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48th Syndicate Meeting Convened Under the Chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.)

The 48th meeting of the Syndicate of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, was convened on July 3, 2026, under the esteemed chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). The distinguished gathering was graced by eminent members, including Justice Tariq Nadeem of the Lahore High Court, Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali, Vice Chancellor University of Agriculture Faisalabad, representatives of the Higher Education Commission, members of the Provincial Assembly, and senior government officials and faculty, while Registrar Ms. Somiya Ambreen ably discharged the duties of Secretary. The Syndicate confirmed the minutes of the preceding meeting, approved recommendations of the Departmental Tenure Review Committees, sanctioned developmental incentives for meritorious teachers, and endorsed key academic and administrative appointments. Notably, the meeting approved the elevation of the Institute of Computing to a full-fledged Faculty of Computing, together with new academic programs and curricular reforms. Addressing the forum, the Vice Chancellor reaffirmed the unwavering commitment of university to quality education, impactful research, and international collaboration, expressing optimism that these measures would further elevate the institution's standing on the national and global academic landscape.



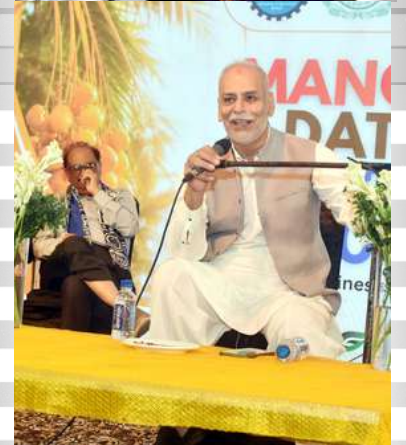
From Orchard to Export Desk: MNSUAM's **Mango and Date Festival 2026** Brings the Whole Value Chain Under One Roof

The Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan (MNSUAM) hosted the Mango and Date Festival 2026 on July 4-5, transforming its campus into a vibrant platform where growers, researchers, exporters, policymakers, industry representatives, students, and consumers came together to celebrate and strengthen Pakistan's horticulture sector. More than a fruit exhibition, the two-day festival highlighted the importance of integrating production, research, value addition, trade, and policy to enhance the global competitiveness of Pakistan's mango and date industries. The festival commenced on July 3 with a soul-stirring Sufi Night featuring celebrated artist Ramzan Jani, setting a memorable tone for the proceedings. Commissioner Multan, Mr. Amir Kareem Khan, inaugurated the event. The festival featured 48 exhibition stalls displaying premium mangoes, dates, value-added products, nursery plants, agri-technologies, and agribusiness solutions, while 21 culinary stalls showcased innovative mango-based dishes and beverages prepared by different academic departments. Growers and entrepreneurs from Punjab, Sindh, and Balochistan participated, reflecting the diversity and commercial potential of Pakistan's horticultural produce



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In his welcome address, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) emphasized that sustainable growth in horticulture depends on strengthening every stage of the value chain, from quality planting material and orchard management to postharvest handling, branding, processing, and exports. He reaffirmed MNSUAM's commitment to research-driven innovation and stronger collaboration between academia, industry, and government institutions. A technical session titled Oasis to Orchard Economy examined opportunities and challenges facing Pakistan's mango and date sectors. Chairperson PHEC, Prof. Dr. Iqrar A. Khan (H.I., S.I.), was the chief guest. Experts noted that despite being among the world's leading producers of dates, Pakistan continues to receive comparatively low export returns because of limitations such as uncertified nursery stock, inadequate cold storage, and limited processing infrastructure. MNSUAM researchers also presented the university's achievements in mango value chain development, including the successful promotion of the Small Tree High-Density Orchard System, now adopted on more than 25,000 acres, which has significantly improved orchard productivity and export potential. The occasion also marked the launch of the MNSUAM Alumni Association Network, strengthening engagement between the university and its graduates.



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The second day focused on expanding export opportunities through the high-level dialogue titled Farm to Global Market. Representatives from the Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP), the Pakistan Horticulture Development and Export Company (PHDEC), and Pakistan's trade missions in China, Iran, and Tajikistan discussed international market requirements, export regulations, logistics, and emerging opportunities. Participants emphasized the urgent need for additional Hot Water Treatment (HWT) facilities in South Punjab to facilitate exports, particularly to Iran and Australia, while also highlighting opportunities to increase Pakistan's presence in the Chinese market, where 31 Pakistani companies are currently registered to export mangoes. The festival also celebrated public engagement through mango cutting, dish-making, blind taste, and variety identification competitions that attracted enthusiastic participation from students and visitors. Academic departments demonstrated the commercial potential of value-added horticultural products by presenting innovative mango-based foods and beverages, reinforcing the importance of entrepreneurship alongside scientific research.



