



**”Wheatley Prize Talk: PROMOTING  
UNDER-REPRESENTED PHYSICISTS  
IN ASIAN AND ARAB COUNTRIES  
AND MUSLIM WOMEN IN SCIENCE”**

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**APS April Meeting 2013  
Denver, Colorado  
April 13-16, 2013**

# PRESENTATION

- INTRODUCTION
- MY WORK FOR PHYSICS
- MY WORK FOR MUSLIM WOMEN IN SCIENCE  
and ARAB WOMEN IN SCIENCE
- MY WORK FOR GLOBAL APS
- CONCLUSION

# INTRODUCTION

## PHYSICS COMMUNITY

- Physics fascinates mind regardless of geographic location
- The best students often choose this field
- Introduce some **PHYSICISTS FROM BANGLADESH**

# RADDA GOVINDA CHANDRA

- - 1) Born in 1878, 2) no higher degree, 3) amateur astronomer
- Observed over 49,700 variable stars
- One of the first international members of American Association of Variable Star Observers (AAVSO)

Sky and Telescope picture at the 100th anniversary of AAVSO



# JAGADISH CHANDRA BOSE

- - Born in 1858, Ph.D. at Cambridge, Expert in number of areas: Crescograph plant science, inventor of "Wireless Telecommunications"
- IEEE - one of the fathers of radio science



# MEGHNAD SAHA

- Born in 1893, Completed high school in Dhaka, Moved to Calcuttal
- Known for Saha, Saha-Boltzman equations



# SATYEN BOSE

- - 1) Born in Calcutta in 1894, 2) Physics Chair, Dhaka University of Bangladesh for 25 years until 1945
- Known for Bosons, Bose-Einstein statistics



# Nobel Peace Prize Winner: Mohammad Yunus (Most known Bangladeshi)

- - 1) Born in 1940, 2) Professor on Economics, Chittagong University
- Inventor of micro economics - Grameen bank



# MY WORK FOR PHYSICS

- 1) Born in Bangladesh, 2) Graduated from Dhaka University, B.Sc.Hons in Physics & M.Sc. in Theoretical Physics,
- 3) Left Bangladesh for USA in 1979, 4) US Physicist
- News (below, 1979): "Travelling Foreign" (Nahar)

১৩ ডোলা,  
১৯ অথবা  
৭০ লক্ষী-  
সি-১৯৮৩

নিবাসী জনাব আবদুর রউফ  
সাহেবের দ্বিতীয় পুত্র। তিনি  
সকলের দোয়াপ্রার্থী।  
সি-১০,০৯৫

## বিদেশ যাত্রা



মুলতানা মুকন নাহার (কেয়া)  
গত ৪-৮-৭৯ তারিখে উচ্চ  
শিক্ষার্থে আমেরিকার উদ্দেশে  
ঢাকা ত্যাগ করেন। তিনি সম্রাতি  
ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় হইতে পদার্থ  
বিজ্ঞানে এম.এস.সি'তে প্রথম  
শ্রেণীতে প্রথম স্থান অধিকার  
করেন। উল্লেখ্য, তিনি অনাসে'ও  
প্রথম শ্রেণীতে প্রথম স্থান লাভ  
করেন। তিনি ৬/৩, শশীভূষণ  
চাটাজী লেন, গেওয়ারিয়া, ঢাকা  
নিবাসী এডভোকেট আবদুর  
রাজ্জাক সাহেবের ৯ তৃতীয়া  
কন্যা।  
সি-১০,০৯৫

