

Preparation of Micro Barium Titanate Powder and Comparison with Nano Powder Properties

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Abstract

In this paper, a homogenous pure Barium Titanate with formula (BaTiO_3) was prepared from pure Barium Carbonate (BaCO_3) and titanium dioxide (TiO_2) using the solid-state reaction technique, were used as raw materials having micro size by mixing of molar ratio [1:1], the powder was calcined at temperatures (900-1350) °C. The solid-State reaction can consider as an attractive process realistic alternative to the expensive wet-chemical route, according to X-ray diffraction, all of the peaks of Barium Titanate powder were perfectly suited to the positions of the peaks of the standard tetragonal phase in the pattern for this process. And with preferred crystalline size for the powder calcined at 1350 °C manifested the best results, where all the peaks indicate the formation of Barium Titanate completely. In addition, each BaTiO_3 Nanopowder was compared to a micro powder that had been manufactured, by conducting x-ray diffraction, diffraction peaks undergo shifting toward higher angle to the high value of 2θ , and Nano powder particles are smaller than micro powder particles. And this refers to a decrease in lattice parameters, in terms of the peaks of the Nano powder preceding the peaks of the micro powder of BaTiO_3 and that match the result that is obtained by scanning electron microscopy (SEM).

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1. Introduction

Barium Titanate (BaTiO_3) the first ceramic material in which ferroelectric behaviour was observed in 1945 by Vul and Goldman. With its much simpler structure (Perovskite), Perovskite ceramics materials are significant electronic materials in the scientific field. Barium Titanate is the first ferroelectric ceramic and it a good candidate for a range of applications due to its high dielectric and piezoelectric properties[1]. It can be prepared by several methods, depending on the desired properties of the final application. As the method used (Solid- State Reaction) has a great impact on the structure and properties of Barium Titanate materials, Because of its large dielectric constant and low loss characteristics. For that, It was widely used in many applications, including multilayer ceramic capacitors (MLCS), capacitors with high voltage, capacitors with rapid response, and is used in thin films. Most of these applications are based on the ferroelectric behaviour of Barium Titanate, dynamic random access memory (DRAM), communications, filters, ultrasound transducers, and piezoelectric sensors. Pure Barium titanium is an electrical insulator, and when doped in various oxides, it can be used as semiconductors. [2-4]

Traditionally, BaTiO₃ Powders are synthesized by two methods: either solid-state reaction or chemically-derived precursors, and these methods produce large, non-uniform, and agglomerating particles. Barium Titanate is considered an attractive material in the field of electric ceramics and microelectronics due to its superior properties, as it was used in many applications in semiconductors, therefore it was prepared and studied due to its importance [5].

2. Theoretical Part

The Perovskite, structure is supported by several oxides that have the chemical formula ABO₃. Barium Titanate (BaTiO₃) is a member of the Perovskite family. This structure takes its name from the CaTiO₃. The general crystal structure is a primitive cube with the larger A cation in the corner, the smaller B cation in the middle of the cube, and the anion, O is in the center of the edges of the face where A is a trivalent mineral, and B is trivalent or pentavalent elements. The Perovskite structure is considered as a (3D) three framework of BO₆ octahedral Figure (1.a), but it can also be considered as a cubic closed pack arrangements of A, and O ions with the B ions filling the interstitial positions Figure (1.b) [6].

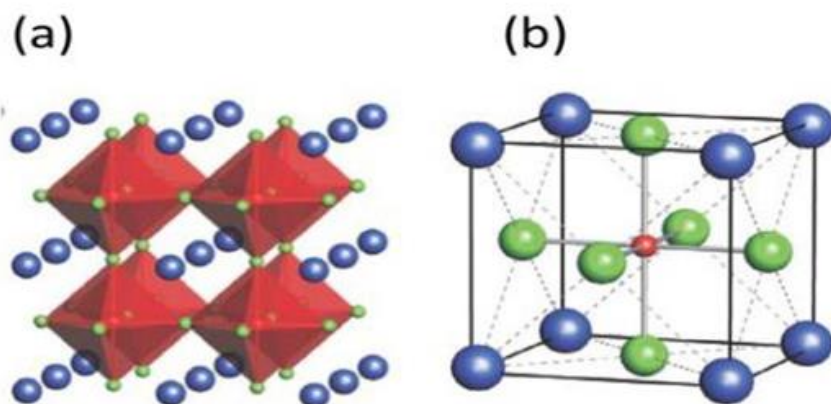


Figure 1: Perovskite cubic structure ABO₃, (a) Three dimension perovskite structure, (b) Cubic close packed structure [6].

