

MICROBIOLOGY AND MICROBE

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Abstract:

Micro-organisms and their activities are vitally important to all processes on Earth. Micro-organisms matter because they affect every aspect of our lives – they are in us, on us and around us. Microbiology is the study of all living organisms that are too small to be visible with the naked eye. This includes bacteria, archaea, viruses, fungi, prions, protozoa and algae, collectively known as 'microbes'. Microbiologists study microbes, and some of the most important discoveries that have underpinned modern society have resulted from the research of famous microbiologists, such as Jenner and his vaccine against smallpox, Fleming and the discovery of penicillin, Marshall and the identification of the link between *Helicobacter pylori* infection and stomach ulcers, and zur Hausen, who identified the link between papilloma virus and cervical cancer. Microbiology research has been, and continues to be, central to meeting many of the current global aspirations and challenges, such as maintaining food, water and energy security for a healthy population on a habitable earth. Microorganisms are classified into taxonomic categories to facilitate research and communication. Microbes are ubiquitous on Earth and their diversity and abundance are determined by the biogeographical habitat they occupy. The microbial world encompasses most of the phylogenetic diversity on Earth, as all Bacteria, all Archaea, and most lineages of the Eukarya are microorganisms. Microbes live in every kind of habitat (terrestrial, aquatic, atmospheric, or living host) and their presence invariably affects the environment in which they grow.

Biography:

Sopuruchi Nwafor is currently studying in Abia state university uturu, Nigeria.