করা যাচ্ছে। প্রায়শ্চিত্ত বেতন  
যোগাতার ওপরে নির্ভর করবে।  
প্রার্থীদেরকে এস, এস, সি ও এইচ,  
এস, সি পরীক্ষাসমূহে কমপক্ষে  
উচ্চতর দ্বিতীয় বিভাগসহ বাংলায়  
সম্মান অথবা মাস্টারস ডিগ্রীতে  
অথবা উভয় পরীক্ষাতেই প্রথম  
শ্রেণীপ্রাপ্ত হতে হবে। কোন  
বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে প্রাথমিকের ন্যূন-  
পক্ষে তিন বছরের শিক্ষকতা ও  
গবেষণা কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা থাকতে  
হবে। বাদে পি.এইচ-ডি, ডিগ্রী  
অথবা উচ্চমানের পত্রিকায় প্রকাশ-  
শিত গবেষণামূলক প্রবন্ধ আছে  
তাঁদের ক্ষেত্রে উপরোক্ত শর্তা-  
বলী শিথিল করা যেতে পারে।  
রেজিষ্ট্রারের অনুকূলে প্রদেয় ছয়  
টাকা মূল্যের জনকৃত ব্যাংক  
ড্রাফট/পে.অর্ডার/পোস্টাল অর্ডার  
ও যাবতীয় মার্টি ফিকিট ও  
প্রশংসাপত্রাদির প্রতিলিপিসহ  
৩১-৮-৭৯ ইং তারিখের মধ্যে  
রেজিষ্ট্রারের নিকটে মার্টি-পি  
দরখাস্ত পৌঁছাতে হবে। সরকারী  
ও আধা-সরকারী প্রতিষ্ঠানে  
চাকুরীরত প্রার্থীদেরকে অবশ্যই  
স্বথাযথ কতৃপক্ষের মাধ্যমে  
আবেদন করতে হবে।  
সি-১৫৯৮

মাটি ফিকিট  
(মালবিক),  
ঢাকা বোর্ড,  
এম, এনজার  
সি-১০,০০৪  
আমার এয়ার  
মাটি ফিকিট  
পদবী কর্পো-  
রার, নগরবাড়ী  
আমার পথে  
মোঃ আবুল  
চপুর্ মানসিক  
না।  
সি-১০,০০৫  
আমার এস  
কট রোল সি  
না), ১৯৬৬ সন  
সি মাটি ফিকিট  
নং ১০১৮১ (২য়  
৩) ১৯৬৮ সন,  
১৪৪ (১য় খণ্ড)  
৫৭, কুমিল্লা বোর্ড  
সাহমদ চৌধুরী।  
সি-১০,০০৩

## MY INVOLVEMENT

- I am involved with various international educational institutions. But it started over 18 years ago in January 1995 in Bangladesh
- I did not meet Bangladeshi scientists in conferences I attended
- No one seemed to know any university in Bangladesh
- I realized the reason: Scientific community is connected through research and scientific advances
- Awards encourage progress and excellence
- I visited Dhaka University in Bangladesh with a few thousand dollars and ask the Physics Chair whether an annual physics research award for any Bangladeshi scientist can be initiated
- The idea was new, but he introduced me to the VC to open an award trust
- The objective was stated promotin of research publications<sub>10</sub>

# Official Start, Feb 1995: PROMOTION OF PHYSICS RESEARCH, Bangladesh

- News of the trust was published in a number of newspapers, such as in The Bangladesh Observer (below), Feb 26, 1995
- Trust name was Razzaq-Shamsun Physics Prize



Minister for Industries A M Zahiduddin Khan presiding over the review meeting of Fertilizer production, distribution & price control held in BCIC Bhaban, Industries Secretary, Hasnat Abdul Hye, Chairman BGIC, Waseq-ul Azad, Directors and MD's of fertilizer factories are seen in the picture.



In order to establish new trust fund under the name and style "Razzaq Shamsun Physics Research Award" at the University of Dhaka, Mrs Sultana Nurun Nahar, a former student of the Department of Physics, handing over an amount of Taka one lakh to the Vice-Chancellor of the University Professor Emajuddin Ahamed at a simple ceremony held at his office on February 23.

## Donation for new DU Trust Fund

In order to establish a new Trust Fund under the name and style "Razzaq Shamsun Physics Research Award" at the University of Dhaka, Mrs. Sultana Nurun Nahar, a former student of the Department of Physics, donated an amount of Taka one lac to the Vice-Chancellor of the University Professor Emajuddin Ahamed at a simple ceremony held at his office on February 23, says a Press release.

