Sub-themes:

Following themes and sub-themes were decided for the conference:

- I. Plant Physiology
- II. Biochemistry
- III. Taxonomy of higher plants
- IV. Lower plants including Algae and Fungi

- V. Ecology and Environmental Biology
- VI. Biodiversity and Conservation
- VII. Genetics/Genomics/Proteomics
- VIII. Ethnobotany/Medicinal and Aromatic plants
- IX. Phytochemistry
- X. Agriculture and Forestry

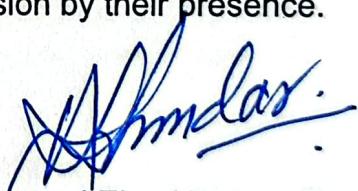
Item 5: Important Dates and Fee Submission

Early bird Registration will start from	January 1 st , 2026
Abstract submission deadline	February 28 th , 2026
Abstract Acceptance	March 30 th , 2026
Early bird Registration till 30-03-2026	6000 PKR
Late or Desk registration	7000 PKR
International	200 USD
BSP Life Members	4000 PKR

It was decided that as the conference is for whole of AJK and all other universities should also be invited to take part in this activity and should be given active role in conference activities such as registration, abstraction submission, review as well as any other assignments as required to make this conference a success.

The meeting concluded by vote of thanks by the Chair. She thanked all the worthy participants for sparing time and gracing the occasion by their presence.


Dr. Rehana Kausar
President


Dr. Muhammad Ejaz Ul Islam Dar
General Secretary