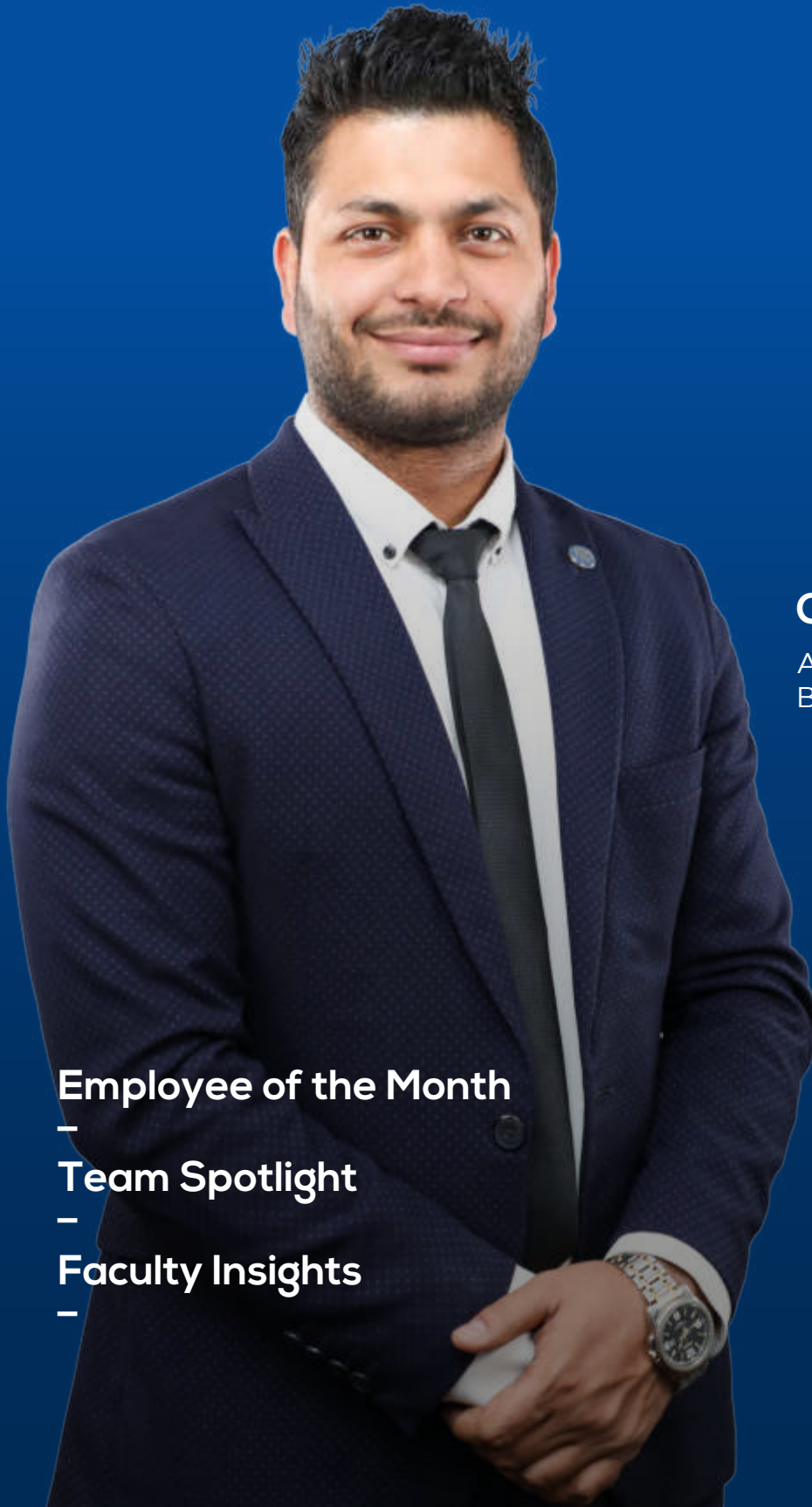


INSPIRE

The Monthly Employee Newsletter

MAY 2020



Qais Mohammadi

Academic Administrator,
Bsc Economics

Employee of the Month

—

Team Spotlight

—

Faculty Insights

—



پوهنتون کاردان
KARDAN UNIVERSITY



Birthday Wishes

Kardan University wishes a happy birthday to all of our employees who celebrate their birthdays in June.