Presently a senior postdoctoral research associate in the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA, Sultana Nurun Nahar made this donation for an annual research award in the discipline of Physics (both general and applied). Out of the income of the fund, one award will be made each year in respect of the best academic feat and performance in research on recommendations by Academic Council of the University.

Mrs. Sultana Nurun Nahar donated the amount to commemorate the memory of her parents Mr. Razzaq and Mrs. Shamsun at Dhaka University.

## Indian pesticides flood markets in Chuadanga

From Our Correspondent

CHUADANGA, Feb. 25:—Indian pesticides flood the markets of the district. The farmers buy smuggled inferior quality pesticides due to

## Dhaka Stock Exchange

The following were quotations of the Dhaka Stock Exchange on

Stylecraft	100.5	425.00	Shine Pukur Jute	100.5	135.00
Swan Textile	100.5	36.00	Sonali Aarab	100.5	160.00

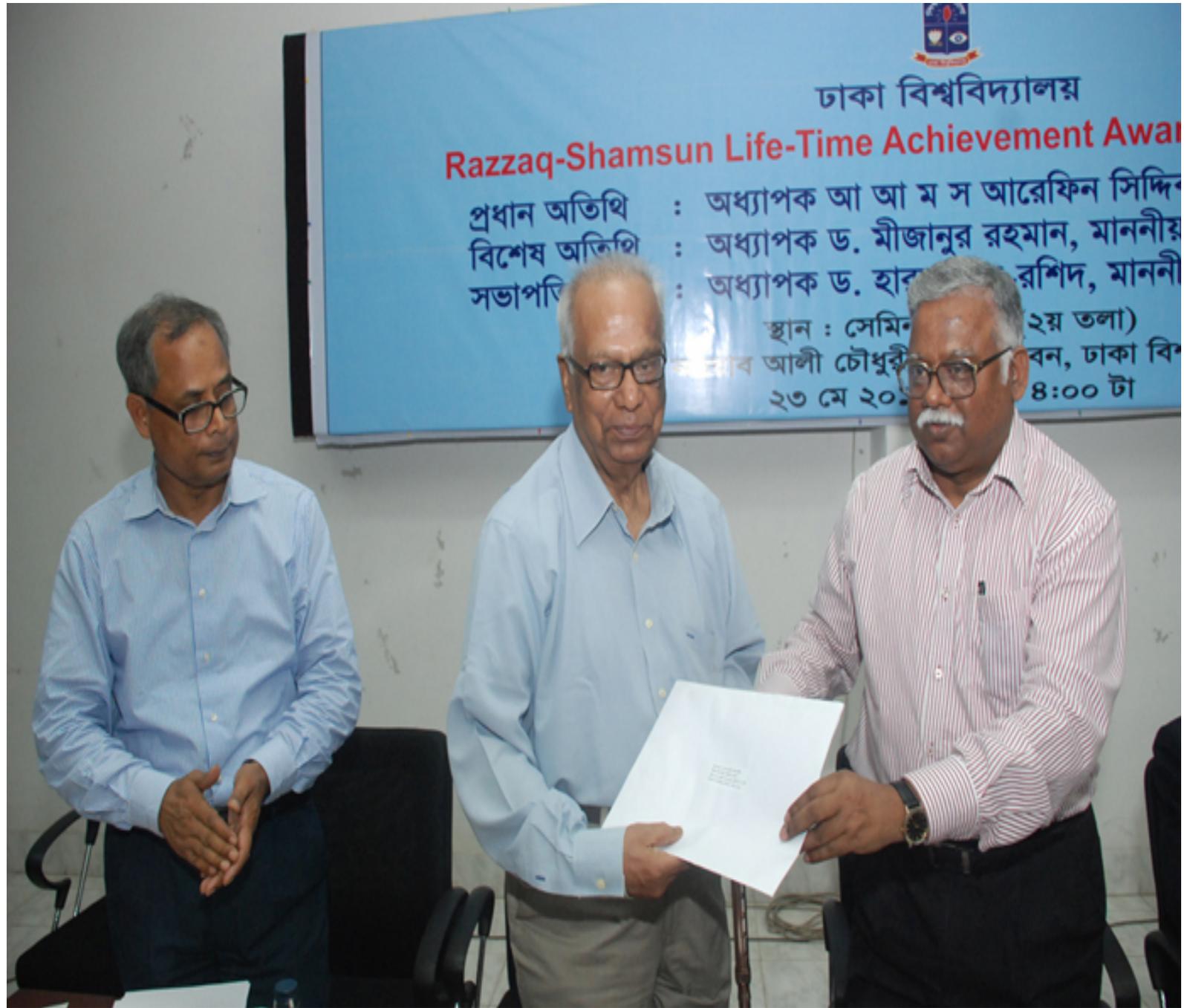
# ANNUAL PHYSICS RESEARCH PRIZE

- Not knowing how to administer the research recognition, it took 6 years before the first award in 2001
- Award winners are mostly who collaborated outside



# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION IN PHYSICS-1

- In 2008, I introduced the lifetime achievement award to honor the physicists who have dedicated their lives for contributions to physics
- The first recipient was Professor Harun-ar-Rashid, a student of Nobel laureate Abdus Salam, an excellent teacher, Bose professor of Dhaka University, advisor, writer of several physics books



# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR CONTRIBUTION IN PHYSICS-2

- Winning Professor Jamal Nazrul Islam, Ph.D. Cambridge, author of number of books, including "The Ultimate Fate of the Universe" (translated in 6-7 languages), founding director, Physical and Mathematical Institute, Chittagong University



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS 2008: Dhaka University

- Objective: Enhancement of excellence in in-class teaching & interactive research guidance for students - Teachers are recognized
- Giving check to VC for the trust at Dhaka University



# Dhaka University Visit: SSBF (Seminar, Stem, Book, Faculty)

- Seminar Presentation at Dhaka University



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: CHITTAGONG UNIVERSITY

- Proposal discussion with the VC of Chittagong University



