



First International Conference “The Textile Colloquium”

The first international conference: ‘The Textile Colloquium’ organized by Textile Institute of Pakistan (TIP) on 13th and 14th May 2018 at Pearl Continental Hotel Karachi. In this two-day international conference, a number of textile-related industries from all over Pakistan participated with an even greater number of students from different textile universities and also professionals from the textile mills. Some foreign delegations also visited for this international event. The conference has attracted professionals from the textile industry and other related trades, with academics and businessmen from the concerned sector.

A **Job Fair** was arranged during the conference where many stalls were set up by different industries in order to guide students according to their areas of interest.

In addition to the conference, a **Degree Show** to display thesis was also organized by the Institute in which the final year students demonstrated their thesis in the form of the poster display.

The event was supported by some sponsors, among the main were British Council, Pakistan Textile Journal,

Archroma Pakistan, TATA Pakistan, and MUSTAQIM Dyeing & Printing Industries.

The guests visited different stalls, met the exhibitors, exchanged perspectives and appreciated the students for their whole year work.

Inauguration Ceremony

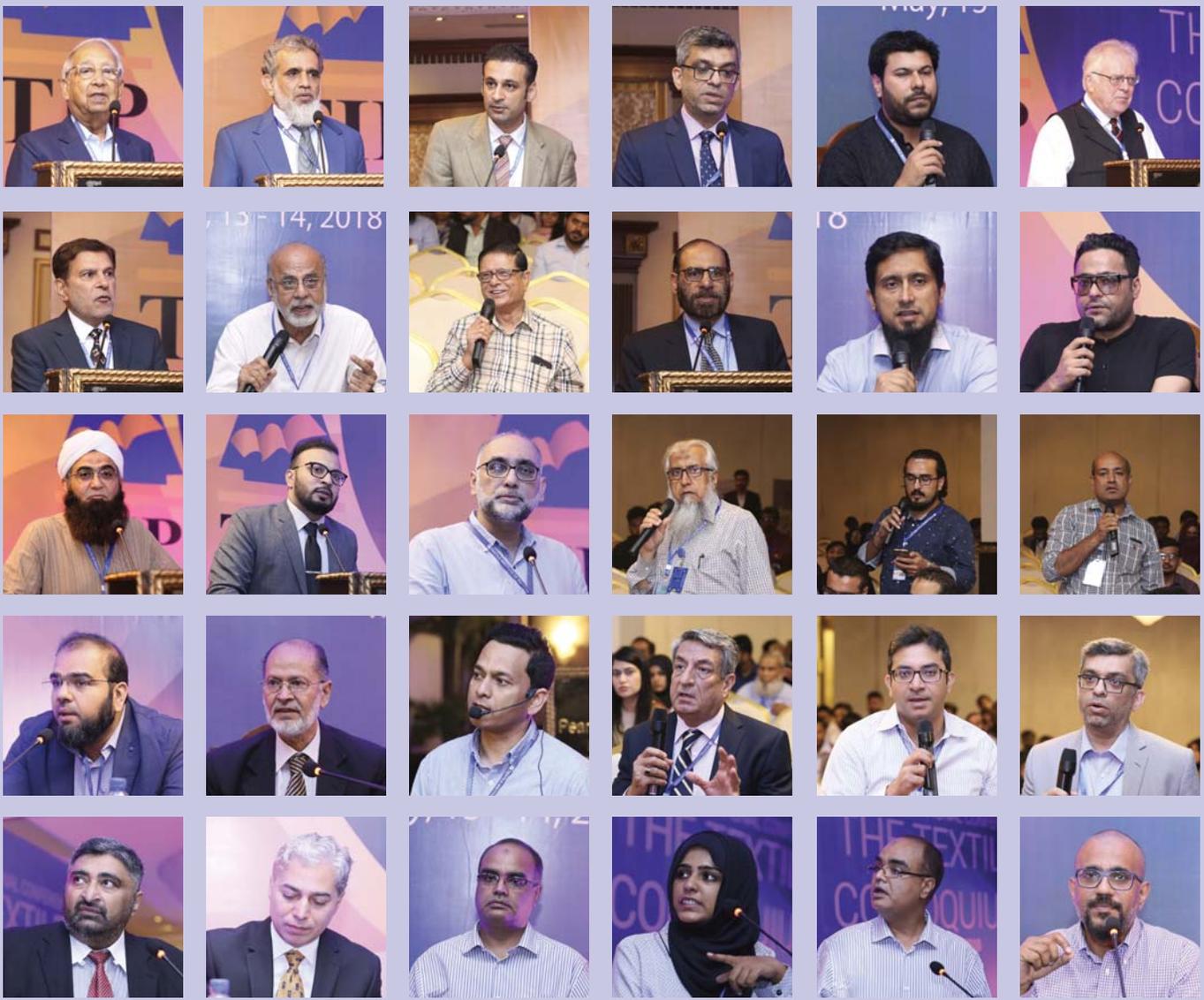
The program started with the recitation from Holy Quran and National Anthem of Pakistan. The two-day event was inaugurated by Mr. Abdul Majeed, Chancellor Textile Institute of Pakistan. In his address, he expressed his appreciation to the team of TIP and also lauded the efforts of the students.

He also appreciated the cooperation of sponsors. While talking about the history of TIP, Mr. Majeed said that the need for establishment TIP was keeping in mind the needs of the textile industry, which is the largest industrial sector of Pakistan. The country's textile sector not only generates the country's highest export earnings of about 45% it also provides the bulk of employment (39%) to a largely underutilized workforce. The reason for this underutilization lies primarily in poor managerial efficiencies and inadequate literacy of employed workforce.

