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### **Biopolymers as Engineering Materials**

### P. S. Shasiya, K. Simi Pushpan, and Ajalesh B. Nair

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#### Abstract

The search for eco-friendly and renewable resources endowed with high stability and low toxicity has directed researchers around the globe to focus their attention on biomaterials, namely, biopolymers, which reduce the pollution caused by the rise in synthetic material-mediated pollution. As investment and research into biopolymers increases, several conventional material utilities are reduced in various optoelectrical, biological, and technological applications. Biopolymers in conjunction with nanotechnology have opened up novel and extremely useful arenas for their applications, namely, in the biomedical, energy sector, etc. This chapter is envisioned to outline the significant status of biopolymers as a

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Emerging Materials and Technologies

# POLYMER NANOCOMPOSITES IN Supercapacitors

Edited by Soney C George, Sam John and Sreelakshmi Rajeevan



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## 13 Future Perspectives of Polymer Supercapacitors for Advanced Energy Storage Applications

Ajalesh Balachandran Nair, Shasiya Panikkaveettil Shamsudeen, Minu Joys, and Neethumol Varghese

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### 13.1 INTRODUCTION

The supercapacitor is a novel type of device to store energy and it is an advanced form of conventional capacitor, which contains two electrode materials. They are progressively used for energy transformation and in storing energy. Interest in the field of supercapacitors is mainly owing to their excellent energy capacity, excellent power density, outstanding storage capacity, faster charging and discharge rates, and longer shelf life. These important characteristics of supercapacitors bridge the performance gap between classical capacitors and novel secondary cells/rechargeable batteries, and they have tremendous applications such as in electronic communication, transportation, aerospace, and energy storage fields [1–3].

Conducting polymers (CPs) are considered important pseudocapacitive redox active materials due to their attributes. Some of the prominent and well-known CPs in the field of supercapacitors are polyaniline (PANi), polypyrrole (PPy), and polythiophene (PTh). The solid electrodes fabricated with CPs demonstrate various benefits like high conductivity, excellent flexibility, and ease of preparation methods [4]. The electrochemical capability of these electrodes is undesirable and various techniques were tried to enhance their performance. The polymerization of aniline monomer through different techniques such as chemical or electrochemical exhibited several added attractions such as facile synthesis, basic doping/de-doping systems, and ecological stability [5]. It is among the most prominent materials appropriate for pseudocapacitors. PPy also has many benefits including ease of preparation, excellent capacitivity, and improved cycle stability. The supercapacitor system based on PPy shows superior electrochemical properties in high performance applications [6]. PTh and functionalized PTh finds applications in the field of supercapacitors due to their improved conductivity, ecological stability, and higher absorption [7–8]. The electrochemical performance of supercapacitor electrode developed from pristine PTh was examined by several scientists [9–10] and have attempted various fabricated methods to improve their properties.



# Gas Barrier Properties and Applications of Nanocellulose-Based Materials

### Nisha Nandakumar and Ajalesh B. Nair

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#### Abstract

Cellulose is a biomass that occurs abundantly in plants, animals, or bacteria. It can exhibit enhanced gas barrier performances due to their high degree of crystallinity and polar nature. Its linear polymer chain built out of  $\beta$ -D glucopyranosyl units linked via 1,4 positions and its fibrillar nature adds to its performance in slowing down diffusion of gases such as O<sub>2</sub>, CO<sub>2</sub>, N<sub>2</sub>, and vapor. During the last decade, this bio-nanomaterial was identified as a potential filler in composites to taper its reinforcement capacity. "Nanocellulose" refers to the cellulosic materials whose structure falls to the nanoscale regime. Its dimensions falling in nanoscale and formation of strong entangled nanofibrillar network and porosity, have inspired the evolution of novel applications. They may be cellulose nanocrystals, fibers, or bacterial cellulose. Nanocellulose is a non-hazardous, biocompatible, degradable

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Fundamentals, Properties, Applications and Advances

> Edited by Ram K. Gupta



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# 29 Polymers in Display Devices

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### **1 INTRODUCTION**

The present digital era demands instantaneous audio-visual information, even from remote global locations. People favor compact, light, low-power displays when they're on the go, while huge and flat/thin panels are preferred at home. In the current scenario, we prefer high-resolution colored photographs with a lot of brightness and contrast that can be seen from any angle. In man-machine communication, the display is crucial. New display concepts are popping up. Polymer-based LED displays, electro-chromic displays, and electro-phoretic displays based on nanoparticles are all recent examples. The polymer-driven market is a highly competent area for transparent, robust, light-weight, and flexible displays which are comparatively less expensive materials and suitable for bulk production.

Polymer-based flexible electronics allow border-line technology and are used to offer novel methods to interact with the wider world and unlock doors in the direction of innovative applications such as wearable display devices [1], e-skin (electronic skins) [2], flexible/bendable display devices [3], and electronic papers. The main compensation of flexible electronics includes inter-facial conformation changes, and their flexibility, stretchability, and lower weight.

Polymeric materials are integrated into the construction and performance of liquid crystal displays (LCDs). Polymeric or organic LEDs are semiconductor display devices that can be used for inkjet and screen-printing technologies because of their conductivity, flexibility, and transparency, and also their structural properties. Electrochromic polymers are widely used in transparent semiconductor technology. In addition, thin-film transistors (TFTs) and electronic papers are a key component in flexible thin-film electronics.

The aim of this chapter is to provide an understand of the use of conjugated/conducting polymers in LEDs, LCDs, TFTs, and other display devices such as electrochromic and electrophoretic displays. The use of transparent polymer- and nanomaterial-based conductive electrodes in electrooptic devices is also discussed. Additionally, research gaps/future perspectives of polymers in display devices are also highlighted in this chapter.

#### 2 POLYMER-BASED LCDS

Liquid crystals (LCs) are rod-like complex organic molecules with an organized meso-phase change between the melting temperature of crystal form and its isotropic liquid. In solid-state liquid crystal, there exist parallel arrangements of molecules. In the cloudy liquid state at slightly higher temperatures, the molecules have more freedom than in the solid state but they are inclined to line up in the same direction which results in reflecting light that creates cloudiness, while in the higher temperature range, the disconcerted molecules tend to create a clear liquid.

# APPLICATIONS OF UNSATURATED POLYESTER RESINS

SYNTHESIS, MODIFICATIONS, AND PREPARATION METHODS

EDITED BY SABU THOMAS CINTIL JOSE CHIRAYIL









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## **Unsaturated polyester resins** and their classification

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### **2.1 Introduction**

The word "polymer" requires no introduction to any modern society in the present scenario. Our world and our body as such are composed and entangled by the vast majority of polymer materials [1]. The polymer industry of the modern era is blooming with innovative products adorned with amazing properties that are made better each day. Among the different members of polymer family, polyesters have attained growing interest owing to their commercial importance [2]. Polyesters are copolymers of dicarboxylic acids and diols resulting in ester linkages in the polymeric backbone. Polyesters have outstanding thermal stability, exceptional mechanical properties, and the flexibility to be molded into desired shape and size depending on their application [2]. A subtle change in the monomeric units taken—be it the dicarboxylic acid or the diol, can completely alter the properties of the resulting polyester, and this makes it an extremely sought-after material in the industrial sector for technological innovations. This means that these can be tailor-made to meet the desired application. Polyesters are further classified into *linear* saturated polyesters, polycarbonates, alkyd resins, and unsaturated (i.e., cross-linkable) polyesters. Among these, unsaturated polyesters (UPs) are of greater significance because of the unsaturation present in them which offers the freedom to prepare 3D frameworks.

UPs resins are condensation products of unsaturated acids or anhydrides and diols with/without diacids [3]. The physical nature (viscous liquid/brittle solid) of these resins largely depends on the chemical constituents and extent of cross-linking. These resins are widely used as components in plastics, coatings,

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# APPLICATIONS OF UNSATURATED POLYESTER RESINS

# Synthesis, Modifications, and Preparation Methods

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# 13

# Application of UPR in marine applications

### Annie Stephy<sup>1</sup>, Neethumol Varghese<sup>2</sup>, Minu Joys<sup>2</sup>, Tania Francis<sup>1</sup> and Ajalesh B. Nair<sup>2</sup>

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### **13.1 Introduction**

Polymers have been the focus of a myriad of research over the past 40 years owing to the high significance in efficiency and lowweight material innovation for various technical structures. Unsaturated polyester resins (UPRs), epoxy resins, vinyl esters, and other matrices have been developed by scientists in the 21st century for use in polymer-based composites. UPRs, a type of thermosetting polymeric material having excellent wetting characteristics with reinforcements, high physiochemical characteristics, is highly cost-effective [1]. It has been widely employed for a variety of applications over the last four decades [2]. It is extensively used in commercial applications as fibers, polymers, composites, and coatings, and its widespread use can be attributed to its relatively inexpensive cost and ease of availability.

The diversity in the properties of the resin, combined with their inexpensive price, has rekindled attention to these resins as a fundamental matrix material for a variety of applications. UPRs are indeed the outcome of the condensation of unsaturated acids or anhydrides, along with diols with or without diacids. Unsaturated acids or anhydrides, in addition to diols with or without diacids, are indeed condensed to produce UPRs as the outcome. The unsaturation serves as a site for further cross-linking [3,4].