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The dialogue concluded with a roadmap for future collaboration, including stronger coordination with the Department of Plant Protection on export protocols, support for the Geographical Indication (GI) registration of premium mango varieties such as Sindhri and Chaunsa, rehabilitation of mango orchards in partnership with PHDEC, and the proposed establishment of a Mango Museum and Botanical Garden in collaboration with DHA Multan, envisioned to conserve more than 200 mango germplasm accessions. By bringing together research, industry, government, and farming communities, the Mango and Date Festival 2026 reinforced MNSUAM's role as a leading institution in advancing Pakistan's horticulture sector. The festival demonstrated the university's commitment to strengthening the entire value chain from orchard management and postharvest technology to value addition, branding, and international market access, while creating new opportunities for sustainable agricultural growth and export development.



10th Mango Festival: A Resounding Five-Day Celebration at The Centaurus Mall, Islamabad

The 10th Mango Festival, jointly organized by Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, the Mango Research Institute, Multan, and The Centaurus Mall, Islamabad, unfolded over a memorable five-day run from July 8 to July 12, 2026. The grand inauguration was ceremoniously performed by Federal Minister for Railways Mr. Hanif Abbasi and CEO of The Centaurus Mall, Sardar Yasir Ilyas Khan, drawing an enthusiastic gathering of citizens, students, agricultural experts, growers, and mango enthusiasts. Representing the University, Senior Tutor Dr. Akhtar Hameed, Lecturer Mr. Usman Khan, and Mr. Muhammad Adeel Janjua warmly welcomed the distinguished guests. Throughout the festival, more than seventy varieties of mangoes and over thirty exhibition stalls remained the centre of public attention, offering visitors an enriching showcase of agricultural diversity and innovation. The closing ceremony was graced by Dr. Sajjad, Member of the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, as chief guest, while proceedings were chaired by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). Shafe Farms, Muzaffargarh; Chand Gillani Mango Farms; and Bukhari Farms, Multan, were honoured with shields and certificates for securing the top three positions. Addressing the closing gathering, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) remarked that such festivals play a vital role in projecting Pakistan's world-renowned mangoes on national and international platforms while strengthening linkages among growers, researchers, and academic institutions, reaffirming the University's continued patronage of similar initiatives for the betterment of farmers and the advancement of the agricultural sector.



4 Admissions Open for Winter 2026 at Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan

Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, South Punjab's premier seat of agricultural learning, has announced the opening of admissions for Winter 2026 across a diverse range of undergraduate and postgraduate degree programs. The University offers market-aligned disciplines including BSc (Hons) Agriculture, BS Computer Science with specializations in Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, and Information Technology, BSc Agricultural Engineering, BS Food Science and Technology, BS Human Nutrition and Dietetics, BBA Agribusiness, MBA, and numerous other undergraduate, MS, and PhD programs. Prospective students will benefit from modern laboratories, experimental farms, dedicated research centres, a highly qualified faculty, and a vibrant campus life enriched by student clubs and societies. The University proudly holds the 3rd position nationally in the UI Green Metric Ranking and maintains a distinguished standing in the QS and THE World University Rankings, with all programs duly accredited by relevant regulatory bodies. A comprehensive array of scholarships, including the Honhaar Scholarship Program, BISP Undergraduate Scholarship, and the Punjab Education Endowment Fund, is available for deserving students, alongside secure hostel and transport facilities. Interested candidates are encouraged to submit their online applications before the closing date of July 31, 2026.



2nd Mango Festival Inaugurated in Collaboration with Goldcrest Mall, Lahore

The grand inauguration of the 2nd Mango Festival, organized through the collaborative partnership of Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, and Goldcrest Mall, Lahore, was ceremoniously performed by Sardar Rafeeq Khan Mazari. The opening day witnessed enthusiastic participation from citizens, students, agricultural experts, growers, and mango connoisseurs, underscoring the festival's growing popularity in Lahore. More than seventy varieties of mangoes were displayed across upwards of thirty exhibition stalls, offering an engaging showcase of agricultural excellence and value-added innovation. Speakers on the occasion emphasized the significance of such platforms in elevating the international standing of Pakistani mangoes while inspiring growers toward progressive practices. The event was graced by Mr. Syed Ibn-e-Hussain Ali, Ms. Syeda Narjis Batool, Chief Operating Officer of Goldcrest Mall, Lahore, Mr. Rasheed Ahmad of CropLife Private Limited Pakistan, and other distinguished participants, alongside a considerable number of mango growers and citizens. Speakers commended the collaborative spirit of the partner institutions, noting that such initiatives forge strong linkages among research, agriculture, and industry, thereby projecting Pakistan's mangoes more prominently on both national and international platforms.