# SSBF (Seminar, Stem, Book, Faculty): Physics Seminar, Chittagong University

- Seminar presentation (black hole and x-ray spectroscopy)



# SSBF (Seminar, Stem, Book, Faculty): Books for Physics, Chittagong University



# SSBF (Seminar, Stem, Book, Faculty): Printer, Chittagong University

- I provided the money to buy the printer "Dr. Sultana N. Nahar"
- A young stated "You are the Bill Gates for Bangladesh"



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: JAHANGIRNAGAR UNIVERSITY

- Handing the check for the program to the VC



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY

- Handing the check for the program to Physics Chair



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: JAGANNATH UNIVERSITY

- Check to VC (T), before the keynote speech (B)



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: ALIGARH MUSLIM UNIVERSITY, INDIA (SSBF)

- Meeting with the faculty members of Physics



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Aligarh Muslim University (SSBF)

- Handing over the check for the STEM program



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Aligarh Muslim University (SSBF)

- Introduction to seminar presentation (T), Audience (B)



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Aligarh Muslim University (SSBF)

- Introduction to seminar presentation (T), Audience (B)



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Aligarh Muslim University, (SSBF)

- Contributing books to the library



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Al-Azhar University, Egypt (SSBF)

- Faculty of Physics (Male & Female branches), Astronomy



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Al-Azhar University (SSBF)

- Meeting the dean for the proposal



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Cairo University

- The best female Ph.D. graduating student is accepting the prize



# INTRODUCTION OF STEM EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOR PHYSICS: Cairo University

- The best the faculty member for the best research guidance is accepting the prize



# INTRODUCING STEM EDUCATION AT M.R. GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL

- My STEM program started with this girls school  
It was about to be abolished in to a middle school
- It has progressed in excellence in education, teaching, number of students, and to college level
- Meeting with teachers (books in front to be donated)