UPR has been proven to be beneficial in various applications, rendering it a significant thermosetting system [5,6]. These resins are attributed to various fillers and reinforcements and hardened using free-radical precursors to develop thermoset structures with a wide range of physicochemical and mechanical potentials,

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# Application of UPR in pipeline corrosion: protection and applications

Manjusha Hariharan, Shasiya Panikkaveettil Shamsudheen, Neethumol Varghese and Ajalesh B. Nair

Department of Chemistry, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala, India

### **16.1 Introduction**

Pipeline corrosion is the deterioration of the pipe material and associated system due to its interaction with the working environment. Corrosion damages pipelines and accessories made of metals like copper, aluminum, cast iron, carbon steel, stainless steel and alloy steel pipes buried underground, and underwater or other pipelines.

Pipeline damage is one of the biggest problems reducing the capacity of metallic pipelines, while matrix cracking/abrasion can cause leakage of composite pipelines significant damage and can reduce the structural integrity of the pipelines [1]. Both corrosion and abrasion cause significant damage and reduce the structural integrity of pipelines. Pipeline corrosion and associated catastrophic failures will cost the economy billions of dollars. The pipeline network system used for maximum lifespan must be protected from damage. With proper pipeline monitoring and maintenance, corrosion is completely manageable. Designing and selecting the best systems and materials for pipelines are a very important issue for the oil and gas industry. There are a number of methods of protection against corrosion that are in common use, whether by providing a physical barrier or deliberate control of the corrosion reaction, but unfortunately very few possibilities are appropriate or feasible in the oral environment.

Basically, there are five methods of corrosion control such as change to a more suitable material, modification to the environment. The use of protective coating, design modification to the 

# Nurturing Connections: A Holistic Guide To Inspired Parenting

Editors Dr. Seena M Mathai Ms. Shahina H Ms. Nimmy Johns

Research and Post Graduate Department of Psychology on Christian College, Aluva, Kerala

### Nurturing Connections: A Holistic Guide To Inspired Parenting

Research and Post Graduate Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala

Editors:

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### UNDERSTANDING CHILD DEVELOPMENT: NURTURING THE PATH TO THRIVING

Dr. Malini R.

"If parents want to give their children a gift, the best thing they can do is to teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning. That way, their children don't have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong way to build and repair their confidence"

-Carol. S. Dweck

Child development is a multifaceted process that begins in the womb and continues throughout a person's life. It encompasses various aspects, including prenatal development, physical development, cognitive emotional development, development, social and parenting styles, the interplay of nature and nurture, developmental milestones, individual differences, and the cultural context. Recognizing and understanding these factors is crucial for parents to provide effective support and guidance, ultimately enabling children to reach their full potential.

### Prenatal period and its significance

Child development commences even before birth, emphasizing the importance of prenatal care in promoting healthy growth and development. The prenatal developmental period, which refers to the time from

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### **GOOD COUPLES AS GOOD PARENTS**

Dr Seena M Mathai

"If there is anything that we wish to change in the child, we should first examine it and see whether it is something that could better be changed in ourselves"

-Carl. G. Jung

Effective parenting plays a vital role in promoting children's healthy development. Creating a caring and supportive environment helps children acquire emotional, cognitive, and social skills. Parenting knowledge, attitudes. and practices are interconnected and reciprocally influence each other. Practices are informed by knowledge and attitudes, and the application of knowledge is often driven by attitudes. For instance, behaviour modification theory suggests that attitudes play a role in determining whether individuals will utilize the knowledge and translate it into action (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980). Parenting practices also contribute to parents' knowledge and shape their attitudes. Parenting attitudes are influenced by parenting self-efficacy, which refers to parents' belief in their ability to succeed in the parenting role. Furthermore, parenting knowledge, attitudes, and practices are not only influenced by each other but also by various contextual factors. These factors include characteristics. children's such as gender and temperament, as well as parents' own experiences and circumstances. Expectations learned from family, friends, and social networks, as well as cultural systems, also Nurturing Connections: A Holistic Guide To Inspired Parenting

> Editors Dr. Seena M Mathai Ms. Shahina H Ms. Nimmy Johns

Research and Post Graduate Department of Psychology Union Christian College, Aluva, Keral

### NURTURING CONNECTIONS: A HOLISTIC GUIDE TO INSPIRED PARENTING

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# GOOD COUPLES AS GOOD PARENTS

### Dr Seena M Mathai

"If there is anything that we wish to change in the child, we should first examine it and see whether it is something that could better be changed in ourselves"

-Carl. G. Jung

Effective parenting plays a vital role in promoting children's healthy development. Creating a caring and supportive environment helps children acquire emotional. cognitive, and social skills. Parenting knowledge, attitudes, and practices are interconnected and reciprocally influence each other. Practices are informed by knowledge and attitudes, and the application of knowledge is often driven by attitudes. For instance, behaviour modification theory suggests that attitudes play a role in determining whether individuals will utilize the knowledge and translate it into action (Ajzen & Fishbein, 1980). Parenting practices also contribute to parents' knowledge and shape their attitudes. Parenting attitudes are influenced by parenting self-efficacy, which refers to parents' belief in their ability to succeed in the parenting role. Furthermore, parenting knowledge, attitudes, and practices are not only influenced by each other but also by various contextual factors. These factors include children's characteristics, such as gender and temperament, as well as parents' own experiences and circumstances. Expectations learned from family, friends, and social networks, as well as cultural systems, also

# UNDERSTANDING CHILD DEVELOPMENT: NURTURING THE PATH TO THRIVING

### Dr. Malini R.

"If parents want to give their children a gift, the best thing they can do is to teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning. That way, their children don't have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong way to build and repair their confidence"

-Carol. S. Dweck

Child development is a multifaceted process that begins in the womb and continues throughout a person's life. It encompasses various aspects, including prenatal development, physical development, cognitive development, social and emotional development, parenting styles, the interplay of nature and nurture, developmental milestones, individual differences, and the cultural context. Recognizing and understanding these factors is crucial for parents to provide effective support and guidance, ultimately enabling children to reach their full potential.

### Prenatal period and its significance

Child development commences even before birth, emphasizing the importance of prenatal care in promoting healthy growth and development. The prenatal developmental period, which refers to the time from

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In an era of rapid societal transformation, the task of raising children becomes increasingly daunting. This is evident in the intricate web of evolving family structures, the delicate balance of managing professional and personal commitments, and the pervasive influence of social and environmental issues on communities. Amidst these complexities, parents bear the unique responsibility of nurturing their children. Employing effective parenting strategies allows them to shape a child's behaviour, which, in turn, manifests itself in their interactions, education, support systems, and limitations. It is through family dynamics and parental practices that social and educational development are profoundly influenced.

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No one is inherently a flawless parent, as they are human beings who can sometimes yell at their children, be emotionally distant, or exhibit occasional controlling behaviour, among other things. However, when a parent consistently and dominantly displays negative patterns of behaviour that harm a child, they are referred to as toxic parents. Toxic parents inflict emotional harm, abuse, ongoing trauma, and degradation upon their children, and these effects persist throughout the child's life. Various types of toxic parenting exist, such as Inadequate Parents,

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Reverse parenting or role reversal is common in most cultures, especially in India, and in most situations, even if the elderly is financially independent the old age

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#### EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE AND STUDY SKILLS AMONG MARRIED AND UNMARRIED THEOLOGICAL STUDENTS

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#### ABSTRACT

Emotional competence is defined as a person's ability to express or release his or her feelings or emotions. Study skills is defined as the methods and techniques that aid effective learning, especially viewed as a set of skills that can be acquired or taught; the ability to study effectively. The aim of the present study is to investigate emotional competence and study skills among the married and unmarried theological students and to study the relationship of variables. Participants (N=60) consist of equal number of married and unmarried theological students in the age group 23-35 years. The instruments used for data collection are the Emotional Competence Scale developed by Dahiya and Gahlawat (2018) and the Study Skills Inventory developed by Congos (2011). The data were analyzed using independent sample t-test and Pearson's correlation method. As per the findings there is significant difference in empathy between the married and the unmarried theological students. It was also found that there is a significant difference in text book reading skills between two groups. A significant positive relationship between the emotional competence and study skills was found in married and unmarried students.

Key words – Emotional Competence, Study Skills, Theological Students

Emotional competence is defined as the "person's ability to manage his feelings so that those feelings are expressed appropriately and effectively" (Goleman, 1995). The clear-cut difference between emotional intelligence and emotional competence is still not known and is at debate to a very great extent. One of the differences between emotional competence and emotional intelligence is that emotional competence is transactional between oneself and other and emotional intelligence is less transactional when compared. Another difference is that emotional competence is a developed skill and emotional intelligence is something that is inborn in a person. According to Daniel Goleman "if your emotional abilities aren't in hand, if you don't have self-awareness, if



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#### PARENTING STYLE AND HELPING BEHAVIOUR AMONG ADOLESCENTS

Anoopa V. R., Final year B.SC. Psychology, Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva Marikutty P. J., Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva

#### Abstract

Parenting is the process of raising children and providing them a healthy environment for their healthy development into adulthood. Parenting styles refers to a set of parental attitudes and behaviours that parents often use. Parenting styles have an influence in transmission of values and certain behaviours including prosocial or helping behaviours. Prosocial behaviours are the actions by which individuals help others. The present study was aimed to investigate the relationship between perceived parenting styles and helping behaviour among adolescents. It is also attempted to explore whether there is any significant difference in these variables between the groups categorized on the basis of gender as well as location of residence. The sample of the study consisted of 77 adolescent students belonged to the age range of 13-19 years and studying in 8th standard to 2nd year under graduation and they were selected randomly. Helping Attitude Scale was developed by Nickel (1998) and Parental Authority Questionnaire developed by Buri (1991) and a Personal Data Schedule were used for data collection. The data were collected using Google forms which were sent to each participant via e mail. The obtained data were analysed in SPSS 20 using Pearson's correlation coefficient. The result are as follows: Authoritative parenting style of mother shows significant correlation with helping behaviour. Adolescents who live in rural areas have significantly more helping behaviour and perceive their parents as significantly more permissive than the adolescents who resides in urban areas. There is no significant gender difference in the helping behaviour and perceived parenting styles of both parents. Key words: Parenting Style, Helping Behaviour, Adolescents



