



Durr-e-Shahwar NOMAN

Home Country: Pakistan

Degree: PhD in Environmental Science and Engineering

Expertise: Nanotechnology, Membrane Technology

Research Focus: Nano-Materials for Wastewater Treatment

Host University: University of South Australia, Australia

Fellowship Awarded: 2016

Durr-e-Shahwar Noman was born and raised in Lahore, the second largest city in Pakistan. Her parents ensured that Durr-e-Shahwar, her sister, and her two brothers were given the best opportunities for education, and she stayed in her home town to attend primary school through to university until she left in 2016 to begin her PhD studies.

Durr-e-Shahwar attended the University of the Punjab (PU), Lahore - the oldest public university in Pakistan - where she completed a BSc, MSc and in 2009 an MPhil, all in Environmental Science. Throughout her studies she was acknowledged as the best student in her class and received several awards and scholarships. Since 2007, when she completed her MSc, Durr-e-Shahwar has been a Lecturer at several academic and research organizations in Lahore, including PU, Kinnaird College for Women and the City District Government, where she also helped develop environmental monitoring systems. She has authored numerous research papers in international journals and written books in her field of expertise – nanotechnology and the application of advanced oxidation processes for wastewater treatment.

The opportunity to study overseas towards a PhD was enabled by an International Post Graduate Research Scholarship from the Australian Government's Department of Education and Training, and Durr-e-Shahwar's research continues her investigations at UniSA into methods of treating wastewater using engineered nanoparticles. Water is a scarce resource that needs to be effectively managed in Pakistan, and she expects her research will enhance her skills in the physiochemical characterization of nanomaterials and evaluation of their properties to resolve water pollution challenges.

After completing her PhD, Durr-e-Shahwar plans to return to PU, where she hopes to play a leading role in water treatment research. She also expects to contribute to policies for tackling environmental issues faced by many people in her country.