Barium Titanate has been an interesting material for more than 60 years, due to its properties. Firstly, its properties are chemically and mechanically stable, secondly, due to its ferroelectric properties at room temperature, and finally, because it is used in the form of polycrystalline ceramics samples and can be easily prepared at low cost [7]. BaTiO₃ is one of the important ferroelectrics materials [8]. It belongs to perovskite as ceramics so it needs ultrafine powders (BaTiO₃) to reduce (calcination temperature, porosity, sintering time, and sintering temperature) [9]. All the above parameters will lead to less cost by reducing the energy and increasing efficiency. Barium Titanate is the first ferroelectric perovskite substance to be discovered. Barium Titanate has Varieties of ferroelectric properties with structural phase transitions. The Curies points (T_c) of (BaTiO₃) is about 1200 °C. Figure (2) illustrates the phase changes of Barium Titanate (BaTiO₃).

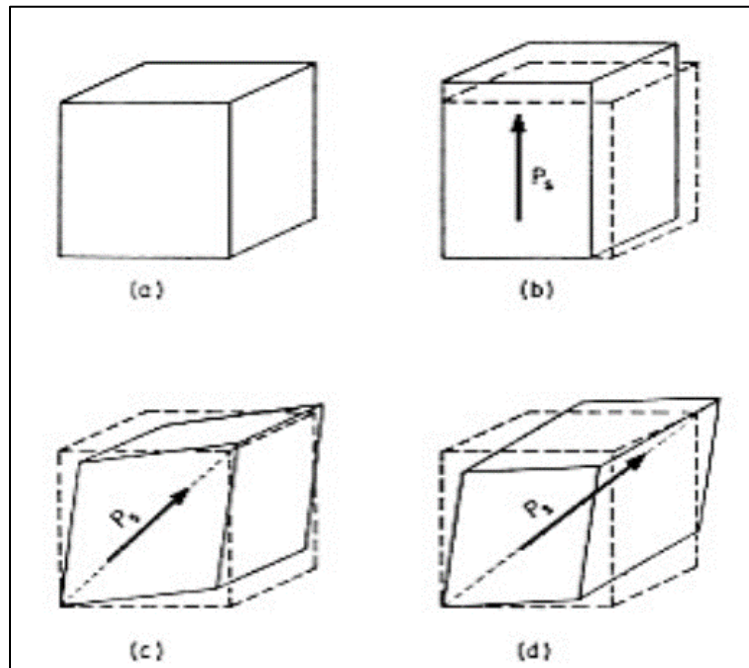


Figure 2: unit cell of four phases of Barium Titanate, (a) cubic phase above curie point (120°C), (b) tetragonal phase occurs between ($5 < T < 120^{\circ}\text{C}$), (c) orthorhombic phase stable at ($-90 < T < -5^{\circ}\text{C}$), (d) Rhombohedral phase this phase-stable below $T = -90^{\circ}\text{C}$ [6].

Cubic phase: this phase occurs above curie temp. (120°C) and has random polarization[10]. At 120°C titanium ions in the center of the structure, thermal vibration is sufficient to produce random orientation it is octahedral, interstitial position in Barium Titanate (BaTiO_3).

Tetragonal phase: this phase occurs below (120°C). It is stable between ($5 < T < 120^{\circ}\text{C}$) [11].

Orthorhombic phase: this phase occurs when $T = 5^{\circ}\text{C}$, and it is stable between ($-90 < T < -5^{\circ}\text{C}$) [12].

Rhombohedral phase: this phase occurs below $T = -90^{\circ}\text{C}$.

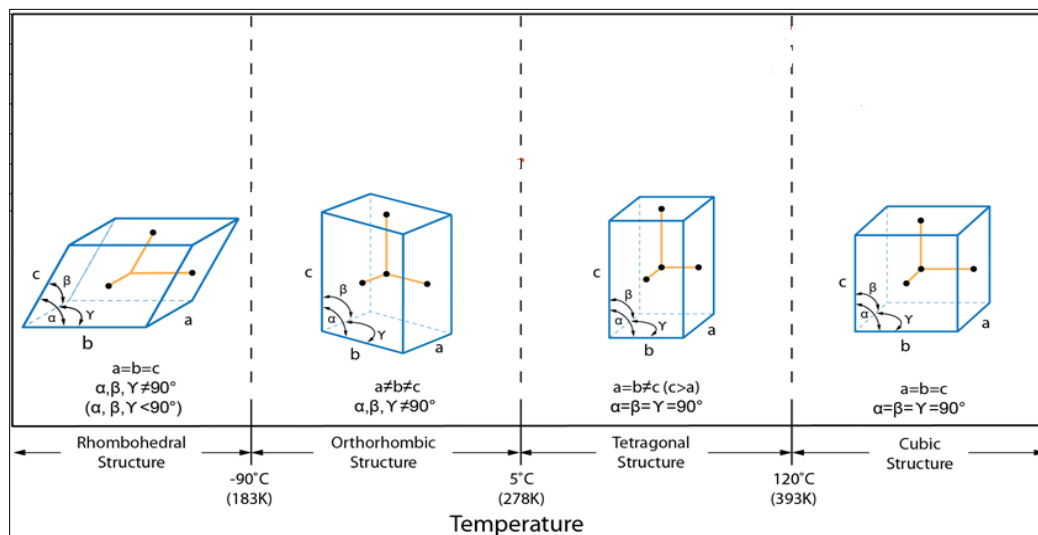


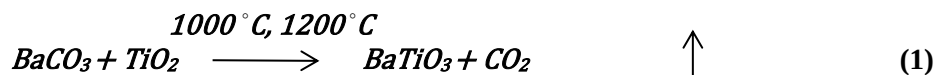
Figure 3: Phase transformations of pure BaTiO_3 vs. Temperatures [12].