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#### MENTAL HEALTH STATUS OF STAFF NURSES AND HEALTH INSPECTORS DURING COVID 19

Aparna Thampi, M.Sc. Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala Vidhya Ravindranadan, Assistant Professor of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala

Mental health refers to the emotional and psychological well-being. Having good mental health helps to lead a happy and healthy life. Good mental health means being generally able to think, feel and react in the ways that you need and want to live your life especially when faced with adversity like Covid19 pandemic to overcome emotions such as anxiety, stress. The aim of the present study was to see if there is any significant difference between staff nurses and health inspectors on mental health aspects like emotional self-efficacy, depression, anxiety, stress and psychological wellbeing, as well as to understand the relationship between these study variables during Covid19 pandemic. Participants (N=90) were chosen at random from different government hospital in Kerala, including 45 staff nurses and 45 health inspectors in the age group of 25-45yrs. The emotional self-efficacy scale, depression anxiety stress scale- 21 and psychological wellbeing scale were used to collect data via a Google form. The data were analyzed using independent sample t test and Karl Pearson correlation. According to the findings, there is no significant difference between staff nurses and health inspectors on mental health correlates. Psychological vellbeing found to have negative correlation with depression, anxiety and stress nong the study groups. It can be seen that further intervention is required to thance their mental health correlates during Covid19 pandemic.

*Ley words: Emotional self-efficacy, depression, anxiety, stress, psychological wellbeing, staff nurses, health inspectors.* 

Mental health is a state of well-being in which an individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and is able to make a contribution to his or her community (WHO, 2001). Mental health of a person can be affected by conditions such as depression, anxiety and stress. Those conditions were able to disrupt a person's daily routine, relationships and occupation. The concepts of mental health includes perceived self-efficacy and psychological wellbeing. Emotional self-efficacy is an individual's ability to understand and regulate emotion of self and other. People with high emotional self-efficacy often show a tendency to use



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### EMOTIONAL COMPETENCE AND STUDY SKILLS OF ELITE AND NON-ELITE ATHLETES

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devikasantnosti2000eeana Dr.Vidhya Ravindranadan, Asst. Professor, Union Christian College, Kerala. vidhyaravindranadan a uccollege.edu.in

#### Abstract

Emotional competence is one's ability to identify, understand, express and release their is emotions constructively (Mehta & Sharma, 2020). Study skills are the skills needed to enable one and learn efficiently (Nuthana & Yenagi, 2009). Success in sports requires a variety of physical that many athletes strive to attain. Elite athletes are often defined as academy or university com national or international level competitor's/medal winners, Olympians, professionals professionals, world class, athletes having world records, training frequently or exceeding measured physiological variables (e.g., Running economy, anaerobic threshold, VO2max). Elile always test higher than non-elite athletes in the above said factors. Non-elite athletes are athle are casually engaging in sports and the performance level which is local club level, school / coller district level etc. The present study is aimed to investigate and compare the Emotional Competer Study Skills of Elite and Non-elite athletes of different sports fields in Kerala. Participants ( consists of 36 elite athletes and 33 non-elite athletes of age 17-20 years. The instruments we Emotional Competence Scale by Sarita Dahiya & Sonia Gahlawat (2018) and Study Skills In Scale by Dennis H Congos (2011). Independent sample t-test and Pearson's correlation were analyse data. The results show that there is significant difference between elite and non-elite and overall emotional competence and study skills. There is significant positive relationship between variables among elite athletes and among non-elite athletes.

KEY WORDS: Emotional Competence, Study Skills, Elite Athletes and Non-elite Athletes

Emotional competence (EC) is defined as a set of generic skills that can be to perform a variety of emotion-related tasks. The ability to recognise and discrim emotions is particularly significant in the development of children. Emot intelligence (EI) is the ability to understand and manage emotions of themselves<sup>3</sup> the people around them. The term 'emotional intelligence' became popular in 19th psychologist and behavioural science journalist Goleman.

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# Instagram Use and its Effects on Self-esteem and Competence

Elizabeth Jaimon, Undergraduate student, Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva Seena Mathai, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva

#### Abstract

Instagram has become an integral part of every individual's life and its constant use may a one's Self-esteem and Emotional competence. The aim of the study was to compare the use Instagram and its effects on self-esteem and emotional competence on a sample consisted of participants out of which 30 participants used Instagram for less than 1 hourand 30 participants used Instagram for more than 1 hour belonging to different age groups. The data was collected using Rosenberg's Self-esteem Scale-RSES (Rosenberg, 1965) and the Emotional competence Scale-ECS developed by Dahiya and Gahlawat (2018). Data analysis was done using t-test. The results revealed that there was no significant difference inSelf-esteem and Emotional competence in those who use Instagram for more than and less than 1 hour. However, there was significant difference in the dimension Social skills and Total Emotional competency between the age groups of 15 to 24 and 25 to 35.

Keywords: Instagram, Self-esteem, Emotional competence

Development in information technology took place after the introduction of the Internet, forming a new generation that communicated through an online platform called Social media. As the number of users and the time spent on Social media platforms are on therise, the degree of Social comparison which might also be on the rise especially by using popular platforms such as Instagram. Social comparison theory proposes that individuals have an innate drive to compare oneself with others through which they make evaluations of themselves. Upward social comparison lead to envy, low-self-esteem, body dissatisfaction (de Vries & Kühne, 2015; Liu et al., 2017), eating disorders, life dissatisfaction and depression (Feinstein et al., 2013).


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# EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE, LEARNING STYLES AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

Faseeha K Nasarudeen, MA Psychology, Central University of Punjab

Email: faseeha1702@gmail.com

Marikutty P J, Assistant Professor, Union Christian College,

#### Abstract

Emotional intelligence activates one's potential values and motivates him or her to purse and aspirations. Emotional intelligence enables people to learn to acknowledge and under own feelings and also of others and to respond to them appropriately and effectively functioning of life. Many students are not aware about their preferred learning style. Stee emotional intelligence is an important factor in determining success of people, students opportunities to acquire it. The objective of the study was to find out whether there is a relationship between Emotional Intelligence, Learning Styles and Academic Achieve undergraduate students. The sample consisted of 61 undergraduate students from different data collection was conducted using personal data schedule Emotional Intelligence Scale Hyde, Pethe and Dhar (2002) and Learning Style Inventory developed by Misra (2012). Me data analysis was Pearson's correlation coefficient. The results revealed that there was relationship between emotional intelligence and academic achievement and learning style achievement in undergraduate college students. The study also found significant relationship emotional intelligence and learning style.

KEY WORDS: Emotional Intelligence, Learning Styles, Academic Achievement

Academic achievement is in educational psychology is a level of proficient scholastic work in general or in a specific skill, such as arithmetic or reading (APA

Several factors such as intelligence, personality, self-efficacy, attistudy habits, academic skills, anxiety, language abilities, achievement memotional intelligence, student-teacher relationships, peer relationships, influence, etc. may influence academic achievement of students. However the these factors on academic achievement varies across individuals. A detailed deof the psychological constructs examined in the present study is given below:



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# Mental Health of Public and Private Sector Employees

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## Abstract

Mental health is defined as the presence of general emotional, psychological, and social well-being which considers both hedonic and eudaimonic approaches. The aim of the study was to compare the mental health of public and private sector employees. Personal factors that affect work performance like; employce's age, years of work experience, sector of job, marital status and number of children with mental health were considered. The sample consisted of 60 employees wherein 30 employees were from public sector and 30 employees from private sector belonging to different organizations in India. The data collection was conducted using personal data sheet for personal details essential for the study and Positive Mental Health Inventory- PMHI (2002) developed by Agashe and .Helode to measure mental health which include dimensions such as self-acceptance, ego-strength and philosophies of life. Methods used for data analysis were t-test and ANOVA. The results revealed that there is no significant difference between employees from public and private sector job, between married and unmarried employees, between employees above and below 5 years of work experience on mental health, employees with different number of children in mental health but it was found that there is significant difference in mental health between employees of above and below 30 years of age.

Keywords: Mental health, private sector - public sector employee

Mental health is a state of well-being in which the individual realizes his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully and is able to make a contribution to his or her community (World Health Organization, WHO). Sound mental health includes effective functioning in different aspects of life such as physical, mental, emotional and spiritual. Having a sound mental health not only helps in effective functioning but also in prevention of mental disorders. When there is an issue in mental health of an individual it can lead to several mental illnesses. Mental illness refers to a group of disorders that affect the behaviour, thinking, perceptions and mood.