Ghulam Mujeeb Sharifi	May 22
Masoud Yousufi	June 3
Dr. Amirzada Ahmadzai	June 6
Himatullah Masoudi	June 6
Muzhada Habib	June 8
Zabihullah Adina	June 13
Suliman Mohammadi	June 15
Mohibullah Shaghasy	June 17
Dr. Sudhiranjan Dey	June 28
Mahmood Ajmiri	June 28
Syed Ali Saeed	June 28

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Employee of the Month

We are pleased to announce Mr. Qais Mohammadi as our Employee for May 2020. Qais Mohammadi is an inspiring professor and a dedicated employee of Kardan University.

Mr. Mohammadi has played a significant role in supporting and strengthening Kardan University's online education system.

He facilitated several training programs across different faculties to help students and fellow faculty members adapt to the new technology and effectively conduct online education.

Kardan University's academic leadership sincerely appreciates and recognizes his efforts and cooperation in support of online learning.

Mr. Mohammadi is genuinely an inspiring leader and a great teacher.

We congratulate Mohammadi on this achievement and wish him the best of luck on his future endeavors.



Qais Mohammadi

Academic Administrator,
Bsc Economics

Team Spotlight

Kardan University recognizes the hard work and exceptional contribution of our Support Staff Team, who stayed on the university's campuses in the most challenging times to support our faculty and staff to continue online education. Our security guards, cooks, and support staff are our unsung heroes who assist us in the hardest times to make our campuses an excellent place for learning, teaching, work, and life.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication!





Faculty Insights

Dr. Sarfaraz Karim—Assistant Professor, MBA Program

As I complete the 75th day of my amazing work experience at Kardan University, I would like to reflect on a few incredible experiences I had.

Kardan University is a community of great people who are not only supportive but inspiring and motivating. As a new faculty, I was a bit worried about online education; however, the university's management facilitated the process in such an incredible way that everything became normal and exciting.

Online education, interaction, and student participation has been so stimulating that I sometimes feel even more comfortable with it than in the physical classroom environment. We became more technical by using IT tools like Zoom, Google Talk, WhatsApp, and YouTube.

The early move to online education with full preparation is the result of a proactive, collaborative, and visionary leadership. Kardan leaders can now take this opportunity to drive forward and show the torch to educators and other universities of the country.

In brief, I can confidently state that Kardan University is one of the leading academic institutions to work with, and I am fortunate to be part of such a prestigious institution.



Sajida Tayeb – Lecturer, Faculty of Economics

Online education is an exciting approach initiated by Kardan University, amid the global pandemic and countrywide lockdown.

Accompanying various economic and social predicaments, being deprived of education and academic progress is another huge price that students are paying around the globe.

The fact that Kardan University, despite all the challenges, is one of the institutions successfully conducting online education is a proud moment for all Afghans, especially for the students of Kardan.

In Afghanistan, online learning is undoubtedly associated with distinct challenges, with the internet as the most prominent obstacle.

Kardan University is still making it possible by its determined workforce and passionate students.



Abdul Basir Basirat – Lecturer, Faculty of Law

Online Education became the buzz word as the Covid-19 pandemic hit the globe and caused the schools, colleges, and universities to close around the world. The importance of online education is experienced in various countries where regular learning became impossible due to Covid-19.

Likewise, the education system has been disturbed in Afghanistan by Corona Virus, and it has caused difficulties for the students and lecturers to take regular classes. Therefore, the need for online education has emerged in Afghanistan for the first time. While online learning is convenient, it has challenges that need to be overcome. Thanks to Kardan University's team for making online education system possible.