The wide range of applications of Barium Titanate includes preparing multilayers ceramics capacitors MLCCS, electro-optical device, PTC resistors. Piezo-electric actuators, transducers, and chemical gas sensors. [13-18]. We try to discuss the solid-state reaction methods which were used to prepare Barium Titanate (BaTiO_3) need calcination temperature (800-1200) °C [19], but in other works it was (1350)°C. Barium Titanate can be used in solar cell because solar energy an alternative source of renewable energy and clean technology for the environment, it is a solution to the humankind environmental problems nowadays [20].

In this work, we prepare the micro Barium Titanate in the easiest and economical way, and its structural properties are studied. Then it is compared with Barium Titanate with Nano scale to know and study the properties, due to the importance of it in the dielectric properties and benefiting from it in most useful application.

3. Experimental Procedure

The solid-state reaction is the method used to prepare pure micro Barium Titanate (BaTiO_3) of 1:1 molar ratio from Barium carbonate (BaCO_3) and titanium dioxide (TiO_2) as raw materials, to be mixed through the use of a binder such as ethanol, according to the chemical formula[21]:



The raw materials of Barium Carbonate (BaCO_3) and Titanium Dioxide (TiO_2) were dried by an electric oven (JRAD) for a full 3 hours at a temperature of (80-90)°C, to get rid of all the moisture in the raw materials in order not to affect the weight. Weighted Barium Carbonate (BaCO_3) and Titanium Dioxide (TiO_2) using a sensitive electrical balance type (Sartorius) with four digits (0.0001) grams. This amount was calculated using the molar ratio of 1:1 mol.

The raw materials (Barium Carbonate and Titanium Dioxide) were mixed through dry mixing and milled by hand mill for 30 min to obtain a fine and more homogeneous powder. The raw materials Barium Carbonate (BaCO_3) and Titanium Dioxide (TiO_2) were mixed wet by adding ethanol and grinding balls (porcelain balls) to the powder, which was mixed in a dry form previously, and then put in the Ball milling and grinding for 3 hours to obtain complete homogeneity and evenly overlap the materials. Put the mixture in a container (zirconium crucible) in the oven at a temperature less than 100 °C. This is to evaporate the ethanol from the mixture. The mixture is re-grinded by a hand grinder to obtain a homogeneous powder period of 30 min. The homogeneous mixture is burned by placing it inside the burning crucible made of zirconia at a temperature of (900-1350) °C, to obtain the required phase of Barium Titanate (tetragonal), where the temperature should not exceed 1400 °C.

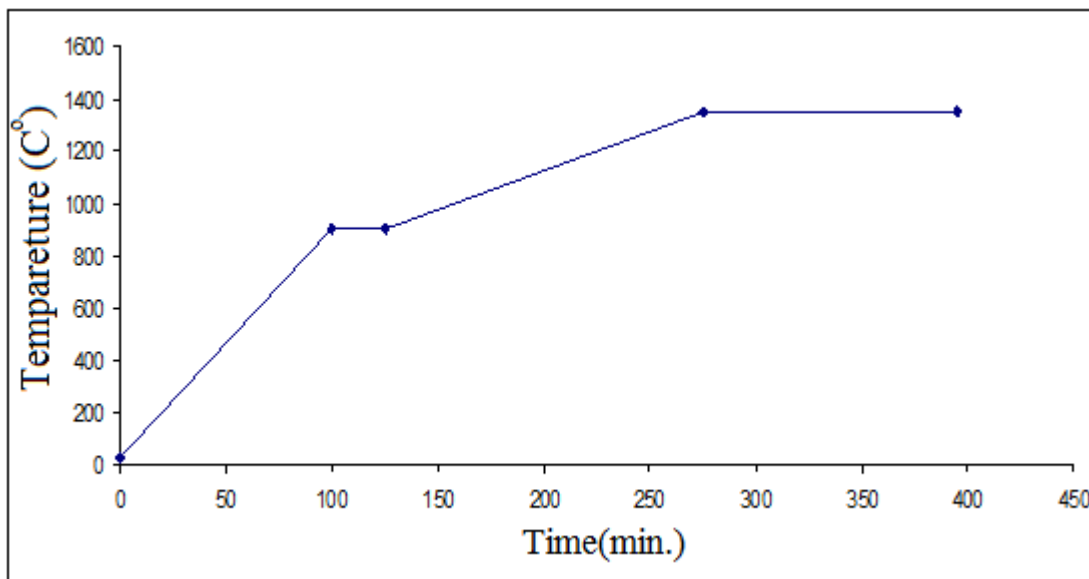


Figure 4: sintering program of pure Barium Titanate vs. time.

