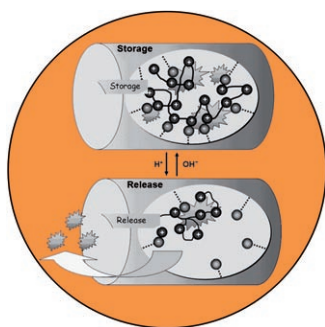
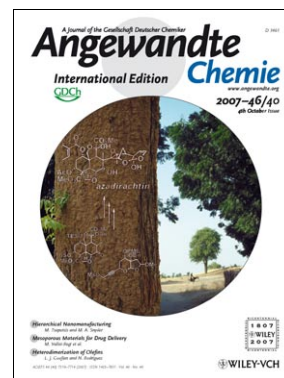


## Cover Picture

**Gemma E. Veitch, Edith Beckmann, Brenda J. Burke, Alistair Boyer, Sarah L. Maslen, and Steven V. Ley\***

The **neem tree** in the foreground of the cover picture is the natural source of azadirachtin, a complex molecule containing sixteen contiguous stereogenic centers, seven of which are tetrasubstituted carbon atoms. In their Communications starting on page 7629 ff., S. V. Ley et al. describe the conclusion of a long but successful journey culminating with the first synthesis of this compound following the strategy outlined. Photographs: William M. Ciesla, [www.forestryimages.com](http://www.forestryimages.com); design: Alistair Boyer.

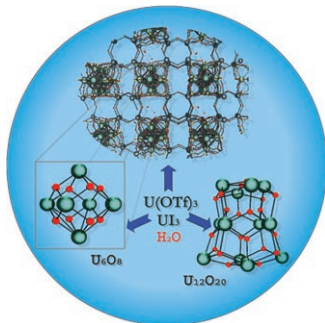
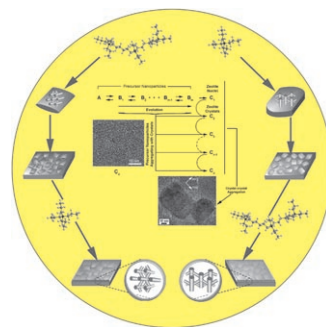


### Mesoporous Materials

The Minireview by M. Vallet-Regí et al. on page 7548 ff. summarizes the recent advances in mesoporous materials for biomedical purposes by the control of the textural parameters, surface functionalization, and the synthesis of sophisticated stimuli-response systems.

### Zeolite Separation Membranes

Separation techniques based on thin zeolite films could one day replace conventional energy-intensive separation processes. Recent findings have brought a more rational, hierarchical design of these materials ever nearer, as described by M. Tsapatsis and M. A. Snyder in their Review on page 7560 ff.



### Uranium Oxo Clusters

In their Communication on page 7574 ff., M. Mazzanti and co-workers describe the assembly of discrete mixed-valence uranium oxo clusters from the hydrolysis of low-valent uranium compounds. One such cluster,  $U_6O_8$ , can also form extended 3D networks with nanosized cavities.