

Brief Introduction to the Khwarizmi Science Society

The **Khwarizmi Science Society** (KSS) is one of Pakistan's most active science associations: organizing seminars, national workshops, public and popular lectures, sponsoring students' science projects, maintaining an online magazine "Takveen", screening video presentations and science movies, and arranging field visits and symposiums of high quality. Most of these events are announced and reported in the local press and locally published science communiqués.

Main Objectives of the KSS

The major objectives of the KSS include:

1. Scientific Meetings and dialogue
2. Encouraging students to take up careers in science
3. Student-scientist interaction
4. Popularization and public dissemination of science
5. Fostering collaborations between individuals and organizations
6. Resource sharing
7. Practical scientific and technological exposure
8. Publication of high quality scientific literature

Range of Activities

To achieve these goals, we organize different kinds of activities such as:

1. Public and popular lectures
2. Technical seminars
3. Video presentations and movies
4. Field visits
5. Workshops
6. Symposia
7. Sponsoring of scientific projects and competitions
8. Career counselling
9. Media outreach and science journalism
10. Publications and translation
11. Book reviews
12. Public exhibits of science

<http://www.khwarzimic.org> (old website)

<http://www.khwarizmi.org> (new website)

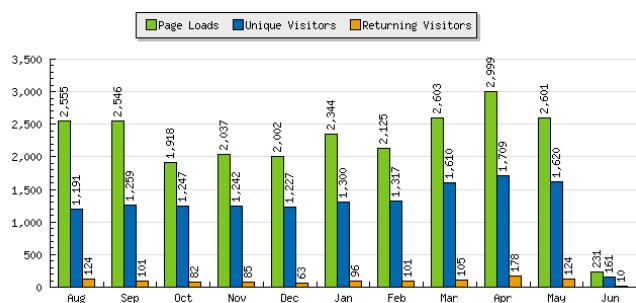
Major Strengths of the KSS

We believe that the major strengths and unique characteristics that set us apart from other science societies and organizations are:

1. Inter-disciplinary
2. Does not belong to one institution
3. All ages and experiences are welcome
4. A track record of high calibre events, the distinct number approaching 170
5. Mix of science and non-science (economics, psychology, sociology, philosophy)
6. Mix of students and Professors
7. Effective web presence
8. Grooming students in their analytical, scientific, organizational and journalistic skills
9. Connecting people
10. Technical as well as popular appeal
11. Public involvement
12. Managed by teams of students and experts
13. Proceedings are bi-lingual (Urdu and English maximizing outreach)
14. Inexpensive to become a Member!

Website

We were established in 1997. To date, we have organized around 170 events of very high caliber. A full list is provided on our website, <http://www.Khwarizmi.org>, that will supersede our old website <http://www.khwarzimic.org>. Our activities are unique because of the follow-through – we provide



hand-outs and detailed reports of most of our activities. This material is accessible free of charge on our dynamic website, declared as among the Top five Pakistani websites in the March 2003 issue of the Spider Magazine. Our website dates back to 1997, it is concurrent with the life of the Society. This was a time when only

a few Pakistani organizations maintained an online presence. We maintain full statistics of our web presence. Currently, we are in the process of shifting our domain to a new domain we have purchased through individual sponsorships and donations. We also have a mailing list to which about 2000 email addresses are subscribed.

Inter-disciplinarity

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The KSS greatly cherishes its inter-disciplinary character. Our events range from the mathematical to the biological sciences, the intricacies of the sub-atomic world to the pristine beauty of the natural habitat, from the inner workings of a petrol engine to promise of fuel cells, from the human genome project to the advances in telecommunications. We also cover topics of imminent interest and of paramount national and social importance, such as Pakistan's nuclear programme, the cracking of the human genome and its ethical implications, and the outbreak of community diseases such as the dengue fever. Our no-boundaries philosophies even takes us into uncharted waters, commonly neglected discourses in Pakistan, such as astronomy, earth sciences and the history and philosophy of science. Our complete list of activities is a kaleidoscope illuminating the different facets of science and the scientific method that we have covered through our seminars and other events.

