Vibhav Gautam, Ph.D.

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Current Employment: Assistant Professor (*Stage II*), Centre of Experimental Medicine and Surgery (CEMS), Institute of Medical Sciences (IMS), Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi 221005-Uttar Pradesh, India.

Postdoctoral Experience (PDF) - From December 2016 to December 2018, I served as a Research Associate at Prof. Ananda K. Sarkar's Laboratory at the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR) in New Delhi, India. During this period, I actively contributed to research projects and scientific endeavours in the laboratory.

Research Interests: Ethnopharmacology, Molecular Biology

Educational qualifications

Doctor of Philosophy (**PhD**): During the period of 2010-2016, I pursued my PhD at the National Institute of Plant Genome Research (NIPGR), India, and earned my degree from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. My research during my PhD focused on plant molecular biology and developmental biology, and I had the privilege of working in Prof. Ananda K. Sarkar's laboratory. Title of the PhD thesis was "Small RNA mediated regulation of root architecture in *Zea mays* (maize)".

Master of Science (**M.Sc.**): From 2008 to 2010, I pursued my Master's degree in Biotechnology at Savitribai Phule Pune University (formerly known as the University of Pune) in Pune, India. During my Master's program, I undertook a minor project titled 'Molecular characterization of microbial content to validate commercial Probiotic formulations.' This project was conducted under the guidance of Dr. Yogesh S. Shouche at the National Centre for Cell Science-Pune, spanning from January 2010 to April 2010.

Bachelor of Science (**B.Sc.**): From 2004 to 2007, I attended Chhatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University in Kanpur, India, where I completed my B.Sc. and received a degree in Zoology, Botany, and Chemistry.

Publications

- Chattopadhaya A, Kural S, Verma A, Gupta P, Tiwari H, Singh S, Thakur A, Kumar R, Sankhwar SN, Singh SK, Agarwal S, Mehrotra S, Kumar L*, Gautam V*. Urinary miRNAs in bladder cancer. *Clinica Chimica Acta* (2025); <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cca.2024.120113</u>; Impact factor- 3.2
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- Singh S, Tiwari H, Verma A, Gupta P, Chattopadhaya A, Singh A, Singh S, Kumar B, Mandal A, Kumar R, Yadav AK, Gautam HK, Gautam V*. Sustainable Synthesis of Novel Green-Based Nanoparticles for Therapeutic Interventions and Environmental Remediation. ACS Synthetic Biology (2024); doi: 10.1021/acssynbio.4c00206, Impact factor- 3.7
- 7. Jaiswal S, Rai N, Chandra S, Verma A, Gautam V, Adhikari M, Singh S, Bharty MK. Design, Synthesis, and Structural Evaluation of Metal Complexes of Azepane-1-carbodithioate for Targeting Human Breast Cancer: Investigating Cytotoxic Activity against MDA-MB-231 Cell Line. RSC: New Journal of Chemistry (2024); https://doi.org/10.1039/D4NJ01878H, Impact factor- 2.7
- 8. Pandey P, Kanuru V, Rai N, Gautam V, Amalnerkar D, Kamble SC. Nanoparticulate curcumin spray imparts prophylactic and therapeutic properties against SARS-CoV-2. *Emergent Materials* (2024); <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/s42247-024-00754-6</u>, Impact factor-4.8
- 9. Thakur M, Khushboo, Shah S, Kumari P, Yadav M, Vibhuti RK, Pramanik A, Yadav V, Raina M, Negi NP, Gautam V, Rustagi A, Verma SK, Kumar D. Unlocking the Secrets of Rhizosphere Microbes: A New Dimension for Agriculture. *Symbiosis* (2024); <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/s13199-024-00980-w</u>, Impact factor- 2.1
- **10.** Bhardwaj N, Gupta P, Tripathi N, Chakarbarty S, Verma A, Kumari S, **Gautam V**, Gudasalamani R, Jain SK. New Ring-A Modified Cycloartane Triterpenoids from Dysoxylum malabaricum Bark: Isolation, Structure elucidation and their cytotoxicity.