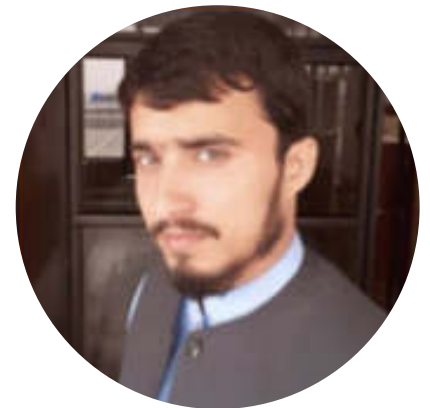


Sayed Najmuddin – Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering & Technology

Comfort is the key advantage, but it can go both ways. You must not allow yourself and the students to get too comfortable when teaching/studying from home, so it would be best to abandon the couch for few hours a day and set up an inspirational studying environment in your home.

All you need is a large desk and a comfortable chair with a computer or laptop. E-learning can cover up to 5x the material of instructor-led training in the same amount of time. The video instructions and lectures are provided for students and can be seen and heard again. If a student does not understand the topic the first time, watching and listening for a second and third time will help.

My message for the academic community is, "E-learning doesn't just 'happen' it requires careful planning, implementation and a huge amount of time, the question is not "how do I teach the topic?" but "how can our students learn and understand it?"



Khan Mohammad Shimwari– Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering & Technology

Today's method of education with an advantage in technology is very much different than in the past. Technology helped the entire world to reach and teach online in the most critical times of our life.

During this unprecedented time of novel COVID-19, schools are closed, and more people are staying at home. Online education is growing substantially all over the globe. However, I appreciate the early move of Kardan in launching online education.

The success of online education largely depends on individual perspective and the methods of learning from the small device in our students' pocket. My message for my students is "Absorbing from little device in your pocket will insure you of deserving the biggest dream in your coming future".



Gul Rahman Abdul Rahimzai– Lecturer, Faculty of Engineering

Ten years from now, it will not matter what school you attended, whether online or offline education, widely known or not; what will matter most is what you learned, the skills you acquired and how you leveraged it. Use every opportunity to develop the best version of yourself.



E-Learning, being the latest wave of education in Afghanistan, is already having a fair show despite posing challenges for both teachers and students. While teachers need to put in intensive work and time to design the course material, students need to equip themselves with technical proficiency to decode the course material.

Online education demands practical support from institutions to facilitate quality production, and I consider myself lucky enough that Kardan University is one of the best academic institutions in Afghanistan that provides all the requirements for teachers.

“The most important principle for designing lively e-Learning is to see eLearning design not as information design but as designing an experience.” - Cathy Moore

Qais Mohammadi – Academic Administrator, Bsc Economics

The continuation of education is as necessary as breathing the air, to put an end to violence, destruction, and misery.

The cost of delaying education for an hour should be intolerable to us, for this is the only means of our prosperity.



Inspiration through Continuous Learning

Our staff continues taking online courses as part of their professional development. They continue to inspire our community.

“While working from home offers several opportunities, it has some great challenges too. Balancing work and life is one of the greatest challenges everyone of us faces. I have learned many effective and helpful tips to be productive at work and have time for hobbies, exercise, and leisure.”—**Muska Telyar, Gender and Alumni Manager**



“Online Learning is an effective approach to mastering new skills and improving our professionalism by utilizing the available resources without wasting much time and efforts. I took two courses through the LinkedIn Learning platform while working from home. How about you? ”—**Nizamuddin Rezahi, Communication Specialist**



"Devoting some of my quarantine time to self-education gives me a sense of control and helps me cope with anxiety and the frustrations of self-isolation.

During these times of great uncertainty, one thing we all have more is time. So why not use it to learn new skills and improve existing ones with the available online platforms such as LinkedIn,edX, and Coursera and transform this period into a time of enlightenment and self-discovery?