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# Emotional Maturity and Psychological Hardiness among Adolescents

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### Abstract

Adolescents go through drastic biological, cognitive and emotional changes requiring them is cope on multiple levels. The outbreak of the Covid 19 pandemic has caused considerable havoc in the everyday lives. The survival of the individual in the current situation depends upon how emotionally the situation is being coped up and also on how hardy the individuals are. Also one's gender does have along with it certain roles and expectations and ultimately has the power to influence one's personal and coping. Objective: The purpose of the present study was to compare adolescent males and female on emotional maturity and psychological hardiness. Method: (a) Participants: Data was collected from a total of 263 participants from various districts of Kerala. (b) Materials: The measures used are to Emotional Maturity Scale (Yashvir Singh and Mahesh Bhargava, 2012) and the Singh's Psychological Hardiness Scale (Arun Kumar Singh, 2008). (c) Analysis: Analysis was done using Mann-Whiney Use and Spearman rank order correlation coefficient. (d) Results: There was significant difference in emotional maturity on the basis of gender. Correlation was also seen between emotional maturity and psychological hardiness Gender had an impact on emotional maturity Keywords: Emotional Maturity, Psychological Hardiness, Gender, Adolescents

The outbreak of the Covid 19 pandemic has caused considerable havoc in the everyday lives, especially the social aspects of all people. One among the most severely affected group is the adolescents as one of their most important primary needs is social interaction. Affiliation has become restricted to an online platform from a one to one personal level. According to Jobson (2020), the survival of the individual in the current situation depends upon how emotionally the situation is being coped up. Hence emotional maturity plays a major role is building the capacity to make effective



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# SELF-ESTEEM, ACHIEVEMENT MOTIVATION AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AMONG COLLEGE STUDENTS

Sarah Maria Saroop, Dr. Marikutty P.J Student, MSc. Psychology, Assistant Professor <u>sarahsaroop20@gmail.com</u>, marykuttypj@yahoo.com Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala, India

## ABSTRACT

Students working along with their studies have also started to be a trend in today's world. Academic performance or achievement indicates the extent to which a person has accomplished a specific goal in their educational field. Many factors may contribute to a students' academic performance such as family environment, intellectual capacity, age, gender, achievement motivation, self-esteem, etc. The present study is conducted to understand self-esteem, achievement motivation, and academic performance among college students. It is also aimed to examine the relationship among these variables. The participants consist of 80 college students within the age range of 17 years to 22 years. It includes both undergraduate and post-graduate students studying in various colleges in the Ernakulum district. The Rosenberg's Self-Esteem scale, Achievement motive test, the participants GPA score, and Personal data sheet were used r data collection. The collected data were analyzed in SPSS 20 version using statistical procedures like Mean, Standard deviation, 't' test and Pearson correlation. The results show a significant difference in academic performance between working and nonworking college students and a significant gender difference in achievement motivation among college students. Male students are seen to have significantly higher achievement motivation than female students whereas female students perform better academically than male students. There is also a significant positive correlation between achievement motivation and self-esteem and a negative correlation between students' age and their academic performance. Second-born students are seen to have significantly lower self-esteem than first and thirdborn students.

Key Words: Self-Esteem, Achievement Motivation, Academic performance, College students

The unending rise in living costs has led to unprecedented difficulties for the common man in maintaining their standard of living. Citizens, especially those in the younger age bracket, have had to find new and innovative ways to support their families and improve their living conditions. In the present scenario, the importance of higher education and qualification cannot be overemphasized. With each passing generation,



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# Physical Effects Experienced by College and School Students Due to Online Classes during Covid-19 Pandemic

<sup>anala Fathima</sup> P A, Post graduate student, Department of Psychology, Union histian College, Aluva Mistran Abraham, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Union hristian College, Aluva

in the outbreak of covid-19 pandemic, online classes became the only viable mode of learning. But molonged duration of online classes caused various physical effects in students. The aim of the study was n find out physical effects experienced by college and school students due to online classes during covid-<sup>19</sup> pandemic. Major objectives of the study were to find out gender differences in various aspects of physical distress and to compare school and college students in physical problems. Physical effects of online classes included headache, eye pain, eye strain, pain on neck and shoulder, feeling sleepy and uredness etc. The 450 participants of this study consisted of school students, undergraduate students and postgraduate students from all over the world. Out of 150 school students in this study, 62 were males and 88 were females. Out of 150 undergraduate students 37 were males and 113 were females. Out of 150 postgraduate students 22 were males and 128 were females. The self-prepared survey schedule was used to collect data. Data schedule contains 4 personal questions and 10 questions related to physical effects of online classes. Descriptive statistics and means were used to analyse the data. The results revealed that there were gender differences in various aspects of physical effects during online classes

among college and school students. Keywords: Physical effects, online classes, covid-19, school and college students.

The first case of Covid-19 first reported on 31 December 2019 in Wuhan, China. It is suddenly declared as a pandemic as it spread around the world rapidly within a month (Khalil, 2020). Government announced lockdown in order to maintain social distancing. Pandemic affected all areas of life including education. As the situation worsened, the lockdown resulted in closing down of educational institutions. The <sup>outbreak</sup> of the dangerous virus across the globe has forced educational institutions to shut down to control the spread of this virus.



## Biodiversity

Book

#### \_\_\_\_\_\_

### Threats and Conservation

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512
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Bioscience, Environment & Agriculture

#### ABSTRACT

The term "biodiversity" or "biological diversity" describes the variety of living beings on Earth encompassing microorganisms, plants, animals, and ecosystems, such as coral reefs, forests, and deserts. In fact, it also represents a wealth of biological resources available to us.

Today, instead of exploring and preserving its unmapped biodiversity, mankind has gone away from mother nature, conquering the domain through relentless exploitation. This has resulted in an ecological imbalance and thereby has posed serious threat to biodiversity.

Declining biodiversity is, therefore, a concern for countless reasons. Biodiversity's wealth of genetic information can be conserved by storing biological material from endangered species. Cell lines, gametes, and embryos are preserved so that in case a species becomes extinct or there is a need to increase the population of the species, then cloning and artificial reproductive techniques can be used to revive and reproduce the said species.

The present volume discusses the biodiversity of specific animal groups, such as cnidarians and fish, as well as potential risks to and methods for conserving some of them.

The following important aspects are addressed:

1. The importance of biodiversity in maintaining ecosystem balance for sustainability

The emerging role of biodiversity as a source of important materials, pharmaceuticals, food, and so on as such or through genetic manipulation to meet the contemporary and future challenges

3. The impact of environment degradation on biodiversity and conservation in a changing environment

4. Conventional and emerging biotechnological techniques to conserve biodiversity

The book is intended for academics, scientists, and naturalists working in the fields of biology, biochemistry, biophysics, and biomedical sciences.

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# **Insightful Investigations:** Exploring Material Properties through Characterization Techniques



Department of Physics Union Christian College, Aluva-2

# Insightful Investigations: Exploring Material Properties through Characterization Techniques

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# Synthesis and Characterization of Dye-Based Phantom Tissue Samples with Tailored Visible-NIR Optical Properties

D. Raveenadeth<sup>1</sup>, Shinto Babu<sup>1</sup>, Saritha K Nair<sup>2</sup> and V. K. Shinoj<sup>1\*</sup>

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Abstract. Extraction of diagnosable information from tissue-pathologies, using *in-vivo* spectroscopic techniques, by analyzing diffuse reflectance, absorption and fluorescence is widely recognized for its potential. Primary challenge in utilizing this potential is the fabrication and optical characterization of phantom tissues, mimicking the optical properties of dermatological samples. Wide range of applications for phantom tissues, ranges from preliminary clinical studies to development of database for the standardization and calibration of *in-vivo* spectroscopic instruments. We addressed the fundamental challenge by fabricating thin. solid. tissue-simulating polydimethylsiloxane (PDMS) phantoms with tailored absorption properties and endogenous fluorescent properties, using bio-compatible dyes such as methylene blue, indocyanine green and sodium fluorescein. We also validated and evaluated the performance of the phantom tissues using diffuse reflectance and fluorescence studies to substantiate its use in clinical studies.

**Keywords:** Phantom, Diffuse Reflectance Spectroscopy, Probe, Fluorescence, Biomedical Optics.

### 1 Introduction

Clinical dermatological research and development for non-invasive, *in-vivo* diagnostic tool, requires standardization and calibration of biomedical imaging systems [1-3]. This is usually achieved by phantom tissue samples, mimicking the optical properties such as absorption, scattering and cellular autofluorescence of human skin [4-8]. When light is transported within skin, by means of broadband light source and probe arrangement, scattering, absorption and auto fluorescence [9-12] occurs due to the inhomogeneous distribution of chromophores, blood and pigments [13]. Scattering is caused

# **Insightful Investigations:** Exploring Material Properties through Characterization Techniques



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# Insightful Investigations: Exploring Material Properties through Characterization Techniques

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# Green synthesis of Cerium oxide nanoparticles using Aloe vera extract

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**Abstract.** Green nanotechnology is an emerging field of nanoscience, which has received much attention in recent years for the synthesis of nanomaterials through environment friendly routes. This work focuses on the synthesis of cerium oxide nanoparticles using this simple, cost effective and environment friendly green method. Here, aloe vera leaf extract is used as the reducing and stabilizing agent in order to control size and morphology. The structure and morphology of the nanoparticles are investigated using X-ray diffraction spectroscopy and Field emission scanning electron microscopy. The XRD confirms the formation of cubic fluorite structure of CeO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles and FESEM shows a homogeneous grain structure with smooth-edges. The optical characterizations are carried out using UV-Visible DRS and Photoluminescence spectral analysis. A direct band gap of 3.3eV is detected from the former and the peaks in PL spectra suggests the presence of defect centers localized between the Ce 4f and O 2p levels. Further, the FTIR spectral analysis reveals the Ce-O and O-H stretching vibrations.

Keywords: Phytosynthesis, Cerium oxide, Aloe-vera extract.

### **1** Introduction

Green nanotechnology is an emerging field of nanoscience, that has earned much attention in recent years for developing the synthesis processes of nanomaterials through green synthetic and environmental friendly routes. In green synthesis, extracts from fungi, algae, bacteria, and plants that provide metabolites to act as reducing agents are commonly used.

