

A Brief Biography and Achievements

of Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid, Professor.



1. A Moroccan national of 66 years of age, hold a degree in Agronomy (1981) from the Hassan II Agronomic and Veterinary Institute – Morocco / prepared at the USDA-USA, and a PhD in Horticulture (1990) from Colorado State University - USA.
2. Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid undertake two post-doctoral studies sponsored by the Fulbright Foundation (1993) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) (1994).
3. Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid worked for 15 years for the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco, and hold positions of increasing responsibility in research and teaching in the field of date palm propagation and production. From Tissue Culture Specialist, to the position of Head of the Plant Physiology Laboratory at the National Institute of Agronomic Research, and subsequently passed to the position of Director of the National Centre of Biotechnology. In September 1990, Dr. Zaid joined the teaching staff of the Department of Botany at the Faculty of Sciences - Semlalia - University Cadi Ayyad, Marrakech, and was then elected as the General Secretary of the National Association of Biotechnology. During this period, he served as a consultant for the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, the World Bank, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and other United Nations agencies.
4. Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid joined Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) in June 1995 as the Chief Technical Adviser for the Date Production Support Programme in Namibia (UTF-NAM), bringing his background and experience to this Namibian programme in order to contribute to food security and nutrition improvement, poverty alleviation, creation of employment, and the fight against desertification.

5. Dr. Zaid has also contributed significantly to the FAO Organization's credibility in various countries by preparing several development projects in Burkina Faso, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Syria, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates, Republic of Yemen, Namibia, and Republic of South Africa. He also initiated significantly in providing technical leadership to regional and international agricultural activities.

6. Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid, is currently working as:
 - a. Agricultural Advisor at the Ministry of Presidential Affairs in the United Arab Emirates since June (2014)
 - b. Secretary General of the Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation since its inception in May, 2007.
 - c. Goodwill Ambassador of United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), since September (2016), and for 5 five years period.

7. Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid has received numerous awards, honors and other recognitions, including:
 - B-R. Sen award from United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (1999).
 - Award of Excellence from the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development (AOAD) (2000).
 - Honorary Medal from United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) (2019).
 - Five letters of recognition from His Majesty King Mohammed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco, "God protect Him" (2004-2011-2015-2021- and 2022).
 - Plaque of honor for presenting one of the valuable teaching courses, entitled " Date Palm in the Holy Qur'an and Sunnah" in the presence of His Majesty King Mohammed VI of the Kingdom of Morocco, during the holy month of Ramadan (May 30, 2019).

8. He is the Founder of the Khalifa International Date Palm Award and was appointed as its Secretary General by Presidential Decree on May 2, 2007.

9. Since March 2017, he founded the Distinguished Farmer and Innovative Farmer's Award.

10. Organized the International Date Palm Conferences from its second (2002), third (2006), fourth (2010), fifth (2014), sixth (2018), and seventh (2022) sessions, under the patronage of His Highness President of the UAE, "May God protect him".
11. Organized the Egypt International Date Palm Festivals (2015-2016-2017-2018-2022- and 2023), respectively.
12. Organized the Sudan International Date Palm Festivals (2017-2018-2019 - 2022), respectively.
13. Organized the Jordan International Date Palm Festivals (2018-2019-2021-2022 – and 2023), respectively.
14. Organized the Mauritania International Date Palm Festival (2022 and 2023)
15. Founder of the Sheikh Khalifa Center for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering established in collaboration between UAE University and the UAE Ministry of Presidential Affairs and was appointed as its Director General (2005-2012).
16. Founder of the International Date Palm Network and was appointed as its General Coordinator, through which he mobilized technical support to serve the date palm tree (since 2004).
17. Co-founder of the UAE Date Palm Friends Society, headed by His Excellency Sheikh Nahayan Mubarak Al Nahayan, and was appointed as its Secretary General (since 2003).
18. Organized the UAE International Date Palm Exhibitions in 1st (2004), 2nd (2006), 3rd (2008) and 4th (2010) held in Al Ain, UAE.

19. Initiated the tissue culture multiplication of "Al Ain Male " from the orchard of His Highness the President, through the technique of "Organogenesis" and achieved a unique success that exceeded all expectations (2010).
20. He coordinated with numerous national scientists in several Arab countries to take charge in the date palm sector and agricultural innovation.
21. He established strong links with those interested in date palm cultivation, agriculture, industry and trade, and provided scientific and technical advice to many countries, institutions and international organizations such as (FAO, UNIDO, ICBA, UNDP, ICARDA, DPGN) to promote the date palm cultivation and date production sector in the UAE and the Arab world.
22. He helped in motivating the UAE's private sector to invest in date palm trees in African countries such as Namibia, South Africa and Australia (preparing and supervising the project documentations).
23. He has written numerous scientific books, the most important of which is FAO's "Date Palm Cultivation" under No. 156, in English and Arabic, and the book "Glossary of Biotechnology for Food and Agriculture" under Research and Technology, No. 09 and was published in six languages (List Books and publications written or co-authored by Dr. A. Zaid in attached Annex).
24. Dr. Abdelouahhab Zaid joined the UAE on June 15, 2000, as Chief Technical Advisor of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to lead a project in developing the palm cultivation sectors and date production using the technology of tissue culture at the UAE University (2000-2013).

