The 2021 ICPC Asia Topi Regional Onsite Contest

Event Report

GIK Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology successfully organized "The 2021 ICPC Asia Topi Regional Onsite Contest" on **19-20th March, 2022**. The International Collegiate Programming Contest (ICPC) is a team-based, programming competition that fosters problem-solving, programming and teamwork skills amongst university students around the globe. It is the oldest, largest, and most prestigious programming contest in the world and considered as the **"World Cup of Computing"**. ICPC involves a network of dozens of universities hosting regional competitions. Participation in Regionals has grown to thousands of the finest students in computing disciplines at over **3,322+** universities from over **115** countries in **six** continents. The winner team of Regionals qualifies for **ICPC World Finals** to compete with some of the best teams from around the globe.

The event was inaugurated with a tech talk **"Fuzzing"** by Engr. Muhammad Haseeb Ahmad, a Software Engineer from **Google**. This informative and enlightening zoom session of about 1.5 hours was held at the A.H.A Auditorium of the GIK Institute. Around **47 teams**, **141 contestants** from different universities of Pakistan participated in the regional contest. These 47 teams were shortlisted from a pool of 143 teams through **The 2021 ICPC Asia Topi Online Preliminary Contest** which was held earlier on **25-26 January, 2022.** Students from all campuses of NUCES-FAST, Punjab University College of Information Technology, Habib University, Information Technology University, Institute of Business Administration, Capital University of Science and Technology, University of Wah, Muhmmad Ali Jinnah University, Hamdard University, COMSAT and GIK Institute actively participated in the competition.

Four gold, four silver and four bronze medals were awarded to the top twelve teams. The first gold medal was bagged by Omar Kashif Majeed, Muhammad Zulfiqar Ali and Hamza Hasan Ellahie (*Team Pentateuch*) from **GIK Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology**, mentored by Mr. Jalees Ur Rahman. The second gold medal was won by Aadesh Kumar, Wahaj Ameen, Zohaib Yousuf (*Team Trojans 1)* from **NU- FAST Karachi**, the team was coached by Mr. Muhammad Rafi. Muhammad Usama Azam, Syed Muhammad Abdur Rafay and Rao Ubaid Ullah *(Team SignBit)* mentored by Mr. Kifayat Ullah Khan from **NU-FAST Islamabad** won the third gold medal. The fourth gold medal was won by Muhammad Baqir, Muhammad Waleed Khalid, and Muhammad Kashif Ali Tariq *(Team Algo Geeks)* from **PUCIT** mentored by Mr. Abdul Mateen. The winners of

the **First Gold Medal** will be further participating in the **46th ICPC World Finals** that are expected to be held in **Australia.**

A panel of ten judges presided the contest with Dr. Syed Fawad Hussain as a Chief Judge from GIK Institute. Dr. Muhammad Hanif, Dr. Raja Hashim Ali, Dr. Rashid Jillani and Dr. Usman Habib also joined from GIK Institute. Ms. Ayesha Siddiqa joined from Noon, Dubai. The judging committee further comprised of Dr. Umar Suleman, Dr. Syed Farooq Ali from University of Management Technology, Dr. Arshad Islam from FAST-NUCES Islamabad and Dr. Yasir Niaz Khan from University of Lahore.

The **Chief Guest, Mr. Osman Nasir, Managing Director of the Pakistan Software Export Board (PSEB)** distributed gold medals and certificates to the winning teams. He said that in era of information revolution, information technology must be conceived broadly to encompass the information that businesses create and use as well as a wide spectrum of increasingly convergent and linked technologies that process the information. He stated that such competitions are a great leap forward for the nation, admiring the efforts of GIK Institute and ICPC Asia Topi for organizing the mega event.

Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector, GIK Institute said that taking initiative, conducting result-oriented research and work for innovation would enable us to move forward and acquire a unique place comity of nations.

Special Guest, Dr. Aftab Maroof, Rector NUCES-FAST spoke words of motivation to the students emphasizing on how each person can make a difference and contribute to the welfare and development of Pakistan by means of entrepreneurship and innovation. **Ms. Ayesha Siddiqa,** an ICPC Asia Topi **sponsor from Noon** spoke about her ICPC journey and how it helped her land a job at Noon, Dubai. Speaking on behalf of Noon Ms. Ayesha said that Noon will be hiring the top candidates of the ICPC Asia Topi Contest by August, 2022. **Mr. Rana Asif Rabbani, Director Uworx** and an ICPC Asia Topi sponsor joined live via zoom session and appreciated the efforts of Dr. Masroor Hussain and his team for creating such platforms for the students and motivating them to participate international coding contests. Mr. Rana Asif Rabbani also looks forward to hiring the top candidates of the contest.