Research to date indicates that nanoparticles synthesized from plant extracts hold great potential for use in photonics, electronics, medicine and waste treatment due to its environmental friendliness and unique single-step synthesis involving reduction followed by stabilization and capping of nanoparticles. They create innovative opportunity to design and develop novel

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# Cyclic Voltametric (CV) studies of solvothermally synthesized CsTiBr<sub>3</sub>/rGO composite for supercapacitor applications

K A Benazeera Beegum<sup>1</sup>, Christeena Thomas<sup>1</sup>, Saranya Sasi<sup>1</sup>, Suvarna Ganesh<sup>1</sup>, Alex Mathew<sup>1</sup>, R Reshmi<sup>1\*</sup>

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Abstract. Inorganic halide perovskites (IHP), ABX<sub>3</sub> (A and B are inorganic cations and X is halide anion), are emerging materials with excellent optoelectronic properties. A lead free IHP of CsTiBr<sub>3</sub> and its composite with reduced graphene oxide (rGO) is synthesized by solvothermal process. The structural analysis by XRD and Raman spectrum could confirm the composite formation of CsTiBr<sub>3</sub> with rGO. The pure CsTiBr<sub>3</sub> is composed of clusters of nanorods having different length and cross-sectional area. The incorporation of rGO into the CsTiBr<sub>3</sub> crystal caused morphological modification. The two-dimensional sheets of rGO becomes a mattress in which the nanorods can lie. The band gap of CsTiBr<sub>3</sub> nanorods reduced from 3.05eV to 2.96eV by the incorporation of 1% rGO. The structural modification and bandgap tuning by the CsTiBr<sub>3</sub>/rGO composite resulted in drastic decrease in impedance. The specific capacitance, areal capacitance and double layer capacitance shows multifold increase due to the impedance variation.

**Keywords:** Inorganic halide perovskites, Specific capacitance, Areal capacitance, Double layer capacitance.

### **1** Introduction

Halide perovskites (HP) are emerging materials in the field of energy storage applications because of its promising ion diffusion properties [1-3]. Supercapacitors and batteries are the two remarkable energy storage devices. Efforts are ongoing to find out the reason for the increased mobility of ion in lithium ion battery to a large extent through halide perovskite incorporation [4]. Unlike batteries, supercapacitors possess long cycle stability, higher reversibility, fast charging/discharging and power performance [5,6]. The electronic and ionic conduction nature of HPs are utilised in superconductors

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# Photocatalytic Degradation of Methyl Orange by Electrochemically Synthesized TiO<sub>2</sub> Nanotubes

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**Abstract.** Titanium dioxide is being extensively used in many environmental applications due to its antibacterial properties and high performance in degradation of various dyes. In this study we report the synthesis and photocatalytic activity of anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> nanotubes prepared by electrochemical anodization. The prepared samples exhibit a band gap of 3.0eV. The compositional analysis using EDAX confirms the formation of anatase TiO<sub>2</sub>. The structural and morphological characterizations are done using X-ray Diffraction, Field Emission Scanning Microscopy and Atomic Force Microscopy. The FESEM and AFM analyses confirm the formation of well aligned array of TiO<sub>2</sub> nanotubes which are appreciably interconnected. These interconnected array of nanotubes increase the surface area and provide more adsorption sites that contribute to the high dye degradation rates in comparison with the TiO<sub>2</sub> nanostructures in literature. The prepared samples are able to degrade 82.2% of methyl orange in 180 minutes under solar radiation.

Keywords: TiO<sub>2</sub>, electrochemical anodization, photocatalysis.

### **1** Introduction

In recent years, water pollution caused by various industries has become a serious threat to human as well as aquatic life.  $TiO_2$  has attracted researchers over decades due to its low cost, chemical stability and effectiveness in environmental remediation [1–4].  $TiO_2$  exists in three different crystalline phases as anatase, brookite and rutile. Among these anatase phase is extensively investigated due to its excellent photocatalytic activity [5–7].

Generally, electron-hole pairs are generated when  $TiO_2$  is exposed to a radiation of energy higher than its band gap. The valence band holes and

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# Antibacterial property of ZnO nanostructures prepared by Anodization method

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**Abstract.** Present work discusses the antibacterial activity of pristine Zinc oxide nanoparticles against gram negative and gram positive bacteria, E. Coli, Pseudomonas, Bacillus and S.aureus. Hexagonal wurtzite ZnO nanostructures are prepared by simple cost-effective electrochemical anodization method and the structure is confirmed by XRD. Using UV-vis diffuse reflectance spectroscopy, the band gap of samples is found to be ~3.12 eV. From FESEM images, formation of clusters of ZnO nanorods is observed. PL depicts the ZnO peaks. The effect of ZnO nanoparticles on the antibacterial efficacy is studied for different concentrations, by well diffusion agar method. Antibacterial results suggest that ZnO can be used as an antibacterial agent towards both gram negative as well as gram positive bacteria but, modifications are needed for better efficiency.

Keywords: Anodization, gram positive, gram negative.

### **1** Introduction

ZnO is a II-VI compound having a wide band gap  $\sim$ 3.2 eV that falls in the UV region of the solar spectrum [1]. Zinc oxide has attracted considerable attention owing to their promising applications in areas such as electronics, optoelectronics, photovoltaics and sensing. ZnO is also used in biomedical applications and to reduce environmental toxicity since it is biocompatible, decomposable, and biosafe [2]. In nanometer range, the chemical, structural, optical, morphological as well as biological properties of the material are entirely different. Nano-sized particles of ZnO have more pronounced antimicrobial activity because their high surface-to-volume ratio enable better interaction with bacteria [3,4]. Studies have indicated selective toxicity of

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# Hematite nanoporous material as a promising antibacterial agent

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**Abstract.** In the present work, the effect of hematite nanostructures in inhibiting the growth of two different bacteria is studied. Here, the nanostructures are fabricated by the simple method of electrochemical anodization followed by annealing. The X–ray diffraction studies confirm its formation with rhombohedral structure. Formation of nanoporous structures is confirmed through FESEM images. The optical studies are carried out through diffused reflectance measurements. The XPS studies suggest the presence of iron in Fe<sup>3+</sup> state, which further confirm the formation of hematite phase. Antibacterial effect of hematite nanostructures is tested by agar well diffusion method. Three different concentrations of the hematite material are utilized and the results show increased antibacterial activity with increase in concentration of material. The results clearly indicate that hematite nanostructures prepared by the simple and cost-effective method can be considered as a promising antibacterial agent against these bacteria.

Keywords: Iron oxide, hematite, anodization, antibacterial agent, agar well diffusion

## **1** Introduction

Nanotechnology is attracting a wide interest nowadays as it offers a variety of structures in the nanoscale region for application in the fields of catalysis, gas sensing, energy storage, biomedicine etc. The advances in nanotechnology enable preparation of nanostructures, having suitable properties for these applications, with great precision and control. Recently, researchers in the biomedical field has shown particular interest in iron oxide nanostructures due to its unique properties such as abundance, low cost, bio compatibility, non-toxicity, high crystallinity, large surface area and physical and chemical stability [1,2]. Because of these characteristics, iron oxide nanostructures are widely used in drug delivery, magnetic resonance imaging and antibacterial applications [3,4]. The prominent phases of iron oxide such as hematite ( $\alpha$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>), magnetite (Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) and maghemite ( $\gamma$ -Fe<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>) find a large number of

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# Photocatalytic degradation of MB dye: A comparative study between flower like hierarchical structures of MoS<sub>2</sub> and the Bulk MoS<sub>2</sub>

Saranya Sasi<sup>1</sup>, Christeena Thomas<sup>1</sup>, Benazeera Beegum<sup>1</sup>, Alex Mathew<sup>1</sup>, Reshmi R<sup>1\*</sup>

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**Abstract.** In the wide library of 2D materials, transition metal dichalcogenides have gained much attention in recent years. Molybdenum disulphide (MoS<sub>2</sub>) being a prominent member of this family has been actively researched for the application of photocatalytic degradation of toxic dyes. The narrow band gap, and good optical absorption properties of MoS<sub>2</sub> make itself competent for the widely used photocatalyst Titanium dioxide (TiO<sub>2</sub>). In this study flower like nanostructures of MoS<sub>2</sub> were prepared by the versatile hydrothermal technique. The crystallinity of the prepared sample was verified using XRD and Raman. A photocatalytic comparative study was made between bulk MoS<sub>2</sub> and the flower like structures of MoS<sub>2</sub>. The flower - like hierarchical nanostructures exhibit a better degradation of Methylene blue dye compared with the flakes of bulk MoS<sub>2</sub>. This morphology dependent activity of MoS<sub>2</sub> opens new perspectives in the field of catalysis.

Keywords: Transition metal dichalcogenides, Molybdenum disulphide, phototocatalyst

#### **1** Introduction

Two dimensional transition metal dichalcogenides (2D TMDs) comprises rich diversity of material properties [1]. They can be a substitute for the zero band gap of graphene and have the capability to go beyond the graphene. Typically, TMDs possess an intrinsic layered structure, a layer of hexagonally connected transition metal atoms are arranged between the chalcogen layers[2], [3]. This tri-layered structures are denoted by a general formula of MX<sub>2</sub>, Where M represents a transition metal and X is a chalcogen. The strong covalent bond holds the atoms within the layer whereas the weak Wander Valls force

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# Photocatalytic study of WO<sub>3</sub>/rGO nanocomposites on Congo red dye and Rhodamine B

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**Abstract.** In the present study tungsten trioxide based photocatalyst were synthesized by doping WO<sub>3</sub> with Ag and WO<sub>3</sub> with rGO using the hydrothermal method. The ternary compound Ag-WO<sub>3</sub>-rGO was synthesized using a two-step hydrothermal method. The characterisation of the samples were done using XRD, SEM, EDX and Raman spectroscopy. The XRD peaks of the samples were in agreement with the monoclinic structure of WO<sub>3</sub> as per the standard JCPDS file. Pure WO<sub>3</sub> has shown less degradation when exposed to visible light for 60 min. In the further study with Ag-WO<sub>3</sub> and rGO-WO<sub>3</sub>, the silver doped WO<sub>3</sub> has shown higher degradation compared with rGO doped WO<sub>3</sub> when exposed to visible light for 60 min. The experiment was repeated with ternary Ag-WO<sub>3</sub>-rGO also. The results shows that Ag-WO<sub>3</sub> and ternary nanocomposite have excellent photocatalytic activity on Congo red dye and Rhodamine B. The degradation efficiency was observed more in the case of Congo red dye within a given time interval compared with Rhodamine B. The enhanced photocatalytic activity can be due to the increased adsorption of dye molecules, the enhanced light absorption and the increased band gap after doping.