4. Results and Discussion

The solid-state reaction needs a nearly high temperature (1000-1350) °C then it follows the grinding process. The resulting mini frost has a large grain size and multiple stages i.e. heterogeneous, and is innovatively porous with a sintering temperature about of 1350 °C [21].

4.1 X-ray diffraction

As in pattern matched with the standards pattern of Barium Carbonate (JCPDS No. 000-005-0378) and standards of Titanium Dioxide TiO_2 (JCPDS No. 000-021-1272) Figure (5) shows the (XRD) patterns of raw materials BaCO_3 and TiO_2 before calcinations.

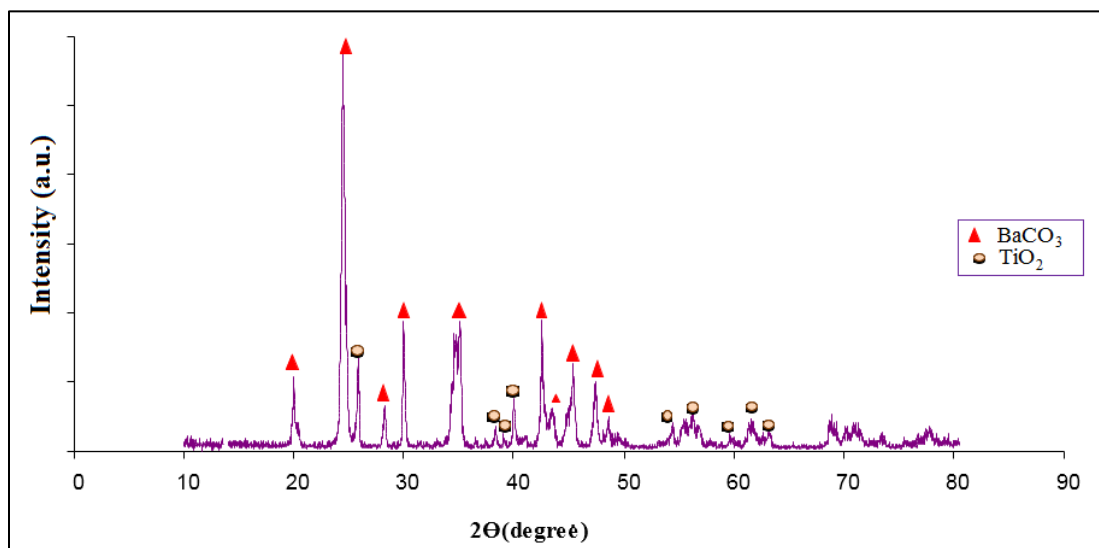


Figure 5: Barium Carbonate BaCO_3 & Titanium oxide TiO_2 XRD pattern before sintering.

The Product of rather uniform Barium Titanium around the titanium Dioxide particles needs to state how the final product retains the initial morphology of the substrate and this implies a rapid transfer mechanism. Such as surface diffusion which provides a constant supply over the entire surface of the particles It is reasonable to use both substrates in the crystalline form which leads to a more familiar contact between Barium Carbonate and Titanium Dioxide. This implies an increase in the number of contact points between the reactants, a decrease of the average transport distance for surface and volume Barium diffusion, and possibly, an increase of the average chemical potential Of BaO at the surface of Titanium Dioxide particles. The kinetics of the overall reaction can be affected by each factor [22] .

