

# Amani Alhibshi, Ph.D.

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## **SUMMARY**

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A distinguished Biotech professional with over six years of research experience in neurodegeneration. Demonstrated leadership in managing department research operations, including supervising and training teams for scientific research. Proficient in translating research findings into strategic recommendations. Credited with publications and established national and international research collaborations.

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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### **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR** | *Feb 2017 – present*

Department of Neuroscience Research, Institute of Research and Medical Consultations (IRMC), Imam Abdulrahman bin Faisal University (IAU) | Dammam, Saudi Arabia.

### **RESPONSIBILITIES AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS**

- Secured two research grants totaling 170,285.47 SAR, enabling the development of the animal house facility and the successful cultivation of primary neurons.
- Optimized laboratory operations for the Neuroscience Department, implementing streamlined processes that reduced experimental setup time by 20% and improved overall research efficiency.
- Led a team of 2 research assistants, providing guidance, training, and support, improving team performance, and introducing new research techniques to the department.
- Developed and taught a comprehensive biotechnology master's Neuroscience course (Aug 2020-present).
- Delivered over ten captivating lectures and seminars to faculty members and students, illuminating the intersection of neuroscience, education, and e-learning.
- Mentored 3 faculty members in the Professional Fellowship in University Teaching and Learning (PFUTL) (Nov 2022 – present).
- Advised a Ph.D. candidate on scholarship applications, process, and follow-up (Oct 2021- present).
- Trained and mentored 11 students and two volunteers for neuroscientific research.
- Published four research papers, three review articles, and three book chapters.

### **IAU COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS**

- Quality and Academic Accreditation Unit (Jan 2024- present): Developed eligibility requirements for the national/international accreditation of the Neuroscience Technology program.
- E-learning style PFUTL program Committee (Dec 2023-present): Developed the English and Arabic versions of the PFULT program time plans, facilitating the program flow to online participants.
- GCC project Committee (Mar 2023- present): Prepared and followed up on implementing the strategic plan for establishing a joint Gulf program for professional development in teaching, learning, and academic leadership for faculty members.
- PFUTL Committee (Sep 2022- present): Improved the PFUTL program by leveraging expertise and guiding and overseeing program cohorts, leading to a 10% increase in applicant interest and enrollment.
- Biobank Unit Committee Head (Sep 2020- Nov 2023): Spearheaded the optimization of sample maintenance protocols, overseeing sample storage, organization, and the unit's workflow.

- Permanent intellectual property (IP) Committee (Aug 2020 - Dec 2020): collaborated on drafting and revising the university's IP guidelines and policies, addressed challenges, and suggested solutions for asset protection.

### **MARKETING MANAGER** | *Apr 2016 – Dec 2016*

Nakagawa Land Creation Co., Ltd. | Tokyo, Japan.

#### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- Orchestrated the tourism division operations, curating captivating tour plans, managing bookings, guiding 10+ tours, and receiving positive customer feedback.
- Translated and proofread legal documents, financial reports, and internal communications from Arabic and English to Japanese, ensuring compliance with regulatory standards and facilitating effective communication across international teams.
- Facilitated communication with potential business partners while strategically marketing and promoting company services.
- Engineered a unique approach to meet the real estate needs of Arab students and families, delivering tailored services that ensured comfortable, culturally aligned living solutions.

### **EDUCATION**

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- **Executive MBA** | Prince Mohammed bin Salman College, KAEC/ Riyadh, KSA | **Feb 2025 (expected)**.
- **Ph.D., Biotechnology** | Tokyo University of Technology, Tokyo, Japan | **Mar 2015**.  
Thesis titled: "Inhibitory effect of thymoquinone against amyloid  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$ -synuclein-induced neurotoxicities in rat primary and human induced pluripotent stem cells-derived neurons."
- **M.Sc., Biotechnology** | Tokyo University of Technology, Tokyo, Japan | **Mar 2012**.
- **B.Sc., Applied Biology** | Umm Al-Qura University, Makkah, KSA | **Dec 2006**.

#### **ADDITIONAL CERTIFICATES**

- Google Project Management Certification: by Google on Coursera (Feb 2023- Aug 2023).
- Neuroscience for Business: by Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Sloan School of Management on Get Smarter (Apr 2023- Jun 2023).
- Graduate School Preparatory Japanese Language Course, Japan Student Service Organization, Osaka, Japan, (May 2008 – Sep 2009).