Over the past ten years, our events have covered the following topics:

A [Agriculture](#) [astronomy](#) [atmosphere](#) [automation](#) [automobiles](#)
B [Bioinformatics](#) [biology](#) [biomedical engineering](#) [book review](#) [Botany](#)
C [career](#) [chemical technology](#) [Chemistry](#) [communications](#) [Computational Biology](#) [computer science](#)
[computers](#) [computing](#) [cosmology](#)
E [economics](#) [education](#) [electrical engineering](#) [electrical technology](#) [Electronics](#) [energy](#) [engineering](#)
[environment](#)
G [geography](#) [geology](#)
H [health](#) [history of science](#)
I [international relations](#) [IT](#)
M [management](#) [materials science](#) [mathematics](#) [mechanical engineering](#) [Medicine](#) [metaphysics](#)
[meteorology](#)
N [Nonlinear Science](#)
P [Pakistan's Science](#) [Petroleum Engineering](#) [physics](#) [psychology](#)
S [science fiction](#) [space science](#) [standards](#)

Target Audience

The KSS does not belong to one educational institution. We have chapters all around Lahore and are currently in the process of expanding our reach outside Lahore. Our members and participants are students of science, economics, history, literature and religion, all sharing a common goal – the quest and never ending thirst for knowledge. We are not even confined to students and academicians; we have gained our worth amongst the general public as well.



<http://www.khwarzimidc.org> (old website)

<http://www.khwarizmi.org> (new website)

Public Lectures – Our Main Forte

Our unique characteristic is our series of public lectures that do not assume any prior knowledge of the subjects under discussion and attract the laity. These lectures are often conducted in Urdu, maximizing comprehension and a “homely atmosphere”. This helps us a long way in achieving our goal of popularizing science within the masses.

Photographs from Some of Our Events



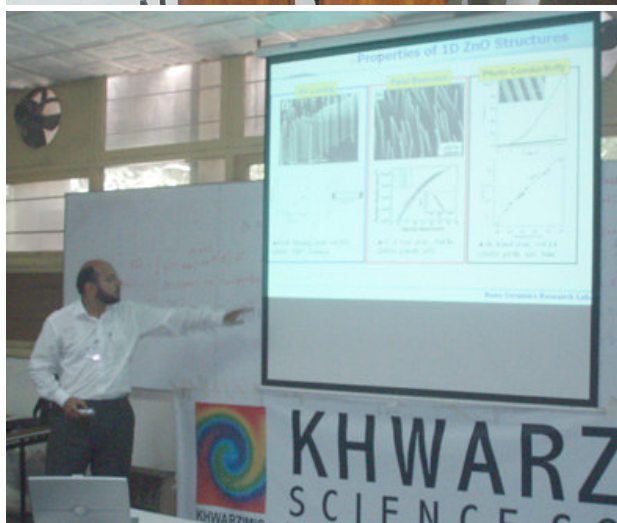
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Students' Training

One of our major aims is the character building of students, by boosting their confidence levels. Our seminars and lectures are not only conducted by renowned experts, but also by students. This provides them the opportunity to share their message with their peers and helps promulgate their ideas within teachers and scientists. We personally feel that it is very important to break this communication gap between teachers and students, the experts and the novices and the KSS is duly fulfilling its role in this respect as well.

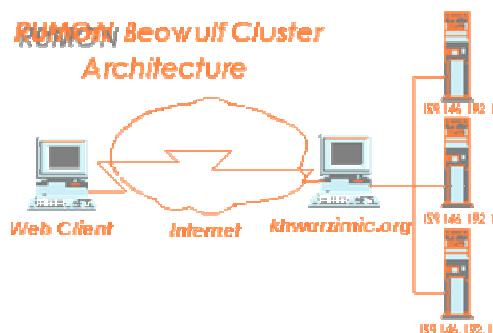


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Students' Projects

Occasionally, the KSS also sponsors students' projects. For example, in 2001-1, the Society came forward and provided technical and financial support to a group of students to build a Beowulf-style cluster computer from the off-the-shelf components. The students successfully completed the project resulting in some presentations in an IEEE-sponsored national conference. Details are available on our website under <http://www.khwarzimic.org/cluster/>.



