Message from the Scientific Committee Chair
NOORIC’1435/2013

In the name of Allah, Most Gracious, Most Merciful.

On behalf of the Scientific Committee, I am pleased to welcome you to the Taibah University International Conference on Advances in Information Technology for the Holy Quran and Its Sciences (NOORIC’1435/2013) during the period of 19-22 Safar 1435 Hijri (22-25 December, 2013).

In this distinctive conference of its kind, NOORIC’1435/2013 shall provide a venue for high-quality technical papers in a range of research areas in the domain of IT for the service of the Holy Quran and its Sciences. Significantly, the conference is technically co-sponsored by renowned international bodies including; the Institute of Electrical Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the IEEE Computer Society (IEEE-CS) and the Technical Committee for Multimedia Computing (TCMC), combined in this conference to pave the way for highly competitive, high quality and novel studies and research papers. Furthermore, the conference shall host an exhibition session that provides a platform for relevant organizations and companies to display their contributions, products, and services.

We received 580 initial abstract submissions to the conference, with authors from 28 countries worldwide. From those abstracts, 258 were recommended by a specialist-panel to proceed towards the next stage of submitting full papers. In the next round, 182 full-paper submissions were received, of which 90 were accepted for oral presentations while 17 were accepted for poster presentations, with a total of 107 accepted papers. A peer-review process was used that consisted of 89 international reviewers. The 90 oral presentations are organized into 18 technical sessions held over two parallel tracks. The 17 poster contributions are held in 3 poster sessions. All oral and poster papers are included in the conference proceedings as well as in IEEE Xplore, if applicable. We are also pleased to have distinguished invited speakers for keynote talks and panel discussions from Saudi Arabia, Canada, Syria, UK, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, USA, UAE, and Malaysia.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques for his support for this conference; Taibah University President, Dr. Adnan Al-Mazrooa; Vice President for Post-graduate Studies and Research, Dr. Yasser Balilah; all members of the Scientific Committee for their consistent and sincere efforts; and all members of the other NOORIC’1435/2013 committees. Without all these efforts, after Allah's support, this conference would not have become a reality. I hope that you will enjoy the conference program during your stay in this blessed city of Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah, the city of the beloved Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings of Allah be upon him). As a final note, all praises and gratitude are for Allah who has made this conference a successful and prosperous achievement for the service of the Holy Quran.

Dr. Mohamed Ali Menacer, Taibah University, Saudi Arabia
IT Research Center for the Holy Quran and Its Sciences (NOOR)
NOORIC’1435/2013 Scientific Committee Chair