
Preface

The 30th International Symposium on Shock Waves (ISSW30) was held in Tel Aviv, Israel, during July 19–24, 2015. This was the 30th meeting in a series of symposia that started in Boston in 1957 (then under the name International Symposium on Shock Tubes). These symposia are held biennially in different countries in which active shock wave research is practiced. It is a central event for people active in different fields, such as physics, chemistry, fluid mechanics, gas dynamics, and applied mathematics, who are interested in shock wave-related phenomena. It was last held in Jerusalem, Israel, in 1979. The ISSW30 was held in Tel Aviv Dan Panorama Hotel. When comparing the topics and content of early symposia with the present one, one notices the significant developments that took place in the shock wave research. Hopefully these developments will continue.

A total of 370 abstracts were submitted for review by the deadline for abstracts submission. All submissions were reviewed by at least two members of the International Advisory Committee regarding standard and suitability for inclusion in the program. Out of the 370 submitted abstracts, 358 were accepted for either oral (314) or poster (44) presentations: 88 out of the 314 accepted abstracts for oral presentations and 8 out of the 44 accepted abstracts for poster presentations were submitted by graduate students. Unfortunately, by the time the meeting started 121 accepted papers were withdrawn (almost half of them from Russia, China, and India). The main reasons were lack of travel funds, security fears, and lack of clearance. Hence, the final program included 210 oral presentations and 27 poster presentations: 54 out of the 210 accepted abstracts for oral presentations and 4 out of the 27 accepted abstracts for poster presentations were presented by graduate students who competed on 12 student awards of 250 USD each that were donated by the International Shock Wave Institute (ISWI). The total number of the participants was about 300. In addition, there were 35 accompanying persons from overseas.

In summary, 9 invited presentations and 237 peer-reviewed contributed papers were presented. The Paul Vielle Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. Beric Skews on July 20, 2015, and the Irvine Israel Glass Memorial Lecture was delivered by Charles Needham on July 24, 2015. The other plenary lecturers were Prof. Riccardo Bonaza, Prof. Martin Brouillette, Prof. Ron Hanson, Prof. Achim Loske, Prof. Kazuo Maeno, Prof. Marcello Onofri, and Prof. K.P.J. Reddy.

The scientific program was complemented by three social events:

On the eve of the first day of the conference, a Welcome Gathering Cocktail, which included a full dinner, was held.

On the third day of the conference, only morning sessions were held; thereafter two different tours to attractive sites in Israel were offered. Participants and their accompanying persons could choose between a guided tour in Jerusalem and visit to various sites in the Galilee.

- The first option, the Jerusalem tour, included a visit to the Mount of Olives for a panoramic view of the city, a stop at Mount Zion to visit King David's tomb, the room of last supper, and the Dormition Abbey, and thereafter entering the old city and walking through the

Armenian and Jewish quarters to the recently excavated and restored Cardo, the main Roman road, and then proceeding to the Jewish Wailing Wall and continuing to the Christian Quarter. The next sightseeing was a walk along the Via Dolorosa and visiting the Church of the Holy Sepulcher. The last stop of this tour was entering the Tower of David to view the spectacular Sound and Light show there. Ending this long tour was a dinner at a restaurant viewing the Old City walls.

- The second option, the Galilee tour, started with a drive along the coastal plain to Caesarea, capital of Judea under the Roman occupation, seeing there the excavations of the Crusader city and the Roman port, aqueduct, and the amphitheater that has been restored to its former glory as a concert venue. The next stop was the biblical city Megiddo, identified as the site of Armageddon, visiting the archaeological excavations including the well-preserved water supply system, and thereafter driving to Haifa, the largest harbor of Israel, with a breathtaking panoramic view of Haifa Bay and the Western Galilee from the summit of Mount Carmel and a walking tour of the German Colony, and then continuing to Daliat El Carmel, and visiting this pictorial Druze village and finally ending with a dinner at the house of a local Druze family.

The third social activity, for all participants, was the banquet dinner. It was held in Beit Guvrin, an underground “city” where Jews were hiding from the conquering Roman legions 2000 years ago. The dinner was held in a huge cave whose ceiling collapsed.

In addition to the above mentioned three social events, three tours were held to the accompanying persons: to the Galilee; to Masada and Dead Sea; and to Haifa, Acre, and Rosh Hanikra.

The International Advisory Committee (IAC) decided during its meeting that ISSW32 in 2019 will be held in Singapore. The IAC also decided to add to the Paul Vielle and the Irvine Israel Glass Memorial Lectures a third memorial lecture, the Ray Stalker Memorial Lecture.

As decided by the IAC during ISSW29, the 31st International Symposium on Shock Waves (ISSW31) will be chaired by Prof. Akihiro Sasoh, in Nagoya, Japan, in July 2017.

Beer Sheva, Israel

Gabi Ben-Dor

Oren Sadot

Ozer Igra

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Ben-Dor, G.; Sadot, O.; Igra, O. (Eds.)

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