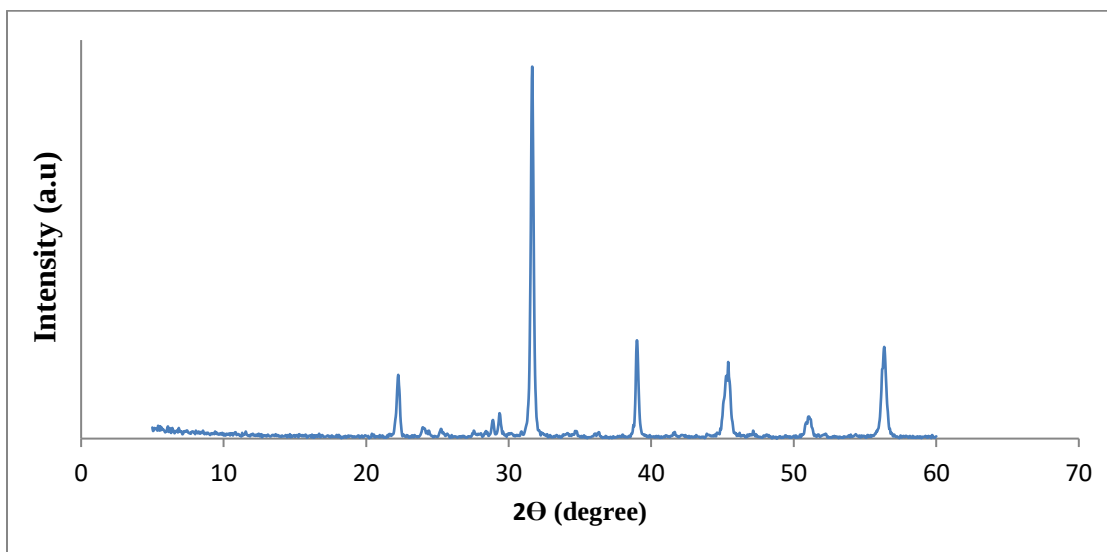


Figure 6: Barium Titanate XRD pattern at 900 °C.

In Figure (6) XRD pattern confirmed the existence of the Barium Titanate with tetragonal phase (the pattern matched with the standard pattern JCPDS No. 05-0626). In Figure (7) at 1000°C temperature there was a low intensity of Titanium Dioxide (TiO_2) but there was no Barium Carbonate.

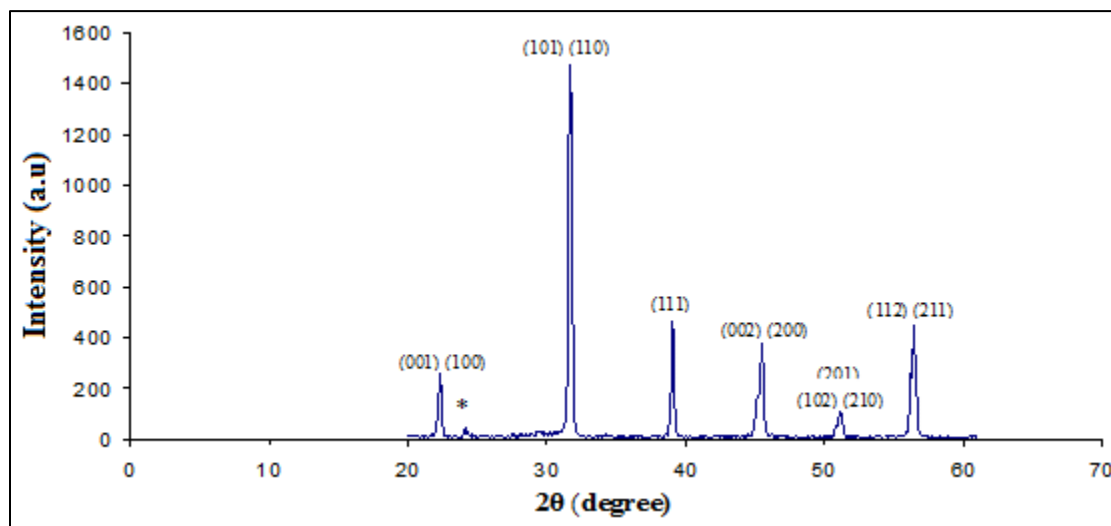


Figure 7: Barium Titanate XRD pattern at 1000°C.

The symbol (*) refers to the peaks for the Titanium Dioxide this means that the reactions of Barium Titanate are not complete because of the presence of another peak which belongs to Titanium Dioxide (TiO_2) [23].