Keywords: Photocatalysis, Tungsten trioxide, Congored, Rhodamine-B

#### **1** Introduction

Photocatalysis has gained considerable attention over the years due to its applications in various fields for waste water treatment and antibacterial applications. The unusual properties of metal oxide nanoparticles have attracted the attention of researchers in the present time. Due to large surface area they are more sensitive to external stimuli like light. Tungsten trioxide (WO<sub>3</sub>), a transition metal oxide is an oxygen deficient n type wide band gap semiconductor material with band gap of 2.6 eV - 3.5 eV and can be activated

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# **Biosensors Based On Novel 2D** Nanomaterials: A Short Review

Christeena Thomas<sup>1</sup>, Reshmi R<sup>1\*</sup>

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**Abstract.** Biosensors are analytical devices that can ensure specific, sensitive, and fast responses by quantifying biological, physical, or chemical events. Biosensors have a wide spectrum of applications in industry, agriculture, healthcare monitoring, defense, security, etc. In recent years researchers have witnessed the capability of novel nanomaterials to revolutionize the potential of biosensors. The unique physiochemical and mechanical properties of nanomaterials can offer very fast, robust, real-time, and stable detection of events without compromising their selectivity and sensitivity. Among different nanomaterials, two- Dimensional(2D) nanomaterials hold high surface-to-volume ratios with excellent electrical, optical, and catalytic properties. This review focuses on the role of 2D nanomaterials in advanced biosensors giving more importance to electrochemical biosensors

Keywords: Biosensor, electrochemical analysis.

#### **1** Introduction

Nanotechnology has the ability to engineer the materials precisely at the nanometre scale and these new unique materials can exhibit different characteristics and properties from bulk material. Nanotechnology offers a broad range of applications from electronics, Optical communication, and biological systems. It impacts biomedical research and technology for studying the fundamental interactions and dynamics at the single cell/molecule level [1,2]. In the current scenario of biomedical research, accurate and early detection of various diseases at the early stages of disease development has significant importance. There is a need to enhance the capability of sensor technology for health, environmental monitoring, and biological analysis. The main area of concern is new strains of microbial organisms and the spread of infectious diseases that require rapid detection and identification. Progress in nanotechnology resulted in the fabrication of highly selective biosensors with ultrasensitivity and selectivity [3].

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# Effect of Annealing temperature on the formation of crystalline Titanium dioxide nanotubes

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**Abstract.** Vertically aligned titanium dioxide nanotubes are fabricated by anodization of titanium plates. The anodization is carried out with ammonium fluoride in ethylene glycol as the electrolyte. The surface morphology of the as-formed nanotubes was analyzed by using Scanning Electron Microscope. The as fabricated nanotubes are of amorphous form, it is then converted to crystalline nature by the process of Thermal Annealing. The effect of annealing temperature on the crystalline nature and type of polymorph present is also analysed.

Keywords: TiO<sub>2</sub> nanotubes, Thermal annealing.

## **1** Introduction

The wide band gap with suitable band edge positions, exceptional biocompatibility, unique ionic and electronic properties, etc., make titanium dioxide one of the most investigated metal oxides. The specific surface area of  $TiO_2$  is significantly enhanced in the nanostructured forms such as, nanotubes, nanoparticles, nanorods, etc., which is crucial in determining its maximum overall performance in respective applications.

Fabrication and applications of  $TiO_2$  nanotubes (TONT) are widely investigated due to their properties such as unique architecture, high surfaceto-volume ratios, excellent electron percolation pathways and size dependent properties. These facts make TONT subject of considerable scientific interest as well as potential candidate for a number of practical applications [1]. Outstanding charge transport and carrier life time properties enable TONT for a variety of applications such as sensors [2], dye sensitized solar cells [3], water photoelectrolysis, photocatalytic reduction of carbon dioxide under sunlight [4], and supercapacitors [5]. In addition, nanotube arrays are used in

# Identification of Tuberculosis Bacilli from Bright Field Microscopic Sputum Smear Images using U-Net and Random Forest Classification Algorithm

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*Abstract*—Tuberculosis (TB) is an infectious illness that may be severe and primarily impacts the lungs. Examining sputum smears under bright field microscopes is one of the simplest and most successful ways to detect TB infection in impoverished nations like India. A method for detecting tuberculosis bacteria from bright-field microscopic sputum smear images is proposed in this work. U-shaped encoder-decoder network architecture (U-Net) is used to first segment the bright field microscopic sputum smear images, and then Random Forest Classification Algorithm is used for final prediction. The detection of bacilli produced results that are comparable to other methods.

Index Terms—Tuberculosis, Microscopy, Bacilli, U-Net, Random Forest

#### I. INTRODUCTION

The second-biggest infectious killer after COVID-19 (above HIV/AIDS), TB is ranked by the World Health Organization (WHO) as the thirteenth major cause of mortality. The ability to accurately diagnose patients and begin the most efficient treatment plan as soon as feasible depends on the microbiological diagnosis of TB. Although there are a number of methods to diagnose the disease, sputum smear microscopic examination is still relevant since it is one of the least expensive methods and is simple to repeat. To identify TB from sputum smears, two different types of microscopes are the two types. Bright fields are preferred in many circumstances because they work more simply and produce results rather rapidly.

The Kinyoun method or Kinyoun stain (cold method) [1] is a technique used to stain Mycobacterium species that are acid-fast. It uses a kind of Ziehl-Neelsen [2] staining technique. Heat serves as the physical mordant and phenol serves as the chemical mordant in the Ziehl-Neelsen stain. The concentration of carbol fuschin employed is higher since heat is not applied in Kinyoun stain. This staining produces the colours red for the TB bacteria and blue for the sputum sample's backdrop. Clinicians examine the TB bacteria manu-

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ally in order to manually count the quantity of germs in each microscope field of vision.

Conventional techniques for processing images, machine learning techniques, and deep learning algorithms are mainly used for automating the detection of bacteria from typical microscopic images of sputum smears. Earlier, the TB detection from conventional microscope images is proposed in [3]. This is the first attempt for the automated detection of TB bacilli from conventional light microscopy which uses segmentation using global adaptive threshold on red minus green colour channel pictures. A sensitivity of 76.65% was reported in this work. M. Sotaquira et.al [4] proposed a colour space segmentation for quantifying bacilli and clusters. This method is resistant to image noise and changing lighting conditions and reported a sensitivity of 90.9%. Another color-based segmentation is used for the identification of TB cells in [5]. In this method, shape information such as axis ratio and eccentricity are also used for TB identification. In [6], a proximity algorithm and bacteria's distinctive trait of beadedness are taken into consideration for the evaluation of the TB infection's severity. The Mahalanobis distance is used for the pixel classification in HSI colour space. R. Khutlang et.al [7] proposed a two-step process for identifying bacteria. The first stage makes use of colour information and intensity values as characteristics. Shape information was employed for classification in the second stage. Tuberculosis is identified by segmenting with various classifiers, followed by feature subset selection and dimension reduction. Using ensemble approaches, final classification is also completed. For the purpose of TB identification, a two-step segmentation technique based on both the HSV and CIE L\*a\*b\* colour spaces is also employed [8]. The H and L components were split and separate thresholds were determined and fine segmentation is done by performing AND operation on both components. A decision tree based algorithm which uses area, compactness and roughness is used for the identification of TB.

In research based on deep learning, Costa [9] described an automated classification method for bright field smear mi-

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# Childhood Trauma among Victims of Intimate Partner Violence

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# Abstract

Intimate partner violence, which encompasses sexual, physical, emotional, psychological, and controlling behaviours by an intimate partner, is one of the most frequent types of violence against women. Childhood trauma is the experiencing of a traumatic event by a child, which frequently has long-lasting psychological and physical impacts. The aim of the study was to find out the relationship between Childhood Trauma (CT) and Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and influence of sociodemographic factors on IPV. The sample consists of 58 women who are IPV victims. The measures used for data collection include Childhood Trauma Questionnaire (CTQ; Bernstein, D.P and Fink, L., 1994) to examine traumatic experiences during childhood which include physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, physical neglect, and emotional neglect; Composite Abuse Scale (CAS; Hegarty, Sheehan and Schonfeld, 1999) to examine IPV, it consists of four subscales (severe combined abuse, emotional abuse, physical abuse, and harassment). Spearman Rank correlation test and Mann-Whitney U test were used for data analysis. It was found that as the CT increase susceptibility to the IPV increase and as age and duration of relationship increase, Harassment in IPV decrease. Moreover, women in urban area experienced more emotional abuse than rural area, and no significant difference on other socio-demographic factors. The conclusion was that psychological factors than socio-demographic factors have more influence on IPV victims.

Keywords: Intimate Partner Violence, childhood trauma.

