

GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Qura-Tul-Ain (Annie) Khan

M.A. Candidate

Mukerji Lab

Molecular Biology & Biochemistry

TELL US ABOUT YOUR CURRENT RESEARCH

My research revolves around understanding the interaction between proteins and DNA in the context of recombination and repair. Currently, I am working to crystallize a protein-DNA complex to understand the mechanism of recognition and if it has a functional role in recombination. I have always been passionate about DNA. Furthermore, I have always pondered the phrase "form follows function, and function follows form," often mentioned in our biology classes. It was in the Mukerji lab that I got to combine and explore my obsession with DNA with my curiosity to understand structure-function relations. This is what I most enjoy about my project and that it challenges me every day.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF

My nickname is Annie and that is what everyone knows me as. I did my B.A. in the science in society program (SiSP) at Wesleyan with concentrations in biology & religion and joined the Mukerji lab in the Fall of 2020. I grew up in Connecticut which means in my free time I am often back home or helping out at my dad's store. Outside of the lab at school I really love to hang out with friends, play volleyball, and watch scary movies for fun. I am also really into music, TV, bubble tea, baking, and taking long walks.

WHAT IS THE FUN FACT THAT NOT MANY OF US KNOW ABOUT YOU?

I had four pet chickens that were named after my sisters and me.

WHAT SONG HAS BEEN STUCK IN YOUR HEAD LATELY?

No Wind Resistance! - Kinneret

WHAT SUPERPOWER WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE?

I would like to have control to travel anywhere in time and space.