



RAMADAN
KAREEM

**Dutt and
Shilpee
Lab**

**Newsletter
May 2019**



Dawn of Chemistry - Universe's first molecule finally discovered in space!

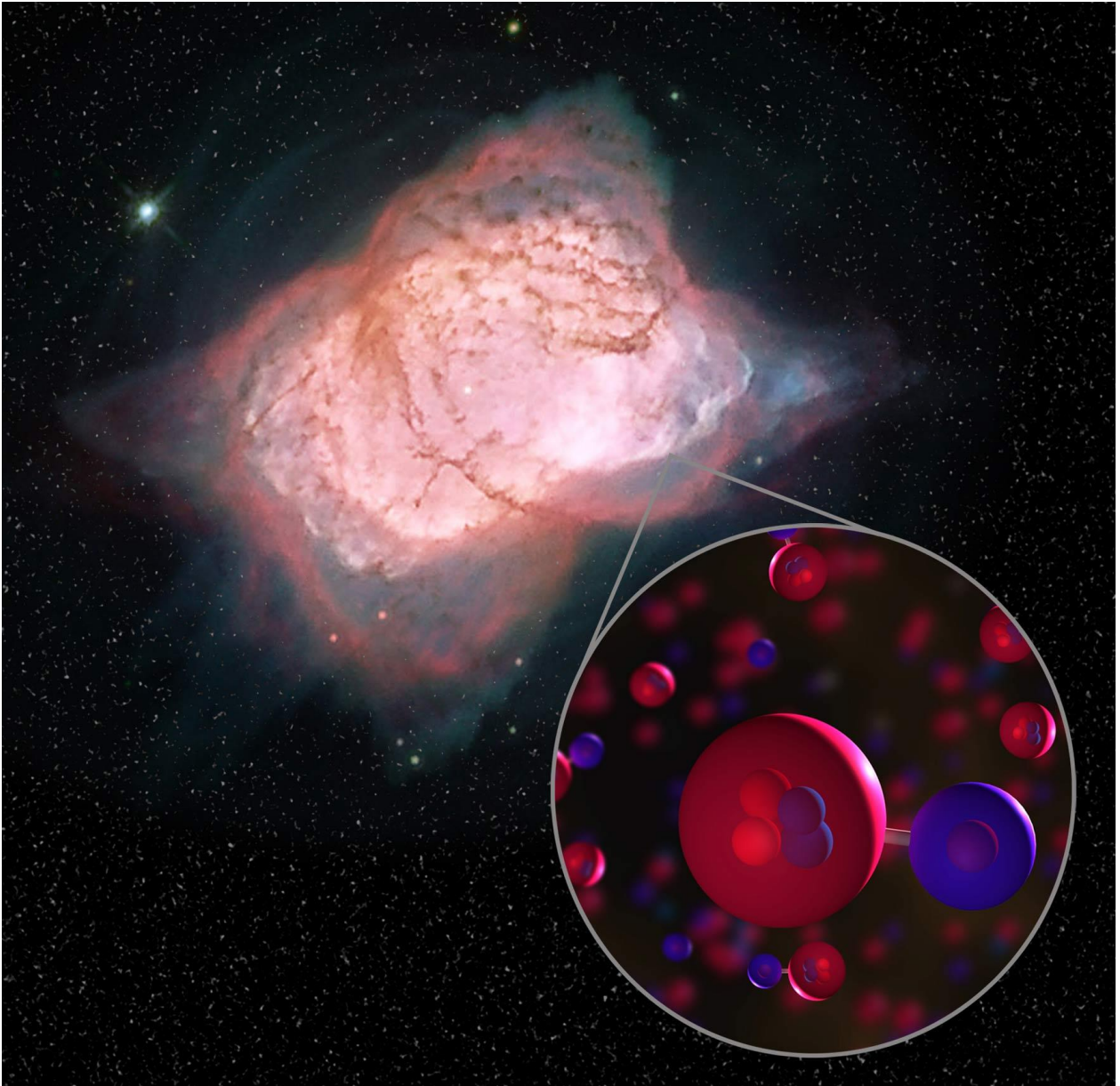
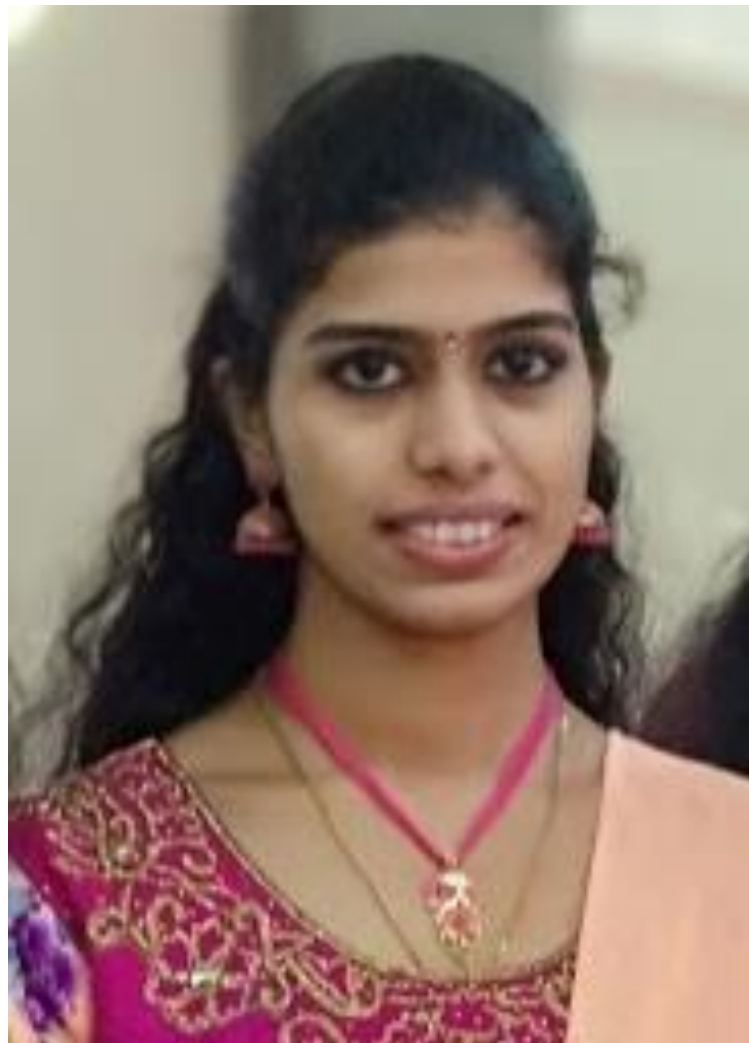