# Introduction

According to World Health Organization, "Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is considered as one of the most common causes of violence against women which includes sexual, physical, emotional, psychological, and controlling behaviors by an intimate partner". "Childhood Trauma is the experience of an event by a child that is emotionally painful and distressful" (National Institute of Mental Health). 52% of women and 42% of men who participated in the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4), 2015-2016, thought that it is acceptable for a husband to physically abuse

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# Resilience in Relation to the Psychological Adjustment among Disaster Victims

Kavitha M Nair<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Seena M Mathai<sup>2</sup>

Post Graduate Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva, Ernakulum, Kerala 683101 e-mail: kavithakoyickal18@gmail.com

# Abstract

In August 2018, a severe flood affected the South Indian state of Kerala. The level of psychological problems in victims will be inversely proportional to the factors like resilience, adjustment, optimism etc. of the individual. The present study was carried out with the objective to explore the relationship between resilience and adjustment among disaster victims. The study was conducted on 120 flood victims from Pathanamthitta district in Kerala; in the age range 18-25 years. Tools used for data collection were Brief Resilience Scale and Adjustment Inventory. The data was analyzed using t-test and correlation. The results revealed that there is a significant positive correlation between resilience and adjustment among flood victims, males are found to be more resilient than females, there is a significant difference in the levels of resilience and health adjustment among males and females, and secondary disaster victims have high social adjustment than other two groups. Providing a good support system in school and home, and inculcating a positive self-image in children help them to adjust well to their life and adversities that may unexpectedly occur in their life.

Keywords: resilience, adjustment, flood victim

# Introduction

Emergencies and disasters are fundamental reflections of normal life. A disaster is a serious disruption of the functioning of a society, causing widespread human, material or environmental losses, which exceed the ability of affected society to copy using only its own resources (Gaur, 2008). One of the leading causes of natural disaster deaths worldwide is flood. Beginning on 15 August 2018, due to unusually high rainfall during the monsoon season, severe floods affected Kerala, the South Indian state. It was the worst flooding in Kerala in nearly a century. Over 483 people died, 15 are missing and at least a million people were evacuated. The Indian government had declared it as a "calamity of a severe nature" or a Level 3 Calamity.

Sharp increases in the prevalence of mental health symptoms have been reported following various disasters. One of the important intrinsic factors that helps a person get through or return to normal functioning after being exposed to any adversity such as a natural disaster is resilience. Resilience following natural disasters occurs at multiple levels. It involves the individual, the family, the community and the city at

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# Organizational Climate and Commitment among Public and Private Sector Employees of Kerala

Nimmy Johns<sup>1</sup> & Dr. Seena M. Mathai<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Research Scholar, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala <sup>2</sup>Asst. Professor, Department of Psychology, Union Christian College, Aluva, Kerala e-mail Id: nimmyjohns10@gmail.com, seenammathai@uccollege.edu.in

# Abstract

The study aimed to examine differences between public and private sector employees in organizational climate and organizational commitment and also to examine relationship between organizational climate and organizational commitment. The sample consisted of 90 employees from Kerala, with 45 employees each from public and private sectors. The tools used were organizational climate scale by Pethe, Dhar and Chaudhari (2001) and organizational commitment scale by Hyde and Roy (2006). It was also found that there is significant difference between public and private sector employees in the factor organizational process at 0.01 level. It was also found that there is no significant difference between employees of public and private sector in organizational commitment. Total commitment was found to be correlated to contentment and empowerment at 0.05 level and to affection and total organizational commitment at 0.01 level. The study implies that being of a specific gender does not influence an employee's level of commitment to their organization and perception of organizational climate. Positive perception of organizational climate is seen as higher for private sector employees, however the level of organizational commitment is same for both, this implies that a provision of better organizational climate for public sector employees may make them more committed to their organization than employees of private sector.

*Keywords:* Organizational climate, organizational commitment. Public sector, private sector

# Introduction

By eighteenth and nineteenth century, most of the world countries adopted the policy of laissez faire where the Governments followed a policy of non-interference in economic activity by the State. Which in turn led to a huge expansion of private sector in almost all the countries of the world. However, in a developing country like India, with the continuous expansion of the public sector, the productive areas open for the private sector was less. And it was only during the post-1991 period of economic liberalisation, more and more areas were made open for the private sector. And the industrial activities in private sector increased through both the participation of domestic and foreign, private companies. (Department of Public Enterprises, 2008)

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# Cognitive Flexibility and Occupational Stress among Police Officers

# Shaino Mariam Philip<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Marikutty P.J.<sup>2</sup>

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# Abstract

In addition to their usual responsibilities, demands placed on Police officers during post Covid period was quite high. Occupational stress is a mental and physical reaction to situations at workplace that can be harmful to health and overall wellbeing and in life. The capacity of a person to adjust to environments that are constantly changing in an effective manner is called Cognitive flexibility and this may be helpful in dealing with occupational stress. The study aimed to examine cognitive flexibility and occupational stress and its relationship with each other among police officers. It also studied the gender difference in cognitive flexibility and occupational stress amongst police officers. The study was carried out on 130 police officers, 98 males and 32 females, of different occupational ranks using Cognitive Flexibility Inventory (CFI) (Dennis & Vander Wal, 2009) and Occupational Stress Index (OSI) (Srivastava & Singh, 1984). Data was analyzed using methods like ANOVA, 't' test and Pearson product moment correlation. Results obtained emphasized the need to develop cognitive flexibility among police officers to reduce occupational stress. It also showed that women police officers have significantly higher cognitive flexibility, lesser role ambiguity and higher stress from experiencing low status at work place than male police officers.

Keywords: Cognitive Flexibility, Occupational Stress, Police Officers

# Introduction

The pandemic Covid had profound psychological effects on the entire world population. In addition to their usual responsibilities, demands placed on Police officers during post Covid period was quite high leading to increased job stress. Occupational stress is a mental and physical reaction to situations at workplace that can be harmful to health and overall well-being and in life. The capacity of a person to adjust to environments that are constantly changing in an effective manner is called Cognitive flexibility and this may be helpful in dealing with occupational stress. As police officers are under constant pressure to do multiple activities, it is important for the police officers to have adequate cognitive flexibility.

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# **Role of Perceived Parenting on Impulsiveness of Adolescents**

Fr. Johnson Joseph<sup>1</sup> Dr. Vidhya Ravindranadan<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Dept. Of Psychology, K. E. College Mannanam <sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor & Research Supervisor, Dept. of Psychology, U.C College Aluva

# Abstract

This research article aims to explore the relationship between perceived parenting styles and the impulsiveness of adolescents. Impulsiveness plays a crucial role in shaping an individual's behavior, decision-making, and overall well-being. Understanding how perceived parenting influences adolescent impulsiveness can provide valuable insights for parents, educators, and mental health professionals. A descriptive quantitative research design was adopted for the study and the population of the study was young adolescents. A simple random sampling method was adopted for the data collection. The Sample size of the study was two hundred students that consist of both males and females. Measurements used for the study are the perceived parenting scale by R.L. Bharadwaj, Sharma and Garg, and the Impulsiveness scale by SN Rai. Major findings of the study state that there is significant difference in perceived fathering of male and female adolescents and there is no significant relationship between perceived parenting and impulsive behaviour among adolescents

Keywords: Perceived Parenting, Impulsiveness, Social Competence

# Introduction

It's a wellknown fact that adolescence is a critical period marked by heightened impulsiveness, as individuals strive for autonomy and navigate various challenges. The perceived parenting style during this time can significantly shape adolescents' impulsivity levels, influencing their overall well-being and future outcomes. During this phase, the influence of parenting on various aspects of adolescent behavior and adjustment becomes particularly crucial. (Jaworska & MacQueen 2015.) One key aspect of parenting that has gained considerable attention in the literature is perceived parenting, which refers to how adolescents perceive their parents' behaviors, attitudes, and interactions with them. Perceived parenting styles are believed to shape adolescents' psychological and social development, including their levels of impulsiveness and social competence. (Salavera, Usán and Quilez-Robres, 2022).

Impulsiveness, characterized by acting without forethought or consideration of consequences, is a common trait observed among adolescents. It plays a vital role in decision-making, risk-taking behaviors, and self-regulation processes. Impulsiveness

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# Screen Time, Sleep Quality and Life Satisfaction among Young Adults

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# Abstract

The purpose of the present study was to understand whether there exist any difference in sleep quality and life satisfaction among young adults with low, moderate and high screen time. The participants of the study consist of 182 college students of which 84 were boys and 98 were girls. They belonged to the age range of 18-23 years. Measures used for data collection in the study are The Brief Multidimensional Students Life Satisfaction Scale - College Version, The Pittsburgh Sleep Quality Index (PSQ and Personal Data Schedule. Each measure was administered to participants through Google form with appropriate instructions. Data analysis was done using the methods such as One-way ANOVA, Pearson's Correlation Method and Students t test. The results indicated that there is significant difference in sleep quality and life satisfaction among low, moderate and high screen users, there is significant relationship between the sleep quality and life satisfaction among young adults and there is no significant difference between male and female young adults in their sleep quality and life satisfaction. The study contributes to a better understanding of how screen usage affects individuals sleep quality and life satisfaction.