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- **23.** Verma A, Rai N, Gupta P, Singh S, Tiwari H, Chauhan SB, Kailashiya V, **Gautam V***. Exploration of *in vitro* anticancer activity and *in ovo* antiangiogenic activity of ethyl acetate extract of *Penicillium oxalicum*. *Environmental Toxicology* (2023); *https://doi.org/10.1002/tox.23889*, **Impact factor-4.4**.
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- 30. Gupta P, Rai N, Verma A, Saikia D, Singh SP, Kumar R, Singh SK, Kumar D, and Gautam V*. Green-based approach to synthesize silver nanoparticles using fungal endophyte *Penicillium oxalicum* and its antimicrobial, antioxidant and in vitro anticancer potential. *ACS Omega* (2022); *doi:10.1021/acsomega.2c05605*, Impact factor- 3.7.
- **31.** Tiwari RK, Rawat SG, Gupta VK, Jaiswara PK, Sonker P, Kumar S, **Gautam V**, Mishra MK, Kumar A. Epinephrine facilitates the growth of T cell lymphoma by altering cell

proliferation, apoptosis, and glucose metabolism. *Chemico-Biological Interactions* (2022); *https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cbi.2022.110278*, **Impact factor- 4.7**.

- **32.** Salvi P, Mahawar H, Agarrwal R, Kajal, **Gautam V**, Deshmukh RK. Advancement in the molecular perspective of plant-endophytic interaction to mitigate drought stress in plants. *Frontiers in Microbiology* (2022); *https://doi.org/10.3389/fmicb.2022.981355*, **Impact factor- 4.0**.
- **33.** Sharma A, Negi NP, Raina M, Supoli D, Mahajan A, Rajwanshi R, **Gautam V**, Bhagat B, Kakori H, Kumar D. Phytomelatonin: Molecular messenger for stress perception and response in plants. *Environmental and Experimental Botany* (2022); *https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envexpbot.2022.104980*, **Impact factor- 4.5**.
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- **39.** Debnath N, Thakur M, Khushboo, Negi NP, **Gautam V**, Yadav AK, Kumar D. Insight of oral vaccines as an alternative approach to health and disease management: An innovative intuition and challenges. *Biotechnology & Bioengineering* (2021); *https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/bit.27987*, **Impact factor-3.5**.
- **40.** Gupta P, Verma A, Rai N, Singh A, Singh SK, Kumar B, Kumar R, **Gautam V*.** Mass spectrometry-based technology and workflows for studying the chemistry of fungal endophyte derived bioactive compounds. *ACS Chemical Biology* (2021); *https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acschembio.1c00581*, **Impact factor-3.5**.
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- **43.** Kaur H, Manna M, Thakur T, **Gautam V**, Salvi P. Imperative role of sugar signalling and transport during drought stress responses in plants. *Physiologia Plantarum* (2021). *https://doi.org/10.1111/ppl.13364*, **Impact factor- 5.4.**
- **44.** Rai N, Keshri PK, Verma A, Kamble SC, Mishra P, Barik S, Singh S K, **Gautam V***. Plant associated fungal endophytes as a source of natural bioactive compounds. *Mycology* (2021); *https://doi.org/10.1080/21501203.2020.1870579*, **Impact factor- 4.2**.
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Book Chapters

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- **12. Gautam V***, S Chatterjee and Sarkar AK. Laser capture microdissection (LCM) based method for isolation of single cell types from rice tissue and its potential application. *Methods Mol Biol.* 2021;2238:275-283. *doi:* 10.1007/978-1-0716-1068-8_18.
- **13. Gautam V***, Singh A, Singh S, Verma S and Sarkar AK. Improved method of RNA isolation from laser capture microdissection (LCM) derived- plant tissues. **Methods Molecular Biology** (2019);1933:89-98. *doi: 10.1007/978-1-4939-9045-0_5*.
- 14. Sarkar AK, Mayandi K, Gautam V, Barik S, Das SS (2013). Improving the Plant Root System Architecture to Combat Abiotic Stresses Incurred as a Result of Global Climate Changes. Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH & Co. KGaA, *doi: 10.1002/9783527675265.ch12. *Corresponding author/first author*

Edited Books:

1. Editor for an international book titled 'Nanomedicine: Innovations, Applications, and Breakthroughs in the Quest for Health and Medicine's Future," published by Springer Cham; Published: December 2024; (<u>https://link.springer.com/book/9783031724664).</u>

2. Editor for an international book titled "Endophytic Fungi: The Hidden Sustainable Jewels for the Pharmaceutical and Agricultural Industries," published by Springer Cham; Published: 26 January 2024; (https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-49112-2).