Image credit: NASA's Ames Research Center

Discovery of Helium Hydride, considered as the first molecule ever formed in the early universe after big bang

Congratulations!

Jyothi



**For getting selected at
44th FEBS Congress 2019
For oral presentation**

Creative Corner

यूं तो महफिलों को रोशन करने सब आजाया करते हैं
गर आंसू पोछने कोई सारी रात रुके तो कोई बात हो

यूं तो हर शख्स किये फिरता है अहद-ए-वफ़ा
वफ़ा ना करो सही, गर बेवफ़ा भी ना निकलो तो कोई बात हो

बात करते हो सात समंदर के फासले को पार करने की
वक़्त पे ऐ दोस्त, गर नदी भी पार करके आ सको तो कोई बात हो

यूं तो हाथ में तस्बीह लिए मुत्तकी बने फिरते हो
गर स्याह रातों में इंसान भी रहो तो कोई बात हो

यूं तो कहकहो में शामिल है सारी दुनिया
गर किसी के हालात पे आंख से भी छलके तो कोई बात हो

यूं तो बात किए फिरते हैं साथ जीने मरने की
गर तेरी दुआओं में मेरा ज़िक्र भी हो तो कोई बात हो

– Suhail Ahmad "Shaad"

YourQuote.in

अहद-ऐ-वफ़ा = वफा का वादा
तस्बीह = जपने की माला
मुत्तकी = परहेज़गार/खुदा का नाम लेने वाला
स्याह = काली
कहकहा = ठहाकेदर हंसी

In conversation with...Asim Joshi

General Facts

1. By birth, my name is: Asim Joshi
2. Friends call me: Asim
3. I was born on: 22nd January 1991
4. My childhood was spent at: Thane

Personal Life

1. *Can you describe any one ever-lasting memory about your childhood?*

The one ever-lasting memory would certainly be playing cricket with my elder brother inside our house. We called it 'das-das-ki' (don't remember why!) and had our own set of rules. 'Das-das-ki' was as important as food to us and indeed a great fun. Not so for our parents because we had ended up breaking multiple things at home including wall clocks, flower pots, glasses, TV remote and unfortunately fish tank!

2. *How was your college life? And, what did you enjoy the most?*

Life in an engineering college = most memorable time of my life. It's totally sorted, three months of lectures where only attendance matters, one month of assignments and vivas/practicals followed by one month of university exams. The best part undoubtedly was group studies during the one-month long exams. We were a group of 6 friends with one common goal – kuch bhi karke KT nahi chaiye!

Life during Master's was much more serious and possibly the time where I developed as a student and matured as a person. BITS was all about overall personality development. Hostel life is something I miss even today.

3. *As a child/teenager, what did you aspire to become in life? Any reasons associated with it?*

As a child I always wanted to become a sportsman- first cricketer and then badminton player. Badminton because my mom used to teach me and cricket because I just love the game. However, during the school days itself, I realized I am just good at understanding both these games but not playing and that's why I left considering it as a career option. Then I started focusing more on studies and post school life I got interested more in biology. That was the time I wanted to become doctor but then I ended up pursuing engineering in Biotechnology.

4. *Would you like to state a person or an event that has inspired/influenced your life?*

My mother is my biggest source of inspiration. For me, she is perhaps the most hard-working person that I have ever seen. I am immensely inspired by her positivity, enthusiasm and energy.

5. *Do you have any hobbies or passion apart from research?*

I would say listening to Bollywood music, watching interviews of famous personalities and reading random stories about Mumbai's underworld.

Science and Philosophy

1. *In your opinion, what is research?*

Research is about having curiosity and temperament to identify and solve questions which may directly or indirectly have an impact for the betterment of society.

2. *Why did you choose to join the Dutt laboratory for pursuing your Ph.D.?*

I would say I was destined to be part of Dutt laboratory. I was totally unsure of getting admission into ACTREC for my PhD since I was 37th in the waiting list while the intake was just 21. Fortunately, two good things happened a) I got admission into ACTREC's PhD programme and ii) I got into Dutt laboratory (that too without lab rotations!). Also, I am grateful to Amit Sir for accepting me as a student.

Having said that, today, I honestly feel getting into Dutt laboratory for Ph.D has to be one of the best things that has happened to me. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time in this lab and look forward to contribute towards the lab.

3. *What has kept you motivated to pursue research?*

Being a cancer hospital, we witness hundreds and thousands of unfortunate patients suffering from this dreadful disease. The sight of children with the disease I feel is all the more depressing. The opportunity to contribute to the better the understanding of the disease is what keeps me motivated to pursue cancer research.

Apart from this, another major motivation is the opportunity that I have got to keep learning and trying new things with freedom. The challenge is to not lose heart when things don't work. Finally, it's our lab that keeps me motivated to continue enjoying research.

4. *How do you keep calm in this stressful journey? What is secret behind it?*

Probably, that's more of my natural behavior. I am a kind of person who doesn't react immediately and hence it might appear that I am calm. Also, what helps me more is discussing about things with people. Talking to your friends and seeking their advice, I believe, is the greatest stress reliever. With time, I have understood that even if we work in same lab, follow the same protocols, everyone has his/her own unique perspective of looking at problems/solutions and discussion helps to a great extent.