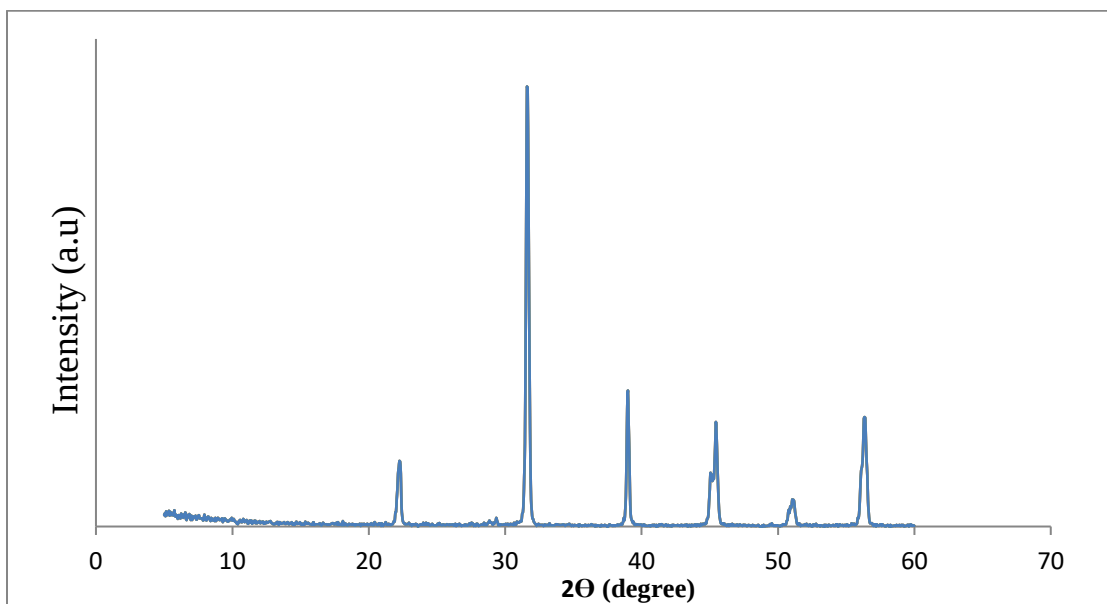


Figure 8: Barium Titanate XRD pattern at 1100°C.

The first notice indicates that the lattice of the studied structures, at first cubic has undergone a low tetragonal distortion. The second corresponds to increased tetragonal deformation. With increasing temperatures the crystallinity of the sample increases, and in the absence of tetragonal deformation, the width of the XRD peaks should decrease. With the recorded patterns, it is not possible to quantitatively distinguish the peaks broadening because of the size of crystallites from the effect of tetragonal deformation.

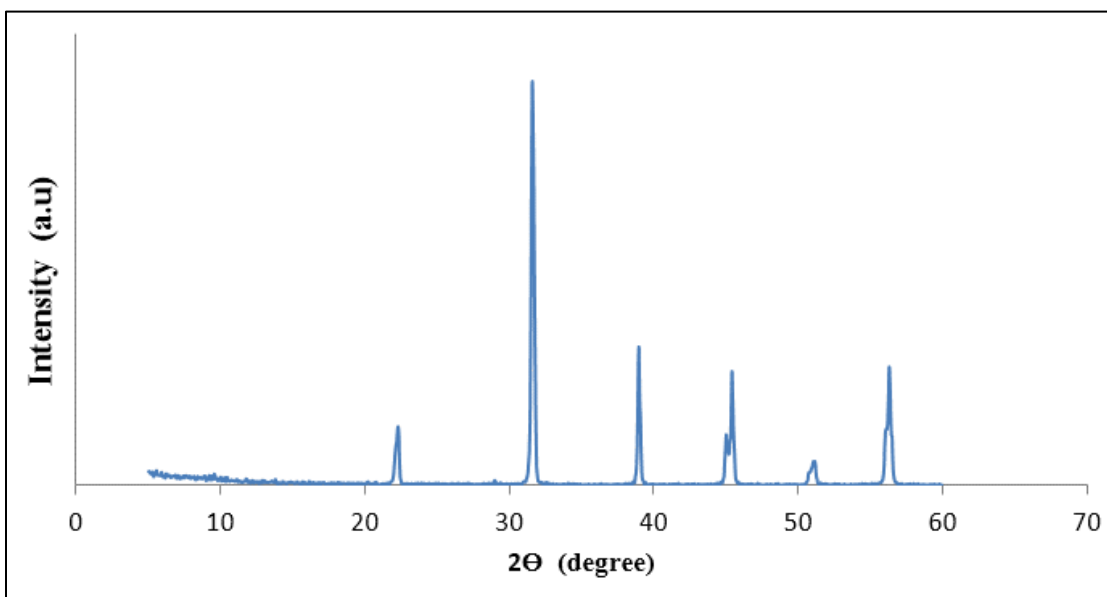


Figure 9: Barium Titanate XRD pattern at 1200 °C.

So as it can be seen they are widened gradually and lastly split during an increase in the sintered temperature. This phenomenon refers to the (tetragonal structure) of Barium Titanate (BaTiO_3) phase was formed well with the increase in sintered temperature [24]. As shown in Figure (9).

