movements many times greater than the Kobe earthquake, which measured 7.5 on the Richter scale.

‘Barefoot social architecture’ is the philosophical basis of Lari’s work: architecture that treads lightly on the planet. One example of a ‘barefoot enterprise’ is Lari’s design for an earthen, fuel-efficient chulah (stove) – winning a World Habitat award in 2018 – which safeguards women’s dignity, health and income. Already close to 50,000 chulhas – costing only Rs1,000 or £8 per unit, and no cost to the donor except the expenses incurred in the training of ‘barefoot entrepreneurs’ – have been built in Sindh and more are being made daily. Lari has also designed disaster-resistant platforms for water pumps as well as eco-toilets with earth walls and types of mud and bamboo fire-, earthquake- and flood-resistant shelters – all to be self-built by the communities themselves.

Lari explains that her job is to ‘create a canvas on which communities can participate as equal partners, making every structure unique using their own innovations, and not to give them a finite product’. Believing in ‘low cost’ or ‘no cost’ alternative architecture, the Heritage Foundation of Pakistan, co-founded and spearheaded by Lari, provides the infrastructure of basic materials, knowhow and guidance through largely non-literate, trained ‘barefoot entrepreneurs’, while the finishing work is undertaken by the community. There is a