

## Various Characteristics of Some Bifunctional Supported Complex Catalysts Used in Reactions of Applied Interest

A Thesis Submitted
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B.Sc. and M.Sc.

For the Award of Ph.D. degree in Chemistry
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# بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

# قَالُواْ سُبْحَانَكَ لَا عِلْمَ لَنَا إِلاَّ مَا عَلَّمْتَنَا إِنَّكَ أنتَ الْعَلِيمُ الْحَكِيمُ

صدق الله العظيم

سورة البقرة



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To my mother, wife and my dearest brother

#### **Abstract**

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**Thesis title:** Various Characteristics of Some Bifunctional Supported Complex Catalysts Used in Reactions of Applied Interest.

In the present study, the pure raw bentonite clay has been modified by acid treatment and by pillaring with titania and vanadia. Iron (II) phthalocyanine complex was immobilized in different wt% loadings onto the various modified bentonite supports.

Structural characteristics of the various samples were investigated through XRD, FTIR, TGA, and ICP-EDX techniques. Textural and morphological characteristics were estimated from low-temperature adsorption-desorption isotherms of  $N_2$ , pore size distribution analysis and SEM. Dispersion parameters of iron (II) phthalocyanine were determined from  $H_2$  chemisorption isotherms. Acid-base properties were followed up via potentiometric titration method and cation exchange capacity in each case was also determined.

Bifunctional catalytic activities of the prepared catalyst samples were examined in oxidative dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene to produce styrene monomer as well as in *in-situ* bulk polymerization of methyl methacrylate. The catalytic results were correlated with various characteristics to determine the most active and selective samples for application.

A new approach was achieved for using the bulk polymerization of MMA in presence of FePc complex immobilized onto modified bentonite clay samples for synthesis of a PMMA/clay hybrid composite, with dispersed clay in minute sizes. Characterization of the produced hybrid composites was performed by XRD, FTIR, NMR and SEM techniques.

#### **Keywords:**

Modified bentonite; ATTB; V-PILB; Ti-PILB; Immobilized FePc; ODH of EB; Bulk polymerization of MMA.

## **Abbreviations**

Raw bentonite Clay	RB
Acid/thermally treated bentonite	ATTB
Vanadia- pillared bentonite	V-PILB
Titania- pillared bentonite	Ti-PILB
Iron phthalocyanine	FePc
X-ray diffraction	XRD
Fourier Transform infrared	FTIR
Scanning electron microscope	SEM
Specific Surface area	$S_{\text{BET}}$
Ion coupled plasma	ICP
Energy dispersive X-ray spectroscopy	EDX
BET-C energetic constant	$C_{\text{BET}}$
Monolayer coverage	$V_{\text{m}}$
Pore size distribution	PSD
Metallic specific surface area	$S_{\text{FePc}}$
Apparent degree of dispersion	$[D]_{app}$
Degree of surface coverage	α
Cation exchange site density	$\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{CE}}$
Silanol site density	$\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{SiO}}^{-}$
Aluminol site density	$D_{\text{AlOH}}$
Methyl methacrylate	MMA
Poly methyl methacrylate	PMMA

Average weight molecular weight	$\overline{M}_{w}$
Average number molecular weight	$\overline{\boldsymbol{M}}_n$
Oxidative dehydrogenation	ODH
Ethyl benzene	EB

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