Let's make the most of the time we have on our hands and stay safe!" **Eqbal Nahzat, Student Involvement & Events Officer**



"Thanks to Kardan University for availing an opportunity of online professional development of staff through human resources. Linked In is an amazing learning platform that offers a variety of courses on management and leadership.

During COVID-19, I had an opportunity to take courses on Leadership during Crisis. I learned how great leaders adjust and adopt to evolving circumstances and successfully lead a change. I invite all my colleagues to get benefit of this wonderful opportunity and foster their work knowledge and skills through the available online courses.

It doesn't matter where your career stands at this moment; online learning will always shape your perspectives and thinking."—**Samim Sadeed, Chief of Staff**





Inspirational Quotes

—

“Planning is bringing the future into the present so that you can do something about it now.” – **Alan Lakein**

“To accomplish great things, we must not only act but also dream. Not only plan but also believe.” – **Anatole France**

“Without passion you don’t have energy, without energy you have nothing.” – **Donald Trump**

“Some people don’t like change, but you need to embrace change if the alternative is disaster.” – **Elon Musk**

“As a well-spent day brings happy sleep, so a life well spent brings happy death.”—**Leonardo da Vinci**



Potatoes, Eggs, and Coffee Beans

—



**Potatoes, eggs,
and coffee.**

Which are you?



Once upon a time, a daughter complained to her father that her life was miserable and that she didn't know how she was going to make it.

She was tired of fighting and struggling all the time. It seemed just as one problem was solved, another one soon followed.

Her father, a chef, took her to the kitchen. He filled three pots with water and placed each on a high fire. Once the three pots began to boil, he placed potatoes in one pot, eggs in the second pot, and ground coffee beans in the third pot.

He then let them sit and boil, without saying a word to his daughter. The daughter moaned and impatiently waited, wondering what he was doing. After twenty minutes, he turned off the burners.

He took the potatoes out of the pot and placed them in a bowl. He pulled the eggs out and placed them in a bowl.

He then ladled the coffee out and placed it in a cup. Turning to her, he asked. "Daughter, what do you see?" "Potatoes, eggs, and coffee," she hastily replied.

"Look closer," he said, "and touch the potatoes." She did and noted that they were soft. He then asked her to take an egg and break it.

After pulling off the shell, she observed the hard-boiled egg. Finally, he asked her to sip the coffee.

Its rich aroma brought a smile to her face.

"Father, what does this mean?" she asked.

He then explained that the potatoes, the eggs and coffee beans had each faced the same adversity- the boiling water.

However, each one reacted differently. The potato went in strong, hard, and unrelenting, but in boiling water, it became soft and weak.

The egg was fragile, with the thin outer shell protecting its liquid interior until it was put in the boiling water. Then the inside of the egg became hard.

However, the ground coffee beans were unique. After they were exposed to the boiling water, they changed the water and created something new.

"Which are you," he asked his daughter. "When adversity knocks on your door, how do you respond? Are you a potato, an egg, or a coffee bean? "

Moral: In life, things happen around us, things happen to us, but the only thing that truly matters is what happens within us.

Which one are you?

For Your Consideration

—



Bagh-e Babur Garden and Palace (built 1528 onward)

The Bagh-e Babur garden is the final resting place of the first Mughal Emperor, Babur. Although present-day Afghanistan was not Babur's original homeland (he was born in Ferghana in present-day Uzbekistan), he felt sufficiently enamored of Kabul that he desired to be buried here.

When Babur died in 1530, he was initially buried in Agra against his wishes. Between 1539 and 1544, Sher Shah Suri, a rival of Babur's son Humayun, fulfilled his wishes and interred him at Babur's Garden.

The headstone placed on his grave read, "If there is a paradise on earth, it is this, it is this, it is this."

The garden was laid out as a series of 15 stepped terraces on a hillside in southwest Kabul. Its axis points toward Mecca. Babur's grave is located on the fourteenth terrace and was initially surrounded by a screen of white marble.