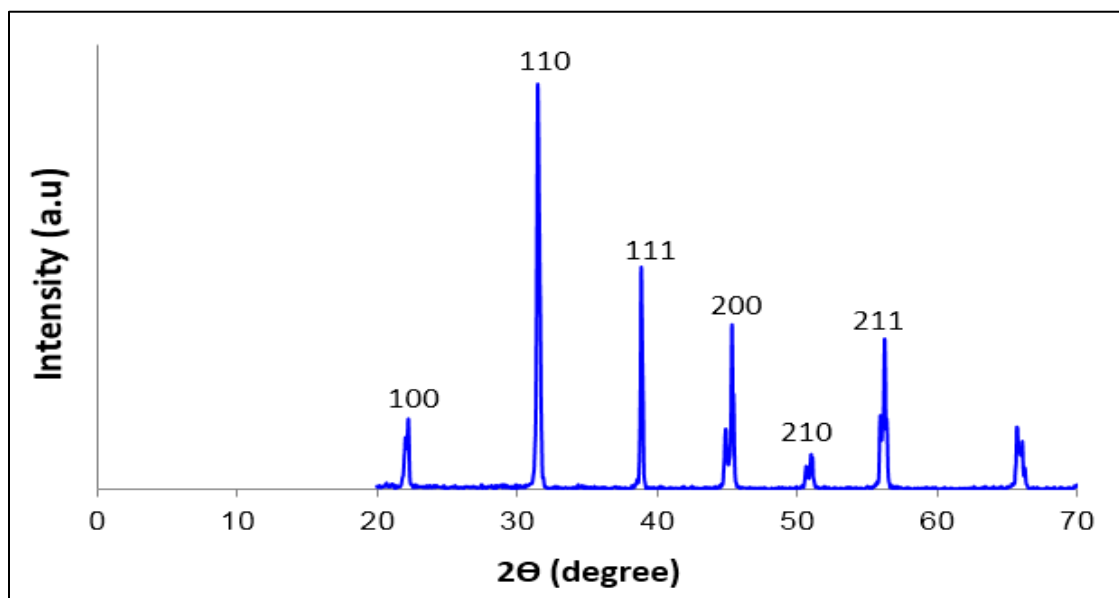


Figure 10: Micro Barium Titanate XRD pattern at 1350 °C.

In Figure (10) which shows a pure sample that sintered at (1350)°C, some observed peaks disappear, that happens due to a temperature below the temperature of sintering (which is 1350 °C for BaTiO₃ ceramic), there are no completed reactions and phases (peaks of remains raw materials that did not reach) shown in X-ray diffraction Pattern as small peak, that extra peaks disappear when reaching sintering temperature because at sintering temperature all the reaction completed and pure phase of Barium Titanate become more noticeable.

This phenomenon refers to the (tetragonal structure) of Barium Titanate (BaTiO₃) phase which was formed well with the increase in sintered temperature[25, 26].

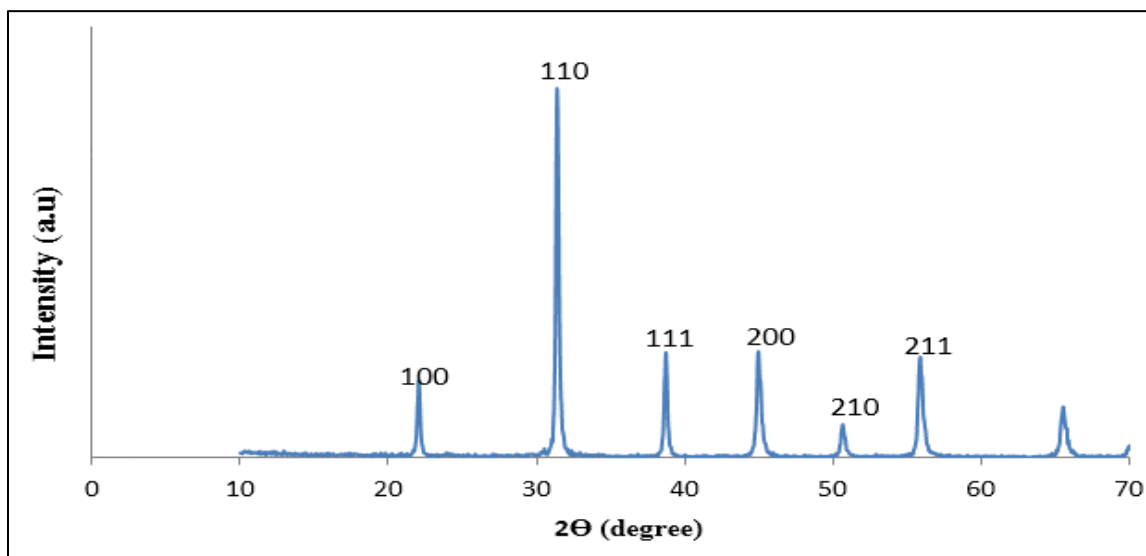


Figure 11: Nano-Barium Titanate XRD pattern.

In the Figure (11), the X-ray pattern of Barium Titanate nanoparticles is shown, we notice in the figure the peaks of Nanopowder appear before (shift to the large angle) the peaks that appear in the micro-powder.

