

AstroBaqir

Monthly Magazine

May 2026



Syed Mohammad Baqir
www.astrobaqir.com



M 104 (Sombrero Galaxy)

The Sombrero Galaxy (Messier 104 or M104) is one of the most striking and recognizable galaxies in the night sky. Located approximately 31 million light-years away in the constellation Virgo, it is famous for its bright central bulge and prominent dark dust lane that gives it the appearance of a Mexican sombrero hat. The galaxy spans about 50,000 light-years in diameter and contains hundreds of billions of stars. At its core lies a supermassive black hole with a mass estimated to be around one billion times that of the Sun, making it one of the most massive black holes known in nearby galaxies. The Sombrero Galaxy is classified as a peculiar spiral galaxy and is surrounded by a vast halo containing more than 2,000 globular star clusters, far more than the Milky Way. Its unique structure, rich stellar population, and dramatic appearance make M104 a favorite target for both professional astronomers and amateur astrophotographers.

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M 104 galaxy

Celestron 130 Astromaster
Infinix 40 Pro Cellphone
10 mm eyepiece
8 Sec exposure ISO-19200
25 images stacked
1:50 AM, 6 May 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



Sunspots

Sunspots are relatively cooler and darker regions that appear on the surface of the Sun, known as the photosphere. They are formed by intense magnetic fields that inhibit the normal flow of heat from the Sun's interior, causing these areas to be several thousand degrees cooler than their surroundings. Although they appear dark by contrast, sunspots are still extremely hot, with temperatures typically ranging from 3,000 to 4,500°C. Sunspots often occur in groups and can vary greatly in size, with some becoming larger than Earth itself. Their numbers rise and fall in an approximately 11-year solar cycle, reflecting changes in the Sun's magnetic activity. Sunspots are closely associated with solar flares and coronal mass ejections, powerful eruptions that can affect space weather, satellite operations, radio communications, and even power grids on Earth. Observing sunspots provides valuable insights into the dynamic magnetic behavior of our nearest star and helps scientists better understand solar activity and its influence on the Solar System.

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25 images stack
Celestron 130, 10 mm eyepiece
Infinix Hot 40 Pro
4:30 PM, 26 May 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan

My Live facebook session

The death of a star is one of the most fascinating processes in the universe. A star spends most of its life converting hydrogen into helium through nuclear fusion, but when its fuel begins to run out, dramatic changes occur. Low- and medium-mass stars, such as our Sun, expand into red giants before shedding their outer layers to form beautiful planetary nebulae, leaving behind a dense white dwarf. Massive stars experience a far more violent fate. After exhausting their nuclear fuel, their cores collapse under gravity, triggering a powerful supernova explosion that can briefly outshine an entire galaxy. The remnants of these stellar explosions become either neutron stars or black holes, depending on the original mass of the star. Through their deaths, stars enrich the cosmos with heavy elements such as carbon, oxygen, iron, and gold, providing the essential ingredients for planets, life, and future generations of stars.

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TYPES OF STAR DEATH

THE FINAL CHAPTER OF STARS



SPEAKER
SIR SYED MUHAMMAD BAQAR



TIME
8 TO 9 PM



DAY
SATURDAY



DATE
16 MAY 2026



LIVE ON  **FACEBOOK**

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PLANETARY NEBULA

Low to medium mass stars shed their outer layers gently.



SUPERNOVA

Massive stars explode in a powerful cataclysm.



NEUTRON STAR

The core collapses into an ultra-dense neutron star.



BLACK HOLE

The core collapses beyond limits, creating a black hole.



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THE WONDERS OF THE UNIVERSE!



NGC 3628 galaxy

NGC 3628, popularly known as the **Hamburger Galaxy**, is a magnificent spiral galaxy located about **35 million light-years** away in the constellation **Leo**. It is a member of the famous **Leo Triplet**, along with the galaxies M65 and M66. Viewed nearly edge-on from Earth, NGC 3628 displays a striking dark band of interstellar dust that cuts across its bright central disk, giving it an appearance resembling a hamburger. The galaxy spans approximately **100,000 light-years** and is rich in gas, dust, and active star-forming regions. Gravitational interactions with its neighboring galaxies have distorted its structure, creating a spectacular tidal tail extending over hundreds of thousands of light-years into space. NGC 3628 is a favorite target for astronomers and astrophotographers, offering valuable insights into galactic evolution, star formation, and the effects of gravitational interactions between galaxies.

