

## **Role of Pakistan Museum of Natural History in imparting education in informal way**

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### **Abstract**

Pakistan Museum of Natural History located at Garden Avenue, Shakarparian Islamabad is one of the prime institution for the preservation of natural history of Pakistan in terms of Animals, Plants, Rocks, Minerals and Fossils. Its main aim is education and public awareness through three dimension displays and dioramas. The galleries in Pakistan Museum of Natural History are Bio Gallery, Tethys Gallery, Gemstone Gallery, Eco Gallery, Paleo Gallery, Virtual Orientation Gallery and Rock Garden. Bio Gallery provides information about Fauna and flora of Pakistan with reference to their habitat. This gallery is divided into different zones; these are Alpine, Subalpine, Galiat, Potwar, Plains, Desert and Coastal zones. In this gallery man made problems related to biodiversity are also addressed. The Tethys Gallery has four displays. These are of Salt Range, Ocean Life, minerals of Pakistan and blue whale skeleton. In Salt Range diorama rocks are so artistically displayed that it gives full insight of the geology of the area from East to West. In ocean diorama marine life with respect to depth of ocean is displayed three dimensionally. In Minerals display all minerals are displayed with outside display of their host rocks. In Gemstone Gallery some precious and semi precious gemstone are displayed in raw as well as cut and polished form with their relevant information. In Eco Gallery information related to Eco system of Pakistan is displayed. In Paleo Gallery fossils collection of Pakistan is displayed with respect to time from Paleozoic to Cenozoic. The evolution of Intelligence in Humans is depicted through fossils. In Virtual Orientation Gallery (VOG) all Information to Fauna, Flora, Rocks, Minerals and Fossils of Pakistan is provided in interactive software system with touch screen technology. People can get all relevant information in one Virtual Tour. In Rock Garden specimens of almost all types of Rocks of are displayed with respect to their classification. Pakistan Museum of Natural History has huge reference collection of Biological and Geological resources for research activities. It provides platform for BS, MS and PhD students from local universities to carry out research on these collections. Pakistan Museum of Natural History regularly arranges seminars, symposia, workshops, trainings for public education in terms of Natural History.