Summer Engagement Series: Prof. Dr. Javed Iqbal Delivers Lecture on 'The Art of Enjoying Your Work and Being Happy'

Under the aegis of the Summer Engagement Series organized by the Directorate of Academics, Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, Multan, hosted an enriching lecture titled 'The Art of Enjoying Your Work and Being Happy,' delivered by the distinguished educationist and motivational speaker Prof. Dr. Javed Iqbal. The session was attended by a substantial gathering of faculty members, officers, staff, and students. In his engaging address, Prof. Dr. Javed Iqbal expounded upon the significance of positive thinking, genuine passion for one's work, peace of mind, and an effective professional lifestyle, emphasizing that lasting success stems from heartfelt dedication and continuous learning rather than effort alone. Participants found the session highly informative and inspiring, and an interactive question-and-answer segment allowed attendees to seek valuable guidance for their professional and personal growth. The University administration reiterated that the Summer Engagement Series is designed to cultivate intellectual and personal development opportunities for the University community. Concluding the proceedings, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) extended heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Dr. Javed Iqbal and affirmed the University's continued commitment to organizing such enriching academic and training initiatives.



7 10th Meeting of the Regional Agriculture Forum, South Punjab, **Held at RARI Bahawalpur**

The 10th meeting of the Regional Agriculture Forum, South Punjab, was convened at the Regional Agricultural Research Institute, Bahawalpur, under the distinguished chairmanship of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.). The meeting brought together representatives from RARI Bahawalpur, the Punjab Agriculture Department, Agricultural Extension and Research wings, and the wider agricultural industry to deliberate on regional challenges and strengthen inter-institutional cooperation. Deliberations encompassed a comprehensive performance review of RARI Bahawalpur, strategies for the timely dissemination of modern agricultural recommendations, and a special presentation on post-harvest management of mango orchards aimed at reducing losses and enhancing global competitiveness. Participants also discussed the promotion of farm machinery trials, the modern technique of bed planting for wheat, and progress on mango festivals, cotton trial digitization, and nursery training programs across the region. Concluding the proceedings, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) affirmed that robust linkages among research, education, extension, and farming communities remain indispensable for sustainable agricultural progress in South Punjab, reaffirming the Forum's resolve to advance climate-resilient and value-added agricultural strategies for the region's prosperity.



UAV Spray Technology Workshop Held in Collaboration with Bayer Pakistan and CropLife Pakistan

Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture, in esteemed collaboration with Bayer Pakistan and CropLife Pakistan, successfully organized a technical training workshop and field demonstration titled 'UAV Spray Technology for Effective Pest Control in Cotton,' attended by agricultural scientists, faculty, students, and officers of the Agriculture Department. The Al-Karam Farm Technologies provided the UAV for spraying and acted as co-organizers. Addressing the ceremony, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (T.I.) underscored that adopting modern technology is indispensable for addressing Pakistan's agricultural challenges, noting that UAV spray technology safeguards the environment and human health while conserving water, time, and costs. Representatives of Bayer Crop Science, including Mr. Kokoh Ambervalayo and Mr. Saeed-ur-Rehman, elaborated upon the company's global contributions and the growing significance of smart farming and precision agriculture. Mr. Hafiz Fahim-ud-Din Shah conducted a detailed technical session covering drone operations, calibration, safety protocols, and best practices, followed by a live demonstration at the University's Cotton Research Field in partnership with Al-Karam Farm Technologies. Participants commended the initiative as highly informative, expressing confidence that such collaborative endeavors will substantially strengthen the capacity of farmers and experts alike, advancing a sustainable and technologically progressive agricultural system.



Technical Training on Engineering Design, Simulation and Rapid Prototyping Technologies

Under the auspices of the Society of Engineers and Technologists, Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture organized an enriching technical training session on Engineering Design, Simulation, and Rapid Prototyping Technologies, aimed at equipping students with practical, industry-aligned expertise in AutoCAD, ANSYS Workbench, 3D scanning, and 3D printing. Dr. Umair Sultan, Focal Person of the program, apprised participants of its objectives and significance, while Dr. Sarfraz Hashim underscored the importance of practical training in shaping professional engineering competencies and introduced the ongoing degree programs of the Department of Agricultural Engineering. Chairman of the Department, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, further emphasized the pivotal role of hands-on training in the holistic development of students. Notably, the training was conducted by accomplished students of the Department themselves, exemplifying a distinctive peer-to-peer learning model that fosters confidence, leadership, and innovation. This initiative reflects the Department's steadfast commitment to practical education and technical excellence, while reinforcing collaborative ties between the University and research institutions. The Society of Engineers and Technologists reaffirmed its resolve to continue organizing such impactful training activities to prepare students for future engineering challenges.