Effective Graphic Announcement

In order to enhance the appeal of our announcements, we use the services of volunteering graphic designers and for our major events, also seek professional help. Our announcements are distributed in a network of educational institutions inside the country, sometimes these announcements are also placed in newspapers depending on availability of funds. Urdu is used as a very common medium for the adverts, with the object of increasing the outreach.



Availability of Lecture Material and Video recordings

The KSS makes every effort in transcribing the public lectures, seminars and workshops in textual, audio or video format. This has resulted in the production of a large volume of material, presentation slides included, that is accessible free of cost from the website. The next steps aim at obtaining a video and integrated sound system that can enable digital recording of the events. Sometimes professional help is sought in the video recording, but so far, our resources have been limited to exercise this option freely. The online magazine "Takveen" is a repository of lecture material. An archive of presentations has also grown out of our long list of events.




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Participation Records

We maintain an archive of participation sheets – a record of all participants who have attended and took part in our activities. This number is now approaching several thousands. These records help us track the feedback we receive and enable us to steer our announcement and public outreach campaign. We receive immense feedback from all participants and rely on our Members and audience for continuous improvement of our activities.

**KHWARZIMIC
SCIENCE SOCIETY**



Member's Card

Name: _____
 Member Id: _____
 Type of Membership: _____
 Valid From: _____

Unity, Faith, Discipline, Science

Dr. Saadat A. Siddiqi
 President KSS

26	Sanam Saigra Anwar	I.B.B. B.Sc. (Hons) IV semester
27	Mah. Jabeen Alam	B.Sc. (Hons) IV I.B.B.
28	RIZWANA HAIDER	B.Sc. (Hons) IV I.B.B.
29	URFA JAFAR RANA	B.Sc. (Hons) IV Semester (I.B.B.)
Sr. No.	Name	Institution / Affiliation
30	Noor-ul-Sehar	B.Sc. (Hons) IV Semester (I.B.B.)
31	Aamir Mukhtar	M.Phil. (Computer Science) State Univ.
32	Kamran ul Hasan	M.Sc. Physics Physics Deptt. P.U.
33	M. Saad Siddiqi	B.Sc. (Hons.) Biochem. IV Sem
34	M. Fayyaz ul-Rahman	B.Sc. (Hons.) Biochem. IV Sem
35	Muhammad Yasin	B.Sc. (Hons) Biochem. IV semester
36	Nazir Hussain	M.Phil. CSSP P.U. LHR.
37	MUHAMMAD AMIR	M.Sc. Biol. PUIC LHR.
38	Muhammad Rashid	M.Sc. Chemistry PUIC LHR.
39	Mudassar Raig	M.Sc. Part II Chemistry PUIC
40	Kashif Jamil	B.Sc. (Hons) Biochem. IV semester
41	Samar Kayat	B.Sc. (Hons) IV semester Biochem
42	Laleen Naz Mirza	B.Sc. (Hons) IBB - 4 th Sem.
43	Saira Riaz	Ph.D. CSSP, P.U. Lahore.
44	Razia Qureshi	M.Phil. CSSP, P.U. Lahore.
45	Sania Anwar	B.Sc. (Hons) IBB - IV Semester
46	SATIRA - SANDHU	B.Sc. (Hons) IBB - IV Semester
47	Zarfaan Shabbir	M.Sc. Chemistry Part II P.U. La
48	Ikram Mahmood	B.Sc. (Hons) NMCG 2 nd Semester
49	Sadia Jiaz	B.Sc. (Hons) NMCG 2 nd Semester
50	Sania Anwar	M.Sc. Students (IBB)
51	R.B. Dehman	M.Sc. Student (part II) UIC

The KSS Members and Funding

Our Members are our asset. We have opportunities for Life and Full Year Memberships. The fee are, respectively, Rs. 1000 and Rs. 250. Membership applications can be filled online as well as in person and handed over to a Society office-bearer. Currently, the Membership fee are our only major source of income, that is needed for the efficient and effective running of the very large number of events we organize and projects we have running.

We hope you will appreciate the untiring efforts we have put in towards the operation and growth of the Khwarizmi Science Society, mostly done with very meager resources, but with indomitable will and the selfless sacrifice of the Executive Committee and all the Members and well-wishers of the Society.