

PISQ Students Attends a Lecture On

'Mycotoxins and Food Chain - a tip of iceberg'

Students of Pakistan International School Qatar attended a session on 'Mycotoxins and Food Chain - a tip of iceberg' at Arbab Auditorium on Tuesday 07, 2017. The lecture was delivered by Worthy Chief Guest Dr Zahoor Ul Hassan from Qatar University. Honourable Principal Madam Nargis Raza Otho, Vice Principal (BW), Vice Principal (GW), and some staff members of PISQ were also present during the programme..

The programme started with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by Master Ilyas Haider. Mr Wasim Rana, the host of the event, precisely introduced the Guest Speaker, "Dr Zahoor Ul Hassan is working as a postdoctoral researcher in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, College of Arts and Sciences, Qatar University. He holds Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) as his bachelor degree and then Veterinary Pathology as Master and PhD degree. He has been engaged in teaching Veterinary Pathology, Histopathology, Oncology, Clinical Pathology and related subjects in the field of animal sciences."

Through a power point presentation, Dr Zahoor Ul Hassan discussed and talked about *food and feed mycology, mycotoxins and their toxic effects in avian and mammalian species*. He also focused on occurrence of toxigenic fungi, their morphological and molecular identification, exploration of toxigenic genes and mycotoxins producing potential of fungi. In addition, the residual transmission of mycotoxins in the animal products (milk, meat, eggs and other dairy products) is included in his research area. He also shared his experiences and discussed the strategies to protect the society from the deleterious effects of mycotoxins.

Further, these were the areas highlighted for the interest & understanding of the students: What promotes Mycotoxins? Identification of fungi, Black and yellow toxigenic fungi, What harm can Mycotoxin do? Detection of Mycotoxins, Mycotoxins Analysis and how can we overcome Mycotoxins? Overall the main motive was to create awareness about the toxigenic fungi and their toxins in food chain.

At the end of the lecture, students raised some questions. Everyone in the auditorium admired the commendable research work of the Worthy Chief Guest Dr Zahoor Ul Hassan.

Principal Madam Nargis Raza Otho immensely thanked the Chief Guest for his valuable contribution & time. The management of PISQ will remain steadfast to play its role to create more useful and productive opportunities for the students, she pledged.