Keywords: Sleep quality, life satisfaction, young adults, screen time

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# COVID anxiety in Relation to Personality and Social Support

# Chinnu Bose<sup>1</sup>, and Dr. Malini R<sup>2</sup>

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# Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the entire universe since 2019 and there have been drastic changes in every individual's life. The current study explores the nature of the relationship, if any, among the variables, viz., COVID anxiety, personality, and social support, and also to find out if there exists any gender difference or age-wise difference in the experience of COVID anxiety and social support. The study also tried to understand whether there is any difference between those whom were COVID infected and not the experience of COVID anxiety and social support. The participants were a total of 133 individuals of the age group 18-59 years. Data was collected using online Google Forms. The study's findings reveal no significant relationship between the experience of COVID anxiety, personality, and social support. No significant gender difference was found in COVID anxiety and social support. Elderly people were found to experience more COVID anxiety, however, no significant difference was found between different age groups in social support. There was no difference in the experience of COVID anxiety between people previously infected and not infected with Coronavirus, however, COVID-infected people were found to experience more social support. The study contributes to a better understanding of the importance of social support in reducing considerable anxiety related to the pandemic.

Keywords: COVID anxiety, Personality factors, and Social support

The entire universe was under an epidemic called COVID-19 which started affecting the entire world around March 2019. Although many countries proposed mass quarantines and searched for a vaccine against Covid-19, the number of deaths did not decrease much during this period. However, most people have gone through severe mental problems. On a day when many countries around the world began large-scale lockdowns, researchers were back to investigate whether the anxiety experienced during COVID-19 has brought about any significant changes in personality factors and whether the social support surrounding people has any benefit to their overall physical well-being. And prosperity on the psychological side.

Covid anxiety is defined as a situation where a person cannot leave their home due to fear of contracting Covid-19, even if they are not in a high risk situation (Kimberly



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डॉ.रूबी एलसा जेकब

शताब्दियों से भारत के निवासी जीविकोपार्जन के निमित्त तथा व्यापार – वाणिज्य केलिए साहस करके अपनी मातृभूमि छोड़कर अन्य देशों में जाया करते थे। अपने घर – परिवार छोड़कर नई परिस्थिति में चले जाने से उनकी मान्यताएँ बदलने लग जाती हैं। युगीन यथार्थ के समस्त पक्षों को पर्द – दर – पर्द खोलते हुए प्रत्येक प्रवासी संदर्भों को वास्तविकता से प्रस्तुत करने में समकालीन उपन्यासकार सफल हुए। इसके साथ, वे प्रत्येक वैदेशिक यथार्थों से भी अवगत कराते हैं जहाँ हर रिश्ता क्षणिक, अनाम, अर्थहीन एवं हर संबंध अजनबीपन से प्रसित हैं। प्रवासी भारतीयों पर आधारित उपन्यासों में विदेश में गए भारतीयों के विविध अनुभव – उनके संघर्ष, आजीविका की तलाश में निहित भागमभाग व तनाव – जैसे तत्व शामिल हैं। इन उपन्यासों में विदेशों में पनपे अपने समाज की बुनाहट है, क्षय होते रिश्ते हैं, बच्चों का विद्रोह है, टूटती – बिखरती ज़िंदगी की तीखी अनुभूतियों के साथ संबंधों के विच्छेदन से उत्पन्न मानसिक पीड़ा है।

भारतीय और पाश्चात्य संस्कारों से उत्पन्न अंतर्द्वन्द्व से ग्रस्त सामान्य व्यक्ति तिल – तिल टूटने लगता है। भौतिकता की अंधी बदहवास दौड़ में व्यक्ति का मनुष्यत्व कहीं खो जाता है। जो लोग बेहतर भौतिक जीवन की आस में विदेशों में जी रहे हैं वे कामयाबी के मधुर स्वप्नों में खोकर अपने पारिवारिक रिश्ते – नाते तक भूल जाते हैं। भारतीय समाज में कुछ ऐसे पारिवारिक रिश्ते हैं जिनका सम्मान हम सदियों से करते आये हैं। वास्तव में ये संबंध ही परिवार की एकता और विश्वास का आधार है। लेकिन विदेश जाते ही अधिकांश लोग अपने इन पवित्र रिश्तों के ढाँचों से बाहर निकल जातेहैं और सभी रिश्ते – नाते को केवल लाभ की दृष्टि से देखना शुरु करते हैं।

अपने नाती – नातिन की देखभाल करने केलिए अमेरिका गये एक नाना – नानी पर केन्द्रित द्रोणवीर कोहली कृत 'नानी ' उपन्यास में रिश्ते – नाते में आयी शिथिलता का मार्मिक वर्णन है। सभी संबंधों को अपनी सुविधा केलिए इस्तेमाल करनेवाले और रिश्तों की शिथिलता से परेशान पात्रों से इस उपन्यास के द्वारा हमारा साक्षात्कार होता है। ' नानी ', दुनियावी जंजाल में उलझे मानव – जीवन की तहक़ीकात या तफ़तीश की जीवंत रचना है। विदेश में जाकर बसे भारतीय दंपतियाँ अपने कामधंधे में इतने डूब जाते हैं कि अपने स्वदेश – स्वजनों से भी विमुख – से रहते हैं। धनार्जन की अतीव इच्छा में रहनेवाले इन लोगों को जब संतानें होती हैं तब उन्हें स्वजनों की चिंता सताने लगते हैं। अपने नवजात शिशु को किसी ' नैनी ' या ' डे – केयर ' में छोड़ने के अलावा और

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Maryann C. Wythers

# ADVANCES IN Materials Science Research

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### Investigation of Structural, Optical and Electronic Properties of the Delafossite CuInO<sub>2</sub> for Transparent Electronic Applications

### Bindu G. Nair<sup>1</sup>, Aijo John K.<sup>2</sup> and Rachel Reena Philip<sup>2,\*</sup>

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#### Abstract

This chapter comprises a quick review on the recent progress in development of transparent diodes using the technologically important transparent conducting delafossite metal oxide copper indium oxide (CuInO<sub>2</sub>). Delafossite compounds in general are I-III-VI compounds with ABO<sub>2</sub> structure belonging to P63/mmc space group symmetry or  $\overline{R}3m$  space group symmetry depending on the stacking of O-A-O dumbbells and BO<sub>6</sub> octahedra forming hexagonal 2H and rhombohedral 3R poly types respectively. The peculiar layered structure with O-A-O along c-axis and BO<sub>6</sub> perpendicular to it provides two separate pathways for electrons and holes enabling ease in induction of bipolarity. The superior characteristics like high optical transparency, wide bandgap and good electrical conductivity of delafossite compounds mark them as potential candidates for transparent or invisible electronic industry. Among the delafossite metal oxides, CuInO<sub>2</sub> is peculiar owing to the ease in inducing bipolarity in them by compositional variations, that makes possible fabrication of transparent homojunctions. A study on the

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## Chapter 1 PLANT ALLELOCHEMICALS AND THEIR ROLE IN THE CROP INDUSTRY Reshmi G R

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### ABSTRACT

Allelopathy is identified as the "Obstructive growth of one type of plant by chemicals produced by other types." The term 'Allelopathy' is detected from the Greek-derived 'allelo' and 'pathy' compounds meaning mutual harm or suffering. In this phenomenon, one organism produces certain types of specific biochemicals. which affect the germination, growth, survival, and reproduction neighboring of organisms. Thus, it like seems "biochemical plants" work to generate adverse environments for neighboring plants by declining seed growth germination and of biochemical plant initiators, which are known as natural inhibitors.

All living things need certain resources to live and grow and plants need sunlight, nutrients, water, and air. The roots transport nutrients and soil water for the plants and the leaves absorb energy from sunlight. If too many other plants are growing



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## ANTINUTRIENT CRYSTALS IN PLANT KINGDOM

### Renu Rajan<sup>1</sup> and Justin R Nayagam<sup>2\*</sup> Department of Botany, Union Christian College, Aluya, Ernakulam, Kerala State, India

Ergastic crystals are products of biomineralization in plants of various chemical origin ranging from calcium oxalate, calcium phosphate, calcium carbonate and calcium sulphate. They occur in more than 215 families of plants in all parts of the plants such as roots, stem, leaves, flowers, fruits and seeds. Ergastic crystals have been reported in algae, fungi, bryophytes, pteridophytes and gymnosperms. Ergastic crystals of calcium oxalate origin is the most commonly found ones in plants. About 1-90% dry weight can be contributed by calcium oxalate (Braissant et al., 2004). Calcium oxalate crystals are of utmost importance as they have the potential to act as antinutrients in animals and human beings. The shape and positioning of crystals are strictly genetically controlled and hence can serve as a tool in species level taxonomic



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## *"IN VITRO* REGENERATION AND TRANSFORMATION STUDIES ON *COLEUS FORSKOHLII* - AN IMPORTANT MEDICINAL AND AROMATIC PLANT"

Dr. Manju M. George

Associate Professor, Department of Botany Union Christian College, Aluva, Ernakulam Dt. Kerala – 683 102

## **INTRODUCTION**

Plant tissue culture has emerged as a potential tool and forms the backbone of plant biotechnology. The science of plant tissue culture is really not more than five decades old. It was conceived and enunciated by Haberlandt in 1902. He visualized the idea of growing plant cells in artificial media in the hope of rejuvenating a quiescent cell and triggering it into division and growth, to form a tissue



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## A REVIEW ON HERBAL SHAMPOO FORMULATIONS Jaya Kuruvilla<sup>1</sup> and Anilkumar M<sup>2\*</sup>

Department of Botany, St.Xavier's College, Aluva, Ernakulam, Kerala State, India Department of Botany, Union Christian College, Aluva, Ernakulam, Kerala State, India

## ABSTRACT

has been a traditional It practice to use shampoos made of natural herbals by the women folk of Kerala. These shampoos not only make the hair healthy and attractive but also prevent scalp infections. All the hebals that have been used in shampoo formulations are made from medicinally important plants that possess antimicrobial properties and also promote hair growth, thickness, strength etc. In most of the formulations the main ingredients include Emblica officinalis, Centella asiatica, Folinta alba Uibicauc noca