



KUMARES C. SINHA

In step with the abounding vitality of the time, structural engineer **Fazlur Rahman Khan** (1929-1982) ushered in a renaissance in skyscraper construction during the second half of the 20th century. Fazlur Khan was a pragmatic visionary: the series of progressive ideas that he brought forth for efficient high-rise construction in the 1960s and '70s were validated in his own work, notably his efficient designs for Chicago's 100-story John Hancock Center and 110-story Sears Tower -- the tallest building in the United States since its completion in 1974.



Fazlur Rahman Khan

Lehigh endowed a chair in structural engineering and architecture and has established this lecture series in Khan's honor. It is organized by **Professor Dan M. Frangopol**, the university's first holder of the Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture, and sponsored by the Departments of Civil & Environmental Engineering, and Art, Architecture & Design.



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2023 Khan Distinguished Lecture Series

The Fazlur Rahman Khan Distinguished Lecture Series honors Dr. Fazlur Rahman Khan's legacy of excellence in structural engineering and architecture

Initiated and Organized by **PROFESSOR DAN M. FRANGOPOL**
The Fazlur Rahman Khan Endowed Chair of Structural Engineering and Architecture
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, ATLSS Engineering Research Center,
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Edgar B. and Hedwig M. Olson Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering
Lyles School of Civil Engineering
Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

"Next Generation Urban Transportation, Urban Living, and the Role of Tall Buildings"

Friday, April 28, 2023 – 4:30 pm

Location: Whitaker Lab 303, Lehigh University, 5 E. Packer Avenue, Bethlehem, PA

Lecture will also be live streamed, [\(must REGISTER HERE for live stream link\)](#)

<http://www.lehigh.edu/frkseries>

Kumares C. Sinha is the Edgar B. and Hedwig M. Olson Distinguished Professor of Civil Engineering at Purdue University. He has been active in transportation research, education and practice for more than five decades. He served as the Director of the Joint Transportation Research Program, a collaborative research consortium between Purdue and the Indiana Department of Transportation. He mentored many masters, doctoral and post-doctoral students around the world. He served on the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board and on the Advisory Council of the US Bureau of Transportation Statistics. He also served as a consultant to the World Bank for many years. He is an Honorary Member of ASCE and a member of the National Academy of Engineering.

Next Generation Urban Transportation, Urban Living, and the Role of Tall Buildings. Profound changes are taking place in how we live, go to work, do shopping, spend leisure hours, and ship and receive our goods and products, all influenced by emerging technologies and the attendant evolution in our transportation sector. The process of transformation is accentuated by changes in socio-economic characteristics of urban residents caused by pandemic-era contact restrictions and massive growth in telecommunications. The presentation will examine possible long-term cumulative impacts of these changes on urban living with particular emphasis on urban forms and the role of tall buildings.

FAZLUR RAHMAN KHAN (1929 - 1982) One of the foremost structural engineers of the 20th century, Fazlur Khan epitomized both structural engineering achievement and creative collaborative effort between architect and engineer. Only when architectural design is grounded in structural realities, he believed — thus celebrating architecture's nature as a constructive art, rooted in the earth — can "the resulting aesthetics ... have a transcendental value and quality." His ideas for these sky-scraping towers offered more than economic construction and iconic architectural images; they gave people the opportunity to work and live "in the sky." Hancock Center residents thrive on the wide expanse of sky and lake before them, the stunning quiet in the heart of the city, and the intimacy with nature at such heights: the rising sun, the moon and stars, the migrating flocks of birds. Fazlur Khan was always clear about the purpose of architecture. His characteristic statement to an editor in 1971, having just been selected Construction's Man of the Year by *Engineering News-Record*, is commemorated in a plaque in Onterie Center (446 E. Ontario, Chicago): "*The technical man must not be lost in his own technology. He must be able to appreciate life; and life is art, drama, music, and most importantly, people.*"



1 PDH will be awarded to eligible attendees for each lecture (minimum webinar participation time of 55 minutes is required)

Please contact the Khan Chair office at 610-758-6123 or Email: infrk@lehigh.edu with any questions.