Technical expertise

PhD: During my PhD, I had the opportunity to acquire expertise in advanced forms of microscopy, including Laser Capture Microdissection (LCM), multiphoton confocal microscopy, live cell imaging, and Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM). In addition to my proficiency in basic microbiology and molecular biology techniques, I also gained practical knowledge in gene expression-related methodologies. These included gene expression

microarray analysis, miRNA microarray analysis, northern blotting, Electrophoretic Mobility Shift Assay (EMSA), in-situ hybridization, quantitative Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (qRT-PCR), stem-loop qRT-PCR, and the interpretation of their data. Furthermore, I developed expertise in tissue fixation, processing using paraffin wax and microtome for thin sectioning.

M.Sc.: During my M.Sc. project, I acquired hands-on expertise in fundamental molecular biology and microbiology techniques. Additionally, I gained proficiency in Denaturing Gradient Gel Electrophoresis (DGGE), which allowed me to explore the genetic diversity and composition of samples, providing valuable insights into the microbial communities present. Furthermore, I developed skills in sample preparation for Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS).

Research experience

Current research work at Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi (December 2018 to Ongoing)

My research centers around *ethnopharmacology*, with a primary focus on isolating medicinal plant-associated fungal endophytes and extracting bioactive compounds from them. Spectroscopic techniques play a key role in purifying and characterizing the monomeric compounds, followed by evaluation for their anti-breast cancer activity using both *in vitro* and *in vivo* models. My expertise lies in exploring the biological, chemical, biomedical, and pharmacological aspects of these bioactive compounds and their potential applications in breast cancer therapeutics. Through extensive *in vitro* and *in vivo* studies, we delve into the mechanisms of action and assess the efficacy of these compounds in inhibiting the growth and proliferation of breast cancer cells. In addition to isolating bioactive compounds, my research extends into the exciting field of *nanobiotechnology*. My team actively engages in the green synthesis of silver and gold nanoparticles, driven by the bioactive compounds produced from fungal endophytes. These nanoparticles hold promising potential for therapeutic applications in cancer treatment.

In summary, my research work aims to make significant contributions to the field of *ethnopharmacology*, advancing our understanding of therapeutic approaches for breast cancer. By bridging the gap between traditional medicine and modern science, I aspire to bring about impactful developments in cancer treatment.

Postdoctoral Experience (December 2016 – December 2018)

Following the successful completion of my PhD, I joined Prof. Ananda K Sarkar's laboratory at the National Institute of Plant Genome Research in New Delhi, India, to pursue my post-doctoral work. During this period, my research focused on a Laser Capture Microdissection (LCM) based study aimed at identifying meristem-specific miRNAs in plants. This cutting-edge technique allowed us to precisely isolate and analyse microRNAs expressed in the plant's meristems, providing valuable insights into their regulatory roles in plant development and growth.

PhD research experience (2010-2016)

During my PhD research, I elucidated the role of small RNA and related genes in maize root development. I focused on a pivotal gene (*LBL1*) involved in ta-siRNA biogenesis, which served as an ideal candidate for studying its influence on maize root development. Employing functional genomics approaches and mutational analysis, I elucidated the molecular basis of ta-siRNA-mediated root development in maize. Collectively, our research work unveiled the essential role of the ta-siRNA pathway in regulating maize root architecture. Taken together, our work uncovers the role of ta-siRNA pathway in regulating maize root architecture

(*Development*, 2021). Additionally, our lab has developed a LCM-based method for RNA extraction in plants, which proves highly useful for miRNA and total RNA extraction (*Sci. Rep.*, 2016).

M.Sc. research experience (2008-2010)

During my M.Sc. project, which spanned four months, I conducted a comprehensive investigation to assess the validity and claims of commercially manufactured probiotic drugs known for their purported benefits in improving gut microflora in humans. This project combined the fields of molecular biology, microbiology, and preliminary bioinformatics techniques. In my study, I meticulously examined various commercial probiotic drugs to ascertain the presence and viability of the claimed microorganisms. This work serves as a valuable reference for both consumers and the scientific community, emphasizing the necessity for critical evaluation of commercial probiotics and their potential effects on human health.