# INTRODUCING STEM EDUCATION AT A MADRASA-ORPHANAGE 2008

- Meeting with teachers, committee members, in front of the students



# INTRODUCING STEM EDUCATION AT A MADRASA-ORPHANAGE 2008

- • After lecture to students on science and to imagine, a student's comment "You are like Mother Teresa"



## **PROMOTE PHYSICS & SCIENCE IN BANGLADESH**

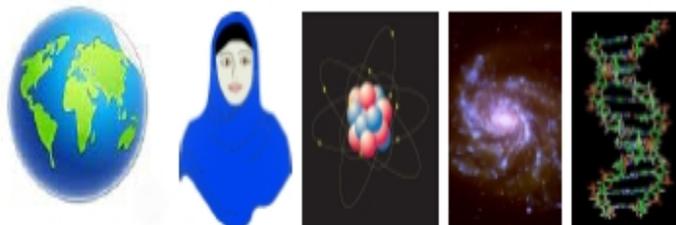
- Physics research publications in whole Bangladesh
- Physics education & research in five universities
- Astronomy education & collaboration with Bangladesh Astronomical Society (BAS)
- Math & Science education two colleges
- Math & Science education four schools

## MY Work for Muslim Women in Science

### International Society of Muslime Women in Science (ISMWS)

- In April 2010, I founded the International Society of Muslim Women in Science: Purpose - encourage Muslim women to science profession
- Islam encourages knowledge for both men and women

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF MUSLIM WOMEN IN SCIENCE (ISMWS)

### ISMWS CHARTER

Founder: Dr. Sultana N. Nahar

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA

April 19, 2010

## ISMWS: UAEU and EGYPT Experiences

- While they are intellectually capable, admirably inquisitive and deeply interested in exploration of the science of the universe, they remain quietly behind by the traditional family responsibilities and cultural environments
- UAEU: Model Muslim Female Scientist Presentation of female science students - Conclusion "Women are smart"
- International conference MTPR - polite and inquisitive female faculty and students



## ISMWS MOTTO & PRACTICE

- • ISMWS Motto: "Stay in Science (Basic or Applied)"
- ISMWS Practice: "Regardless of other commitments, of the 24 hours of the day, we save a few hours for ourselves for our scientific work"
- Female Physics students at UAEU - special seminar arrangement, male and female branches together



# ISMWS PRESENTATION IN UAEU

- The female students organized the whole set-up at the Women College of UAEU



## ISMWS PRESENTATION UAEU

- • I received a certificate and a gift from UAEU
- However, no one would take picture without hijab



## ISMWS: Aligarh Muslim University, India

- ISMWS has 114 members from 23 countries: USA, Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Canada, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Pakistan, Palestine, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates



# ISMWS: Aligarh Muslim University, India

- ISMWS presentation at AMU - Audience



## ISMWS at Al-Azhar University, Egypt

- Current Activities:

- i) Sharing success news
- ii) Circulate useful scientific news
- iii) Circulate scholarship opportunities and job openings



# ISMWS MEMBERS FROM SPECTROSCOPY COURSE, Egypt

- Female participants from 6 institution joined ISMWS
- In front of Ibn Sina hall after the certificate ceremony



## **ALL ISMWS MEMBERS ARE INTERESTED IN RESEARCH, Egypt**

- Each ISMWS members are involved in research, at palace of Sultan Qalauun which as school, mosque and the hospital attached to the palace, Egypt



# ISMWS in the minaret of Babzewayla Gate, Cairo



## **”Women Stars in Physics”, Focused Session: Women Physicists, Wayne State University, Michigan**

- Physics Department invited me to present and lead its first focused session on Women Physicists in 2012



## ISMWS MEMBER FROM INDONESIA

- Physics is a weak subject in Indonesia, Malaysia
- Science is encouraged for - 1) applied science, such as, engineering, medical, computer science, 2) Physics as a founding science for applied science, 3) females are less