Dr. Masroor Hussain, Director ICPC spoke about the improvements in students programming skills over a couple of years through ICPC contests. He emphasized the need and support of such

competitions to enhance the coding skills of the youth so they can compete and win contests on an international level.

ICPC Asia Topi appreciates the relentless efforts of its core team Dr. Masroor Hussain, Director ICPC Asia Topi, Sarah Sajjad, Deputy Regional Contest Director, Mr. Ehtisham Hassan, Event Coordinator, Shakir Ahmad and Usman Haider as Systems Co-chairs. A special thanks to Saad Ismail from Estonia, Systems Co-chair. We also admire the valuable support of the judging committee for their significant contribution in the event and the GIK ACM society for putting the event together. We are highly indebted to Prof. Dr. Fazal A. Khalid, Rector GIK Institiute, Prof. Dr. Wasim A. Khan, Pro-Rector (A), Sardar Aminullah Khan (Pro-Rector A&F), and Dr. Ahmar Rashid (Dean FCSE) for their overwhelming support and cooperation in organizing the event.

Special thanks to Noon for their generous sponsorship towards this mega event. ICPC Asia Topi gave a total sponsorship of around Rs. 400,000 to the students as concession in registration fees and travel charges. This was not possible without the support of ICPC Asia Topi sponsors who have been the backbone of the event. Special thanks to **Pakistan Software Export Board, Tech Destination Pakistan, Ministry of IT and Telecom, Higher Education Commision Pakistan, UWorx, Geniteam, Airlift Express, Noon, Axis Mall** and **Toyota Khyber.**

Snapshot Glimpse of the Event

Chief Guest Mr. Osman Nasir, Prof. Dr. Fazal A. Khalid, Rector GIK Institute, Dr. Aftab Maroof, Rector NUCES-FAST, Dr. Masroor Hussain, Director ICPC Onsite with the Judges Panel

Winner of the Contest 'Team Pentateuch' from GIK Institute receiving Gold Medals

Lab view of the Contest

Rector GIKI, Rector Nuces-FAST, Chief Guest, Director ICPC Asia Topi and Dean FCSE

Group Photo of the Event

Ms. Ayesha Siddiqa, representing the ICPC Asia Topi Sponsor, Noon, Dubai

Results of top 12 Teams

RANK	TEAM		SCORE		Alien	Bunnies	Car	Customers	Drone	Exam	Nature	Phrases	Research	Tree
1	Pentateuch (Participants) Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology		7	684		225 3 tries		63 2 tries	28 1 try	75 2 tries	35 1 try	125 1 try	53 1 try	
2	Trojans 1 NU-FAST Karachi		6	502	2 tries	190 1 try		15 3 tries	39 1 try	4 tries	65 1 try	95 1 try	58 1 try	
3	SignBit National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences Islamabad		5	698		162 3 tries		102 3 tries	93 1 try	1 try	122 1 try		139 1 try	
4	Algo Geeks Punjab University College of Information Technology		4	203		2 tries		31 1 try	50 1 try	7 tries	38 1 try	1 try	84 1 try	
5	Pegasus NU-FAST Karachi		4	267		2 tries		63 1 try	48 1 try		83 1 try		73 1 try	
6	Renegades Punjab University College of Information Technology		4	282		1 try		77 1 try	64 2 tries	6 tries	94 1 try	2 tries	27 1 try	
7	Multiverse Habib University		4	284		1 try		80 2 tries	91 1 try	3 tries	17 1 try	1 try	76 1 try	
8	Blind Samurais National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences Islamabad		4	313				35 1 try	66 1 try	1 try	118 1 try		94 1 try	
9	Professional Google Searchers National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences Islamabad		4	347				43 2 tries	73 1 try		122 1 try	3 tries	89 1 try	
10	Overloads FAST National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences, Lahore		4	367				89 3 tries	87 1 try		105 1 try	10 tries	46 1 try	
11	Sevens Punjab University College of Information Technology		4	378		1 try		80 1 try	32 1 try		157 1 try	1 try	109 1 try	
12	Titans Information Technology University		4	425	1 try			108 1 try	117 1 try	3 tries	128 1 try	4 tries	72 1 try	