2nd-International Scientific Conference of Engineering Sciences (ISCES 2020), University of Diyala, College of Engineering, Iraq

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the Zoom platform to conduct the sessions. We believe that the decision to hold the conference virtually was totally right in many aspects. For example, we noticed increased number of participants higher than expected due to the simplicity of accessing the sessions electronically regardless of the location. Since there is no one can predict when the COVID-19 pandemic spread will stop, the conference organizers move to the virtual option instead of postponing the events. We believe that we have taken the right decision as it is clear that the advantages of virtually conferences are to reduce time and space and to break the limitations between peoples and authors anywhere.

**Virtual Conference Dates**
The ISCES 2020 have been held for two days, Wednesday and Thursday 16-17 December 2020. In the first day in addition to the plenary session two virtual sessions have been conducted. In the second day four sessions have been conducted. It is worth to mention that the sessions are held simultaneously for all tracks.

**Location of Organisers and Conference model**
The ISCES had been held at university of Diyala, college of engineering, Baqubah, Iraq. The location of the college of engineering is close to the Alqudis intersection in Baqubah city, Diyala province. As have been mentioned earlier, the opening celebration have been conducted physically in the first day. The other sessions conducted virtually in the evening of the first day and all the second day through Zoom platform. The talks in the plenary session took around hours. The first talk was from professor Dr. Ahmed Al-Gabban, the president of the Technology University, Iraq. It was very interesting topic regarding sustainability development in Iraq. The second talk was from professor Dr. Adel O. Sharif, he is a professor of desalination and process innovation, and founder director of the Centre for Osmosis Research and Applications (CORA) at the University of Surrey, UK. He was talking about 1 hour about “The Role of Science and Technology in Addressing Water, Energy and Food Security”.

The other sessions held virtually for two hours each. The time for each presenter was 15 to 20 minutes through the Zoom software. In every session, Q&A had been conducted at the end of the presentation. Five to ten minutes are allowed for Q&A depending on the topic and number of questions. However, in the plenary session, the Q&A took about thirty minutes. A lot of interesting questions had been asked to explore further the presented topic.

The number of participants and attendees in the ISCES 2020 was very high from different countries. We have received around 223 manuscripts in all of the seven tracks. Presenters and attendees were from many other countries.

**Technology that was used to deliver the conference**
In the first day of the conference, the opening celebration had been conducted physically at 9 AM in Baghdad time. The opening session included two plenary sessions with two invited speakers. The first talk had been presented physically while the second one conducted virtually. All the activities of the opening celebration have been broadcasted online through Zoom application to maximize the benefit of the sessions. All the other sessions have been conducted virtually with the same platform.
Conference Chairs
- Prof. Dr. Abdul Mun'em Abbas Karim, President of University of Diyala, Iraq.
- Prof. Dr. Anees Abdullah Khadom, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, University of Diyala, Iraq.
- Prof. Dr. Ali Laftah Abbas, Scientific Asst. of Dean, Faculty of Engineering, University of Diyala, Iraq.

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- Asst. Prof. Dr. Ali Khudhair Al-Jiboory
- Dr. Ahmad S. Abdullah

Invited Speakers

- Prof. Dr. Ahmed Al-Gabban, the president of the Technology University, Baghdad, Iraq. He was talking about 1 hour about "A civilized society with sustainability". His home page on ResearchGate URL: [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ahmed-Al-Ghaban](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ahmed-Al-Ghaban). His Google Scholar URL: [https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=cI7UYp4AAAAJ&hl=en&oi=sra](https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=cI7UYp4AAAAJ&hl=en&oi=sra)
- Prof. Dr. Adel O. Sharif, he is a professor of desalination and process innovation, and founder director of the Centre for Osmosis Research and Applications (CORA) at the University of Surrey, UK. Prof. Sharif is the winner of the 2005 UK Royal Society Award for Innovation in Science and Technology. He is also the winner of the 2008 Science Business first pan-European Academic Enterprise Award in the category of Energy/Environment. He was talking about 1 hour about "The Role of Science and Technology in Addressing Water, Energy and Food Security". His home page URL: [https://www.surrey.ac.uk/people/adel-sharif](https://www.surrey.ac.uk/people/adel-sharif)

Organizing Institutions

- Faculty of Engineering, University of Diyala, Iraq.
- University of Diyala, President office, the President of University of Diyala, Iraq.
