



## Noor Muhammad, Pakistan

### M.Sc. in Environmental Protection and Agricultural Food Production

**A successful career: From University of Hohenheim to Nestlé Product Technology Center in Singen, Baden-Württemberg**

Noor had just completed his M.Sc. in Agriculture specializing in EnviroFood at the University of Hohenheim when he received a job offer from the Nestlé Product Technology Center (PTC) in Singen, where he is now working as a trainee.

His story is almost like a fairy tale: Before he arrived in Frankfurt two years ago he had never been away from his home country Pakistan, where his parents run a farm in a small village. Being always first in school he received a lot of scholarships throughout his study career – finally leading him to the University of Hohenheim in the German Southwest. At this University he has done a Master in Agriculture while putting main focus on food technology studies. He had just graduated, last fall, when he received a job offer from the Nestlé Product Technology Center (PTC) Singen, near Lake Constance.

PTC Singen is one of nine Product Technology Centers within the worldwide research and development network of the Nestlé group. This center focuses its development and research activities on culinary products such as condiments, soups, sauces, mayonnaise, chilled and frozen products, culinary products for professionals and baby food. Noor is now being trained in the development of culinary products that should enable him to support the development of new products upon returning to his home country. „Here in Singen I now have the opportunity to learn from the experience of a multinational team as I am working together with culinary experts from different countries from the Middle East, Asia and Africa until I will start my new rewarding and challenging job.“

As it often happens in fairy tales, the protagonist Noor was in the right place at the right time: When Dr. Palzer, head of the Technology Group PTC Singen, held a lecture at the University of Hohenheim, Noor was excited from the beginning. His home country being in the phase of rapid economic growth and the development of convenient food products seemed to be an important one for the future. He asked the lecturer whether he would probably supervise his master thesis in „Envirofood“. The two agreed upon the topic, which was the beginning of a happy ending for Noor’s student story in Hohenheim.

Baden-Württemberg will still be his home for the months to come. He feels comfortable living in Singen, he likes his work concerned with development of new culinary products, and he is glad that he can return to Hohenheim once in a while,

where some of his friends still study. „We cook together, stroll through the park, in the summer we used to have picnics on the lawn near the castle“, he recalls. No wonder that he went „home“ to Hohenheim for Christmas, last year. „Living abroad without family is not easy“, says the 25 year old Pakistani, „I want to tell interested students from abroad to be prepared for Germany. It is not always paradise, but it is worthwhile.“

He now enjoys the discipline and the straightforwardness of German and especially Baden-Württemberg’s culture. „The first years were hard work, but when you get used to it, things get easier and easier,“ states Noor who „will definitely miss the way of studying and working in Baden-Württemberg in his home country, where things are not always so well organized.“

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Baden-Württemberg

The German Southwest.