

WIE ILS'19 Islamabad

Report By: Amnah Qamar

WIE ILS is the most versatile event of women engineers across the world so it was a matter of grace and honor for me to render my services for it. The exposure that it provided and the experiences shared by honorable speakers were impressive/remarkable.

The event commenced with the traditional opening ceremony followed by recitation and national anthem but as it proceeded there was much more to learn with every passing moment. Worthy chief guest Dr. Samina who is one of the only female engineer in optics laboratory of her time, guided the students to create balance in life and then enjoy the success. The next speaker Dr. Munazza Yaqoob gave a thoughtful session on living an extra ordinary life. She emphasized that creativity is the first step to acquire it. And then came a very strong influencer, Makkiya Javed whose personality on her very first sight gave a message that if you want to do great things and light up other's life, age does not matter. She broke the stereotype of doctor bride later on becoming a house wife. She is devoting her skills in digital health services. Then we had the honor to meet Quratulain Fatima, first female cohort of commissioned officers in the Pakistan Airforce where she worked on active service for eight years in the terrorism-stricken Province of KPK. She is also a Co-Founder of Women4PeaceTech, which is an organization empowering women's peace in Pakistan through technology.

In parallel we were having a workshop under the name of Google#IamRemarkable that had multiple stages. It's main goal was leadership empowerment. It's main focus was to foster self-confidence and higher self esteem in students. So they can appreciate the parts of them they don't find beautiful. To accept themselves as a whole that they are remarkable.

The most interesting feature of this summit is that it focused empowered women from all walks of life; not even leaving politics. For this purpose an iron lady Ismat Shah Jahan was invited. She differentiated between a mere manager and a leader in true sense and importance of leadership. The last session was delivered by Zartaj Waseem, an educationalist and lego robotics trainer. She took an initiative to provide the children from rural and less privileged areas, an opportunity to work in science laboratories. She is still working on establishing more enhanced labs where students can learn about space. Her efforts will definitely leave a mark in the progress of our country in the field of science.

After a break of an hour the event came to an end with a closing ceremony where efforts of organizers and all those who made it successful were appreciated. The mission of this summit was fulfilled as every single participant at the end of the day had a new perspective of failures. This summit was successful in cultivating the idea of embracing failures, to never give up, to rise as light for hope, love and courage.