### **AWARDS and FELLOWSHIPS**

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- 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner of the 1<sup>st</sup> Scholarship Competition | Prince Mohammed bin Salman College (Jul 2023).
- Elected for the Research Mobility Program | French Embassy in Riyadh | Institute of Analytical Sciences, University of Lyon, Lyon, France (Oct 2022- Jan 2023).
- Received the Professional Fellowship in University Teaching and Learning (PFUTL) | IAU and University of Turku | IAU, Dammam, KSA (Nov 2021-May 2022).
- Received the Research Excellence Award | Royal Embassy of Saudi Arabia Cultural Bureau |Tokyo, Japan (Mar 2014).
- Received the King Abdullah Scholarship Program | Japan (May 2008 – Mar 2015).

## LANGUAGES

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- Arabic (native), English (fluent), Japanese (intermediate speaking, reading, and writing).

## PUBLICATIONS

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- Suwannin P, Jangpatarapongsa K, Polpanich D, **Alhibshi A**, et al., leptospirosis control with nanosensing technology: A critical analysis, *Comp Immunol Microbiol Infect Dis.* 104 (2024) 102092.
- Muhammad Taha, Mohammed Salahuddin, Noor Barak Almandil, Rai Khalid Farooq, Fazal Rahim, Nizam Uddin, Muhammad Nawaz, **Amani H. Alhibshi**, et al., In Vitro and in Vivo Antidiabetics Study of New Oxadiazole Derivatives Along with Molecular Docking Study, *Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*, 43 (2023) 6911-6926.
- Farooq, R.K., Alamoudi, W., **Alhibshi, A.**, Rehman, S., Sharma, A.R., Abdulla, F.A. Varied Composition and Underlying Mechanisms of Gut Microbiome in Neuroinflammation. *Microorganisms*, 10 (2022), 705.
- Taha M, Rahim F, Zaman K, Anouar EH, Uddin N, Nawaz F, Sajid M, Khan KM, Shah AA, Wadood A, Rehman AU, **Alhibshi AH.**, Synthesis, in vitro biological screening and docking study of benzo[d]oxazole bis Schiff base derivatives as a potent anti-Alzheimer agent. *J Biomol Struct Dyn.* (2022) 1-16.
- Wei Liao, Waisudin Badri, **Amani H. Alhibshi**, et al., Food Applications of Nigella sativa Essential Oil. In: Mohamed Fawzy Ramadan (Ed.) *Black cumin (Nigella sativa) seeds: Chemistry, Technology, Functionality, and Applications.* Springer, Singapore, (2020) 433-455.
- **Amani H. Alhibshi**, Widyan A. Alamoudi, Rai K. Farooq, Applications of Nanomaterials in Neurological Diseases, Neuronal Differentiation, Neuronal Protection, and Neurotoxicity. In: Khan F. (Ed) *Applications of Nanomaterials in Human Health.* Springer, Singapore, (2020) 83-124.
- **Amani H. Alhibshi**, Widyan A. Alamoudi, Ikram Ul Haq, et al., Bibliometric analysis of Neurosciences research productivity in Saudi Arabia from 2013-2018, *Neurosciences (Riyadh)*, 25 (2020) 134-143.
- Nisar S., Farooq R.K., Nazir S., Alamoudi W., **Alhibshi A.**, Exposure to early life adversity alters the future behavioral response to a stressful challenge in BALB/C mice, *Physiol Behav.* 210 (2019) 112622.
- Alomari M., Almohazey D., Almofty S., **Alhibshi A.**, et al., Magnetic-responsive polysaccharide-inorganic composite materials for cancer therapeutic. In: Jana, Sougata (Ed) *Polysaccharide Carriers for Drug Delivery.* Elsevier, (2019) 179-216.
- **Alhibshi A.H.**, Odawara A., and Suzuki I., Neuroprotective efficacy of thymoquinone against amyloid beta-induced neurotoxicity in human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived cholinergic neurons, *Biochemistry and Biophysics Reports*, 17 (2019) 122 -126.
- Odawara A., Saito Y., **Alhibshi A.H.**, et al., Long-term electrophysiological activity and pharmacological response of a human induced pluripotent stem cell-derived neuron and astrocyte co-culture, *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, 433 (2014) 1176-1181.
- **Alhibshi A.H.**, Odawara A., Gotoh M., et al., Thymoquinone protects cultured hippocampal and human induced pluripotent stem cells-derived neurons against  $\alpha$ -synuclein-induced synapse damage, *Neuroscience Letters*, 570 (2014) 126-131.
- **Alhibshi A.H.**, Gotoh M., and Suzuki I., Thymoquinone protects cultured rat primary neurons against amyloid  $\beta$ -induced neurotoxicity, *Biochemical and Biophysical Research Communications*, 433 (2013) 362-367.
- Suzuki I., Nakamura K., Odawara A., **Alhibshi A.**, et al., A simplified micropatterning method for straight-line neurite extension of cultured hippocampal neurons, *Analytical Sciences*, 29 (2013) 263- 266.