Books Authored or Co-Authored by Dr. A. Zaid, Prof.

1. Date Palm Cultivation FAO-AGP No. 156; (English version)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN#&book_id=395&cbk&/1
2. Date Palm Cultivation FAO-AGP No. 156; (Arabic version)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR#&book_id=394&cbk&/1
3. Glossary of Biotechnology for Food and Agriculture FAO –
Research and Technology Paper No. 1:9 (Translated into six languages)
 - http://www.fao.org/biotech/index_glossary.asp?lang=ar (Arabic version)
 - http://www.fao.org/biotech/index_glossary.asp?lang=en (English version)
 - http://www.fao.org/biotech/index_glossary.asp?lang=fr (French version)
 - http://www.fao.org/biotech/index_glossary.asp?lang=es (Spanish version)
 - <http://www.fao.org/biotech/docs/serbglos.pdf> (Serbian version)
 - Vietnamese version only hard copy available.
 - <http://www.fao.org/biotech/docs/serbglos.pdf> (Chinese Version)
 - <http://www.fao.org/DOCREP/006/Y4360E/Y4360E00.HTM> (English version)
4. Zayed's Book for Date Palm Cultivation (2019).
5. Book for (GIAHS) Egypt. + Book for (GIAHS) United Arab Emirates (2015 & 2016).
6. History of date palm cultivation and production technology (Arabic, English) (2002).
7. The Book of Date Palm in the Qur'an and Sunnah (2016).
8. Date Palm Culture and Production Technology. FAO Near East Regional Office (2006).
9. The Physiology of Date Palm Fruits (Production, Pre and Post-Harvesting). FAO Near East Regional Office (2006).
10. <http://datepalm.uaeu.ac.ae> : Date Palm Research and Development Unit.
11. <http://dpgn.uaeu.ac.ae> : Date Palm Global Network.
12. <http://dpfa.uaeu.ac.ae> : Date Palm Friends Society.
13. <http://citrix.uaeu.ac.ae/dates3> : Date Palm Varieties in UAE.

Other books and publications published under the close supervision of Dr. A. Zaid:

1. Proceedings of the International Date Palm Conferences (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN#&book_id=621&cbk#/1 (2022)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#/1 (2018)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#&book_id=351&cbk#/1 (2014)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#/1 (2010)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#/1 (2006)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#/1 (2001)
 - https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#/1 (1998)
2. Egypt's Climatic map of the most date palm cultivars (2022), in:
 - a. English: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN#/1
 - b. Arabic: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR#&book_id=669&cbk#/1
3. Mejhoul Variety –The Jewel of Dates- (2022), in:
 - a. English: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN#&book_id=612&cbk#/1
 - b. Arabic: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR#&book_id=664&cbk#/1
 - c. Spanish: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#&book_id=668&cbk#/1
 - d. French (2023): Under Process.
4. The Khalifa Award Report – Bridging Boundaries- (2021), in:
 - a. English: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN#&book_id=389&cbk#/1
 - b. Arabic: https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR#&book_id=582&cbk#/1
5. Date Palm Cultivation and Dates Quality
6. Date Palms in the United Arab Emirates from the year of the Union (1971) to the year of Tolerance (2019).
7. Date Palm Cultivation and Date Production in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan (2019).
8. Date Palm Cultivation and Date Production in the Republic of Sudan (2019).
9. International Efforts to Combat Red Palm Weevil (2019).

10. Palm and Date Sector Development Strategy in Egypt
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=353&cbk&/1
11. Date Palm cultivation and date production in Jordan
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=75&cbk&/1
12. Date Palm cultivation and quality
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=73&cbk&/1
13. Date palm in the UAE
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=72&cbk&/1
14. Lectures of the Scientific Symposium at the First International Festival of Jordanian Dates 2018
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#/1
15. Lectures of the Scientific Symposium at the Second International Festival of Jordanian Dates 2019
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=456&cbk&/1
16. Zayed's Genius, in Agriculture and the Environment
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#/1
17. Date Palm Cultivation Strategy in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#/1
18. International Marketing of Dates
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=242&cbk&/1
19. Poems (2017 – 2020)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#/1
20. Arish: Palm-Leaf Architecture
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#&book_id=330&cbk&/124-
21. Pests and diseases of date palms
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=384&cbk&/1
22. An integrated study of the achievements of the Award at the regional and international levels
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#&book_id=401&cbk&/1

23. Lectures of the Scientific Symposium of the Third International Festival of Egyptian Dates 2017
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=AR&cbk#/1
24. Bio-Stimulants for sustainable agriculture
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#&book_id=439&cbk&/1
25. Date Palm Cultivation
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=10&lang=EN&cbk#&book_id=395&cbk&/1
26. The 50 booklets series in the Year of the Fiftieth
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=12&lang=EN
27. The annual book series of Khalifa International Award for Date Palm and Agricultural Innovation (2009 – 2022)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=6&lang=EN
28. Award Winners Book Series (2009 – 2020)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=7&lang=EN
29. Blessed Tree Magazine Series (2009 – 2022)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=5&lang=EN
30. Virtual Lecture Series (2021 – 2022)
https://www.ekiaai.com/library?rack_id=11&lang=EN