The President of The Textile Institute of Pakistan, Mr. Humayun Zafar gave the welcome address. He first introduced TIP with its aims and objectives and then highlighted the importance of conferences and exhibitions for the economic progress of any country. He said that TIP, an internationally recognized educational institution is providing an open, free and challenging environment for research-based learning, in order to develop right kind of skill set and human resources, with creative and well-rounded personalities.

Michael Hann, Chair of Design Theory University of Leeds and Director of ULITA addressed the gathering. He first thanked the management of TIP for organizing such fruitful event for the textile industry of Pakistan in general and for the students of textile universities in particular. He further said that it is the best learning opportunity, where all the professionals, industrialists, researchers, people belonging to academia and students had the opportunity to share one platform. He also shared his past experiences of visiting Pakistan in the early 1980s and compared the industrial technologies and innovations of that time with the present era.





Dr. Abdur Jabbar, Dean of TIP gave the vote of thanks. He also greeted all the guests, participants, friends from press and media and other exhibitors who attended the inauguration. He also appreciated the students and faculty members of TIP for their presence at the conference.

The ceremony concluded with the presentation of conference souvenirs and bouquets to speakers and distinguished guests. The conference focused on the core issues and factors affecting the growth of the textile sector. The top-level national and international experts from academia, research, industry, and management shared their expert views and vision to resolve these issues.

The conference included plenary lectures by eminent experts with different fora in which each forum had 4-5 panelists, followed by an open discussion. The event was also open for a large number of young scholars and experts from the industry in order to engage in meaningful dialogue related to present and future challenges faced by the textile industry of Pakistan.

Forum-I

The first forum was on the topic of 'Retail and Fashion Industry of Pakistan' in which the panelists were Mr. Ebtisam Ahmed, CEO EB; Mr. Umair A. Siddiqui from Edenrobe; Muhammad Fawwad Noori an international fashion designer and Mr. Adnan Pardesi an independent fashion designer. The Moderator Mr. Gauhar Ajmal, one of the leading fashion designer from Karachi and the Session Chair was headed by Mr. Azhar Ali Dahar DG. TDAP South Region.

Forum-II

The second forum was on the topic of 'Survival of the Textile Industry through Exports' in which the panelists were Mr. Wasif Ali, PHMA representative; Dr. Noor Ahmed Memon, Dean Dadabhoj Institute; Mr. Abdul Kadir Giga, Member South Zone Management Committee - PREGMEA, Mr. Zahid Mazhar, Senior Vice president APTMA, with the Moderator Altaf Gul Muhammad, COO – International Textiles Limited. The Session Chair was headed by

Dr. Tahir Shah, Ex-Professor, University of Boltan UK .

The second day's proceedings started with the Plenary Lectures of Professor Michael A. Hann, Chair, Textile Design – the University of Leeds and Professor Tahir Shah. The topic of the lecture was, how can the textile industry of Pakistan deal with the upcoming challenges? The speakers focused on the issues faced by the textile sector in Pakistan. They were of the view that positive image building of the sector can be of help in dealing with some of the challenges. In addition, there was a discussion of value addition, investment in the field of modern technology and ways to reduce the cost of production in the textiles sector.

Forum-III

The third forum 'Growth of Denim Industry and its importance in Exports' was attended by panelists: Mr. Hasan Ali Baig, entrepreneur; Mr. Abbas Naqvi, consultant; Mr. Adnan Feroz, Rajbi Industries; Mr. Aamir, Archroma Pakistan with Mr. Irfan Abdullah, G.M. Rajbi



Industries Karachi as moderator. The Session Chair was Muhammad Idrees Ahmed, Ex-Textile Commissioner.

In this session, the panelists discussed the significance of denim industry and informed that textile clothing was the biggest sector of country's economy and was the largest job provider too with the highest amount of export earnings in which denim is the most important sub-sector. They were of the view that Pakistan as a cotton-growing country with its rich cotton related experience in textiles was the key factor for the growth and profitability of the denim industry.

Forum-IV

The fourth forum was on the topic of 'Water Conservation and Environmental

Issues' in which the panelists Mr. Irfan Marfani, Abbas Apparel; Ms. Farheen Fatima, Consultant; Dr. Irfan Sheikh, College of Earth and Environmental Sciences – University of Punjab and Dr. Abdul Jabbar, Dean TIP. The Moderator was Dr. Tanveer Hussain, Rector NTU and the Session Chair was Mr. Michael A. Hann, Professor in the University of Leeds.

The speakers highlighted the issues of water and other environmental problems in the textile industry. There was a discussion on the sheer volume of water used to produce textile products, for instance, 700 gallons to make one shirt. The need for sustainable practices and the importance of water conservation programs for future generations was emphasized heavily.

Forum-V

The fifth and last forum was on the topic of 'Compliance Issues and the Role of Dyes and Chemicals in Industry.' The panelists included Mr. Tariq Khan, SGS Pakistan; Dr. Arshad Mehmood, Archroma Pakistan and Mr. S.M. Khalid, Hohenstein Institute Pakistan. The Moderator was Mr. Hameed K. Lateef from Textile Texting International Lab and the Session Chair was Professor Iqbal Bhangar, ICCBS Karachi.

The speakers discussed the use of dyes and chemicals in the industry with their storage conditions. They informed that chemical management system was very necessary in order to work in a healthy and sustainable environment. ♦

