

In fabrics in columns
to improve their load



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In recent years, many researchers have focused on composite materials and hybrid designs, which can be considered as a derivative of these materials. Composite materials have required properties and are preferred in a wide variety of fields including the construction sector. Fiber-reinforced plastic (FRP) compounds are one of these composite types. In addition to their high strength and good behavior against environmental factors, these materials are preferred because they possess all the properties desired by the researchers and can be produced in different combinations. In addition to its superior mechanical strength, the new generation of composites attracts researchers' attention because of its following properties.

- Light weight· Consistent quality· Low density· High strength/density ratio· Good surface finish· Non-corrosive and chemical resistant· Non-magnetic· Maintenance free· Transparent to radio frequencies· Excellent creep & fatigue performance· Electrical & Thermal insulation

The use of lightweight and high corrosion resistant FRC material in repair and rehabilitation works has been observed to be increased significantly in Pakistan in the recent past. Repair and rehabilitation works generally involve the use of FRP laminates on the bottom surfaces of beams for flexural strengthening, use of FRP fabrics to improve the shear capacity of beams and use of FRP fabrics in columns to improve their load carrying capacity by lateral confinement. The most recent research and development studies have concentrated on the use of hybrid systems where conventional construction materials particularly such as concrete and composite materials are used in combination. Recently most of the research has concentrated on

hybrid FRP columns formed by concrete-filled or hollow FRP pipes. The trends in scientific studies clearly shows that in the near future, the use of FRP composites in new buildings will mainly concentrate on the use of hybrid structure. Many studies have shown that using of FRP composites with conventional materials like concrete is one of the solutions to eliminate certain deficiencies and disadvantages such as relatively low elastic modulus, structural design being governed by deflection and buckling limitations rather than strength. The use of fiber-reinforced polymer (FRP) as structurally integrated stay in place formwork for concrete structures maximize the advantages of both FRP and concrete, while simplifying the construction procedure, particularly when using closed tubular sections. The tube provides lightweight permanent formwork and non-corrosive reinforcement simultaneously.

Largely concrete filled circular FRP tubes have been studied in bending and under axial loads whereas very limited studies have been conducted on square or rectangular FRP concrete hybrid systems. Therefore, this study aims to examine the flexural behavior of recycled aggregate concrete filled square GFRP beams.