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Centers for Advanced Studies in Water



FAIZA KALHORO



A Journey towards an Improved Future Vision

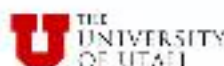
Faiza Kalhoro, a persistent and determined fellow, joined the U.S.-Pakistan Center of Advanced Studies in Water in 2017, from village Hafiz Mir Muhammad Kalhoro, district Dadu. She is an agriculture engineer and continuing her Master's in HID at USPCAS-W. Her journey has been a full of effort to reach this point. It was her dream to join Mehran University of Engineering after her schooling. She went through intense test preparation and was determined to join the university as an undergraduate student, but she couldn't make it. While displaying her disappointment, she says "I didn't want to attempt the test again after refusal ... during that time, it was my parents who pushed me to continue my studies, I didn't have any other choice. So I decided to join Agriculture University Tandojam for my bachelors." Her excitement revived when, after her bachelors, she found out about USPCASW at Mehran University from one of her acquaintances and saw it as a chance to do what she couldn't previously. Fate tricks you for your betterment she believes. "My mother had belief in me and she kept motivating me to continue my journey. I went for the opportunity again. I didn't look at the future outcomes and applied for a Masters at USPCASW anyway. Nobody knew what I was up to, even my parents were curious. Results were awaited and I didn't want to go through disappointment this time again. It was a moment of relief when I heard I was selected."

While sharing her happiness on joining the center, she said, "it didn't let me down, rather it impressed me with its outlook. See, everything is so settled and perfectly placed at the Center that I don't find anything dissatisfying here. Probably due to

Being exposed to the sophisticated nature of USPCASW teachers and the fine environment has enhanced Faiza's personality, she explains:

"I had a bit high temperament before and used to react over small things. Because I came from far and I was new to this place, I had less patience for things. If I compare the present Faiza as the person with the previous one, I have become more tolerant and accepting. Even when I applied for the U.S. Exchange program and couldn't make it in all four attempts I felt hurt, however, I dealt with the discouragement pretty rationally and I had to understand all the reasons. After that I kept working on myself. I have improved. Now I think before giving a reaction as this Faiza knows how to deal with the matters calmly and gives space to everyone's opinion. I would say everything including my past and present experiences has combined together to build me into this newer person. Also, the teachers that I found here at the Center have played great role in building my personality. You know what, my parents appreciate this change in me a lot."

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my background I found the place fascinating and I like it". Further she adds, "when I joined center it was a bit difficult for me to cope with the lectures in the beginning, I was having problems picking up the lectures and dealing with the bulk of tasks. The subjects were new as well. I took time to make sense out of the things and was able to comprehend what was taught."



She finds the Center as a complete place that supports students in every aspect. In her eyes, studying at the Center is a fulfilling experience. During her two years at USPCASW she applied for the Exchange program multiple times but, due to inability in meeting the requirements, she couldn't have a chance to have the foreign exposure. To her, it is obviously a discouraging event, but she doesn't dwell on that, because the Center has a lot to offer in itself, "I don't regret not going, because comparatively at the center the degree program is good. I have different facilities inside the center including free accommodation and a stipend, which is more than enough. I think these things together compensated my feelings."

Faiza finds her family to be the most crucial factor behind her motivation for higher education. She lives in a joint family and belongs to well-educated

parents. Her father is a retired army officer and her mother is a housewife. Both her parents, according to her, supported her in her every decision. They have been encouraging her a lot throughout her academic journey.

Presently, Faiza is working on her research work keenly. She is done with her initial seminar and feels happy for completing most of the writing part. She is also excited because this study is related to her city. Her study is titled "Assessment of temporal variation in water quality of RBOD-1 (MNVD) and its role in degradation of the Manchar Lake" and investigates problems caused by waste water drained into the lake. She explains her motivation: "I have seen many damages in my surrounding to the aqua[ti]c life and lives of the common people living near the lake. I wanted to play a role somehow. I feel so gratified to come up with something valuable in my research work. I want to see improvements in the region and condition of the water of lake."



Currently, Faiza is focusing on her research. In the near future, she wants to publish her work for greater exposure. Additionally, for her long-term goals, Faiza is looking forward to finding a job and pursuing a Ph.D.

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