Abstract

The dissertation is based on finding relation between wall chalking and basic rules of Islamic calligraphy. The topic is important to me because wall chalking is an integral part of the urban life in Pakistan. Wall chalking has significant informative value. When one goes out in the streets of Karachi, one cannot help read the messages communicated through wall chalking. Similarly the script used for wall chalking also has importance because when wall chalking is done using a script, it becomes much more interactive for the viewer and its functionality increases. Islamic calligraphy is one of the most interactive methods of communicating through written text. The relation between wall chaking in Pakistan and Islamic calligraphy is studied using in-depth interview with a wall chalker and a calligrapher along with observational research and analysis of secondary research. Meaningful information is gained about use of scripts by wall chalkers in Karachi and the degree to which their writing follow the rules of Islamic calligraphy.