Southwest of the cemetery, on the next lower terrace, Shah Jahan built a small mosque in 1645-46.

He also rebuilt the water channels that flow through the central axis of the garden and added a caravanserai marketplace at the base of the garden. On the fifteenth level, he buried Babur's grand-daughter, Ruqaiya Sultan Begum (d. 1626), in a tomb with a marble jali screen.

The garden was converted into a public park during the rule of Nadir Shah in the 1930s with the construction of pools, reservoirs, and flower gardens down the central axis of the landscape. Finally, a modern swimming pool and greenhouse were constructed in the 1980s.

It now serves both as a tourist attraction in Kabul city and as a place of recreation for the city's residents. It is located on the slopes of Kuh-e Sher Darwaza, southwest of the old city of Kabul.



Chihilsitoon Garden and Palace (built 1796s)

Chihilstoon is the largest historic public garden in Kabul City.

The garden was established at mid of 18th century by King Zaman Shah later on a benchmark added to the garden which called Chihilstoon and means forty columns.

In terms of structure, the garden and the palace had many transformations and from having forty columns, it changed to linear rectangular buildings now.

In the past, the garden and palace was used for residing and hosting high government officials, unfortunately, during the civil war in the 1990s the palace looted burned, and most of the buildings ruined.

After rehabilitation in 2018, the garden opened for the public.

Now the garden has many new buildings, an exhibition hall, many entrance gates, an auditorium, small shops. And the garden is open to different exhibitions and programs.

The rehabilitated Chihilsitoon Garden provides users with a safe and secure environment to experience, interact, exchange within landscapes and facilities designed to contain and promote the country's rich cultural expressions and social history.

It is located in the southwest of Kabul, Afghanistan.



Darul Aman Palace (built 1920s)

Darul Aman Palace "abode of peace" or, in a double meaning "abode of Aman[ullah]" is a western-style palace built by King Amanullah Khan to the southwest of Kabul.

It was intended to serve as a parliament building within his new capital, but opposition to the King's reform efforts prevented the building from being put to use.

In 2019, the palace was fully renovated for the 100th year of Afghan Independence, which was on the 19th of August, 2019 Construction of the Darul Aman Palace began in the early 1920s as a part of the endeavors of King Amanullah Khan to modernize Afghanistan.

It was to be part of the new capital city called Darulaman, connected to Kabul by a narrow-gauge railway.

The palace is an imposing neoclassical building on a hilltop overlooking a flat, dusty valley in the western part of the Afghan capital.

Designed by French and German architects, it was one of the first buildings in the country to get central heating and running water.

A charming, peaceful place to visit and learn about the history of Afghanistan through the decades.

It is located about 16 kilometers southwest outside of the center of Kabul, Afghanistan.

It sits directly across from the Afghan Parliament and is close to the National Museum of Afghanistan and the American University of Afghanistan.

Reflections

—



“My journey with Kardan University started in 2015 as Assistant Professor.

Right after an introductory meeting with Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor, I realized that I have just grounded into the land of visionary leadership, which is not only confined to papers.

My welcoming to the Kardan family is memorable because of the warm, friendly, and caring behavior of my colleagues.

Since joining, Kardan gave me many reasons to believe in the concept of Kardan as a family where I and everyone else is equally important and taken care of, especially in January 2019, when I was diagnosed with Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma.

On educational grounds, Kardan inspired me a lot in all these years. Kardan University’s international accreditations, research, and community impact and its never-ending journey and strive for excellence have been amazing and incredible.

While many great universities in South Asia have been struggling with online education during Covid-19, Kardan has been exceptional in revamping its Learning Management System as part of the university’s Management Information System.

The best part is that Kardan is self-sustained and visionary, and that makes me proud to be a Kardanian.”—**Usman Ali, Assistant Professor, Faculty of Economics**



پوهنتون کاردان
KARDAN UNIVERSITY

Follow Us:

 Kardan University

 Kardan University

 KardanOfficial

 Kardan.University

 kardan.edu.af