Scholarships and Awards

- 1. '*Research Publication Award*' by Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 2022-23.
- 2. Recipient of *Bridge Grant* under Institution of Eminence Scheme, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 2023.
- 3. '*Academic Excellence in Publication Award*' by Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, 2021-22.
- 4. Recipient of UGC BSR Start-up Grant, 2021.
- 5. Award of SERB-EMEQ research grant, 2019.
- 6. Qualified Indian Council of Agricultural Research-Agriculture research services/National eligibility test (ICAR-ASRB NET) 2014 and 2018.
- 7. Qualified Joint Council of Scientific & Industrial Research-University Grants Commission-National Eligibility Test (CSIR-UGC NET) for junior research fellowship (JRF) twice i.e., 2010 and 2011 among JRF awardees in Life Sciences.
- 8. Qualified Joint CSIR-UGC NET for lectureship in life sciences.
- 9. Qualified Graduate Aptitude Test for Engineering (GATE)-2010 in Life sciences.
- 10. Recipient of monthly fellowship from CSIR New Delhi for the period of five years.
- 11. Recipient of a monthly studentship from the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India during M.Sc. at University of Pune.
- 12. Lifetime membership of the Society of Biological Chemists, India.
- 13. Lifetime membership of the Mycological Society of India.
- 14. Lifetime membership of the Indian Science Congress Association.
- 15. Lifetime membership of the Proteomics Society of India.
- 16. Lifetime membership of the Association of Microbiologists of India.
- 17. Lifetime membership of the Electron Microscope Society of India.
- 18. Annual Membership of the American Chemical Society, USA
- 19. Member of Departmental Committees: Academic Committee, Administrative Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Technical Committee, Purchase Committee, and Research Committee (both the Department Research Committee or DRC and committees like Anti-plagiarism, RPC, Admission, *etc.*).
- 20. Category Representative for Faculty Affairs Committee, Centre of Biostatistics, IMS BHU, Varanasi

Academic Editor: *PLOS One, Scientific Reports* Guest Associate Editor:

- 1. Frontiers in Molecular Biosciences & Frontiers in Pharmacology (2022-23) (https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/46441/investigating-the-impact-of-bioactive-metabolitesand-extracts-in-human-health-and-disease).
- 2. Frontiers in Materials: Biomaterials and Bio-Inspired Materials section (2023-Ongoing) (https://www.frontiersin.org/research-topics/60010/biomaterials-derived-from-plants-and-fungi-foradvancing-tissue-engineering).

Conferences and Workshops Organized:

- 1. Workshop on Computational Oncology: Integrating experiments and computational models (*WoCON- 2024*), *December 17-18, 2024* (as an Organizing Secretary) at IIT-BHU, Varanasi.
- Two-Day Training on High-Performance Thin Layer Chromatography (HPTLC), *February* 6-7, 2024 Organized at the Centre of Experimental Medicine and Surgery, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India. (Role: Organizer)
- 3. 5th International Conference on Innovative Approaches in Applied Sciences and Technologies 03-05 December 2021, (as an Associate Director) at Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (A Central University) Lucknow (U.P.) India.

S. No.	Funding Agency	Title of Project	Duration of Project	Role	Amount
1)	Science and Engineering Research Board- Empowerment and Equity Opportunities for Excellence in Science- New Delhi, India	Isolation and characterization of microbial endophytes for novel anticancer and antioxidant compounds from <i>Oroxylum</i> <i>indicum</i>	3 Years (36 months)/ Project Completed	Principal Investigator	₹46,96,235
2)	University Grants Commission, New Delhi, India	Isolation and evaluation of phytochemicals from <i>Oroxylum</i> <i>indicum</i> plant for the development of anticancer chemotherapy against cancer	2 Years (24 months)	Principal Investigator	₹10,00,000
3)	Department of Science & Technology (SEED), New Delhi, India	Science and technology-based approach for the upliftment of the socioeconomic status of the scheduled caste communities of eastern Uttar Pradesh through	3 Years (36 months)	Co- Investigator	₹88,59,800

Research Grants and Funding (Ongoing)

		cultivation of selected medicinal plants			
4)	Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi	Immunoregulatory network in <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> induced severe and uncomplicated malaria and its manipulation for host directed therapy	3 Years (36 months)	Co- Investigator	₹44,54,997
5)	Seed Grant to New Faculties Under Institution of Eminence Scheme, Banaras Hindu University- Varanasi			Principal Investigator	₹19,00,000
6)	Bridge Grant Under Institution of Eminence Scheme, Banaras Hindu University- Varanasi	01 Year (12 months)		Principal Investigator	₹760,000

Research Guidance

PhD Students: 04 (Ongoing); 01 (Awarded)

Personal Details

Nationality: Indian Languages known: English, Hindi

Vibhav Gautam

Date: 10-03-2025