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NGC 3628

Celestron 130 Astromaster
Infinix 40 Pro Cellphone
10 mm eyepiece
10 Sec exposure ISO-19200
25 images stacked
1:06 AM, 6 May 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



U geminorum star

U Geminorum is one of the most famous variable stars in the constellation Gemini and serves as the prototype of a class of eruptive variable stars known as ****U Geminorum stars**** or ****dwarf novae****. Located approximately 300 light-years from Earth, it is a binary star system consisting of a white dwarf and a companion red dwarf star orbiting each other closely. Material from the red dwarf is continuously pulled toward the white dwarf, forming an accretion disk around it. Periodically, instabilities within this disk cause sudden increases in brightness, known as outbursts, during which the star can brighten by several magnitudes over a few days before gradually fading back to its normal state. These recurring eruptions make U Geminorum an important object for studying mass transfer, accretion processes, and the evolution of close binary star systems. Its dramatic variability has fascinated astronomers since its discovery in the 19th century and continues to provide valuable insights into stellar astrophysics.

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U Geminorum

← 13.81

← U Gem

← 11.88

Celestron 130 Astromaster
Infinix 40 Pro Cellphone
10 mm eyepiece
9 Sec exposure ISO-19200
25 images stacked
8:40 PM, 4 May 2026
Mohammad Baqir
Quetta, Pakistan



My FaceBook Page

Over the years, my social media platforms have become an effective medium for promoting astronomy and space science awareness in Pakistan. Through regular educational posts, astrophotography, live lectures, observation reports, and discussions on current astronomical events, I have reached thousands of students, teachers, and astronomy enthusiasts. My Facebook page, AstroBaqir, has developed into a valuable resource for learning astronomy, offering scientific content in an accessible and engaging manner. The growing number of followers, increasing audience engagement, and widespread sharing of educational material reflect the positive impact of these outreach efforts. Through social media, I continue to inspire curiosity about the universe and encourage scientific thinking among people of all ages.

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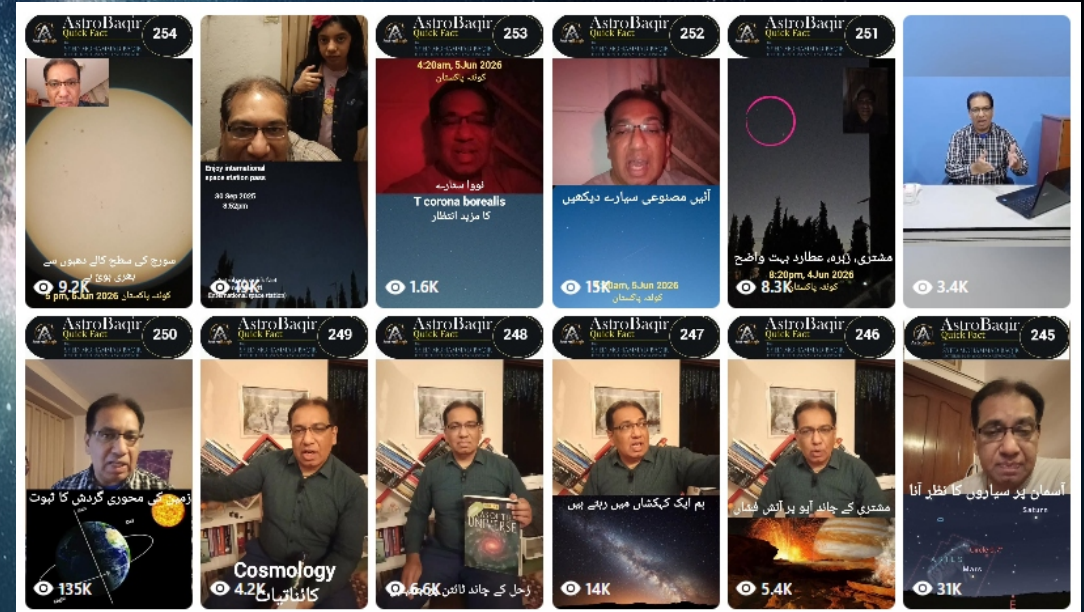
AstroBaqir Quick Facts

One of my most successful astronomy outreach initiatives on social media has been the ****"AstroBaqir Quick Facts"**** series. Through short, informative, and visually engaging posts, this series presents fascinating facts about astronomy, space exploration, stars, planets, galaxies, and celestial phenomena in a simple and accessible manner. The objective is to spark curiosity and promote scientific literacy among students and the general public. Over time, AstroBaqir Quick Facts has attracted significant audience engagement, helping thousands of followers learn new astronomical concepts in just a few moments. The series has become an effective tool for making astronomy enjoyable, educational, and easily understandable for people of all ages, further strengthening astronomy awareness across Pakistan.

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