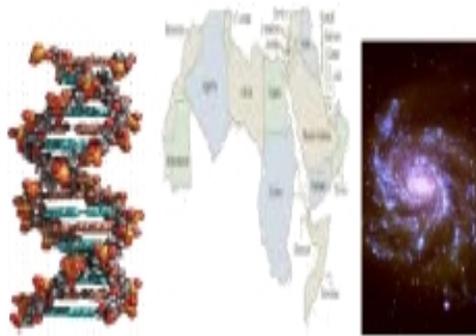


## MY Work for Arab Women in Science

### International Society of Arab Women in Science (ISAWS)

- In May 2010, I co-founded the International Society of Arab Women in Science with Professor Lotfia El Nadi of Cairo University
- The objectives are similar to those of ISMWS

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARAB WOMEN IN SCIENCE (ISAWS)

Society Charter, May 2010

Founders: Dr. Lotfia El Nadi (Cairo University, Egypt),  
Dr. Sultana N. Nahar (The Ohio State University, USA)

## ISAWS

- It has 239 members from 7 Middle Eastern and African countries:

USA, Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, United Arab Emirates



## MY WORK FOR GLOBAL APS

- MY PROPOSAL FOR DISCOUNT APS MEMBERSHIP "APS-United Network" (APS-UN)
- SURVEY REPORT TO FIP MEETING  
Countries participated: Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Tatarstan, Turkey, United Arab Emirates
- Reasons for poor representation of the Third World Asian and Arab countries in APS:
  - i) high membership fee
  - ii) very high conference cost
  - ii) US visa difficulty
- Many are not aware of APS due to lack of communication
- They attend mainly regional conferences, and those in China, in Europe

## GLOBAL APS

- Almost all are interested in APS
- Prefer discount membership
- Would like help from APS: Raise standard, send good speakers to conferences, build network and collaboration
- I have heard, but could not find application form for free individual matching membership until a few days ago
- Amy Flatten is encouraging everyone to apply

# Table 1: **PHYSICISTS INTERESTED IN APS**

Bangladesh:

Prof A F M Yusuf Haider <yuhaider@univdhaka.edu>,  
Prof Abdullah Shams Bin Tariq <asbtariq@ru.ac.bd>,  
Prof Alfaz Uddin <uddinmda@yahoo.com>,  
Prof Arun Kumar Basak <akbasak@gmail.com>,  
Dr Aminul Islam <maislam2009@yahoo.com>,  
Dr A Sattar Mollah <mollah\_as@yahoo.com>,  
Dr kamrul alam khan <kakhan01@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Kazi Abul Firoz <kazifiroz2002@gmail.com>,  
Dr K Siddique-e Rabbani <ksrabbani@gmail.com>,  
Prof M Azharul Islam <azislam46@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Mesbah Ahned <netproj2003@yahoo.com>,  
Prof M Mushfiqur Rahman <chairman.physics@ru.ac.bd>,  
Prof M Shafiqul Islam <shafiqphyru@yahoo.com>,  
Mahmudul Hasan <mahmudul\_hasan60@yahoo.com>  
Prof Saleh Naqib <salehnaqib@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Tahmina Ferdous.Physics-Bangladesh <tahminaphysics@yahoo.com>

Egypt:

Alaa Abdelaziz Physics-Egypt <alaa.abdelaziz89@yahoo.com>,  
Alshaymaa Ramadan Special Physics-Egypt <alshaymaaramadan@yahoo.com>,  
Amany M Gouda Physics-Egypt <amanygouda@gmail.com>,  
Asmaa Mohamed Biophysics-Egypt <asmaa.mohamed@live.com>,  
Asmaa M Selim Special Physics-Egypt <meoselim@yahoo.com>,  
Doaa Taha Physics-Egypt <eg7822@wayne.edu>  
Dr Abeer Esmat Aly-physics-Egypt <abeerresmat782000@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Alia Adam-Physics-Egypt <alia\_adam@hotmail.com>,  
Dr Amal Ibrahim Refaie.Physics-Egypt <amal1\_ibrahim1@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Asmaa Fahiem Mansour-Physics-Egypt <fahiem51@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Dalia Mohamed Osman-Physics-Egypt <dalia.osman@guc.edu.eg>,  
Dr Galila Mehena Physics Egypt <galila.mehena@gmail.com>,  
Dr Iftitan Azzouz-Physics-Egypt <iftazzouz@niles.edu.eg>,  
Dr Kamilia Sedeek Physics-Egypt <kamiliasedeek@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Laila Soliman Physics-Egypt <lailasoliman2000@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Lobna Saleh-Physics-Egypt <lobnasaleh2003@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Lotfia El Nadi Physics-Egypt <mtprlotfia@gmail.com>,  
Dr Mona Mohsen Physics-Egypt <m1mohsen@yahoo.com>,  
Dr Samaa Imam El-Dek-Physics-Egypt <bluesky\_blueciel@hotmail.com>,  
Dr Samaa Imam El-Dek Physics-Egypt <moala47@hotmail.com>,  
Dr Samah Ahmed-Physics-Egypt <samahmha@niles.edu.eg>,  
Dr Soha Mohamed-Physics-Egypt <mohamed\_baseem@yahoo.com>,

Table continues.

Egypt:

Dr Yosr Gamal Physics-Egypt <gammally@yahoo.com>,  
Nermeen M Basha Physics-Egypt <nermeen\_elsayed@sci.asu.edu.eg>,  
Shima A Sayd Special Physics-Egypt <shimaobakr@ymail.com>,  
Shimaa S Abdelfatah Physics-Egypt <shimaa\\_slah@yahoo.com>  
Abd A Ahmed Egypt <abdallah.ahmed86@gmail.com>  
Abd E B Ahmed Egypt <bakryastro@yahoo.com>  
Dr Adel Abdel Sattar Egypt <adelsattar.2@yahoo.com>  
Ahmed Abdelbar Egypt <ahmed\_bar86@yahoo.com>  
Dr Ahmed Abuelmaaref Egypt <aahmh@hotmail.com>  
Ahmed Hafez Egypt <elmoghamer2020@yahoo.com>  
Ahmed Ismail Egypt <Ahmed\_Elazaka@yahoo.com>  
Ahmed M Abdou Egypt <a.m.abdou2010@gmail.com>  
Ahmed Samir Egypt <ahmedsamiratia@yahoo.com>  
Dr Amr El-Zant Egypt <aelzant@zewailcity.edu.eg>  
Asmaa M Selim Egypt <meooselem@yahoo.com>  
Dr Azza Farrag Egypt <azza\_farrag@hotmail.com>  
Eman A A Mwafy Egypt <ghoody2008@yahoo.com>  
Eman M Youssef Egypt <eman\_youssef22@hotmail.com>  
Dr Hamdy A Elhamid Egypt <habeldelhamid@zewailcity.edu.eg>  
Hamza H Abdelhamid <hamzawy66@yahoo.com>  
Dr Hisham Imam Egypt <hishamimam@niles.edu.eg>  
Dr Inas AA Ssbbagh <inas\_49@hotmail.com>  
Dr Kamel Gadellah Egypt <kamel.gadellah71@gmail.com>  
Khadiga ARH Mahmoud Egypt <khadiga@sci.cu.edu.eg>  
Dr Khaled Edris Egypt <khedres@yahoo.com>  
Dr Magda Elbahay Egypt <m.elbahay@hotmail.com>  
Dr Magda El-Fass Egypt <magda\_fass@yahoo.com>  
Mahmoud Abed Egypt <mah3abed@gmail.com>  
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## CONCLUSION

### WHY PROMOTING PHYSICS?

- A large population of physicists live in developing and Arab countries
- They are devoted like any of us but largely in isolation and with limited resources
- These dedicated individuals need the support and interactive modalities with their fellow physicists from developed countries
- Bringing them together is a great strength for the physics community and will initiate rapid advances in knowledge, discoveries and inventions
- Enhance matching membership or introduce APS-UN
- Being the most active society, APS can play the important role of leadership
- A very important issue: support the very weak community of Muslim women in science to join the global community
- I get requests for some financial support, but I do not have any funding