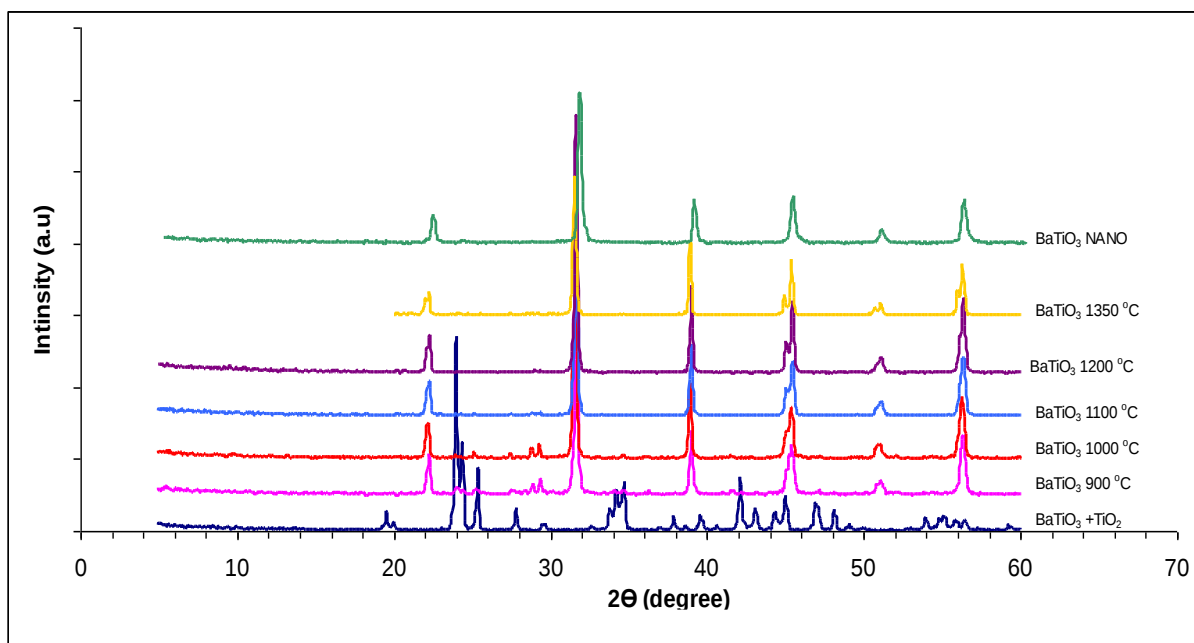


Figure 12: XRD pattern for pure micro & nano Barium Titanate with different temperatures.

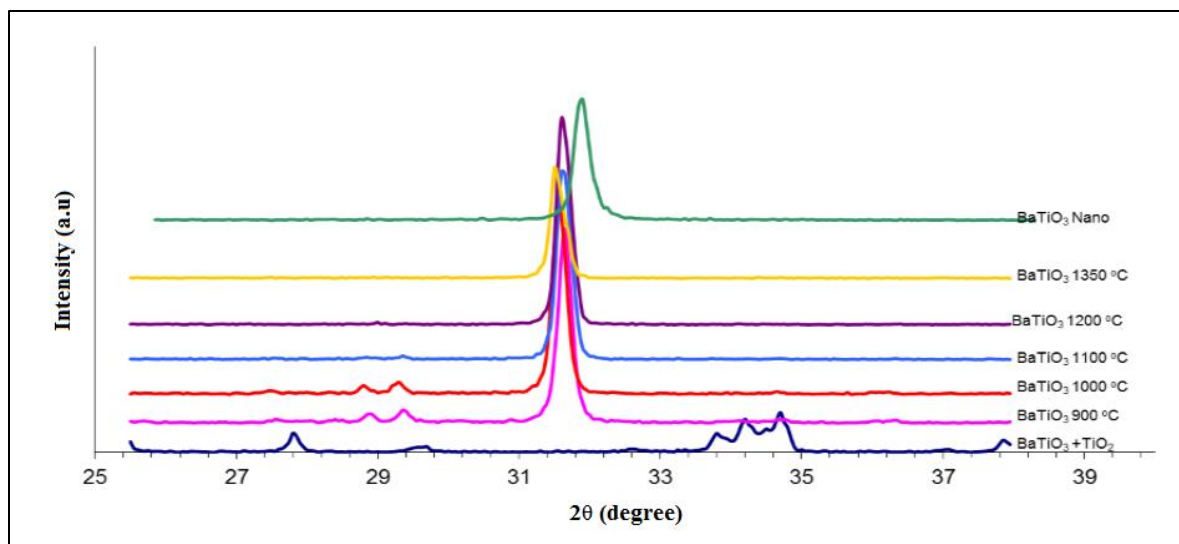


Figure 13: Illustrates shifting in the peaks of XRD patterns for pure micro and nano BaTiO₃.

As shown in Figure (12)(13), from the XRD patterns, the Nanopowder of Barium Titanate (BaTiO₃) when compared with micro-powder of Barium Titanate notice that there are shifting in the peak to the large angle (to the right) and this is true because when the particle size small (Nanopowder) the shifting will be to the large angle.

4.2 Scanning Electron Microscopy

Note from Figure (14-a-d) of micro and Nanopowder with different magnification, scans show that the samples are cubic BaTiO₃, which form spherical particles[27,28]. this is in agreement with the results obtained from XRD patterns, there are shifting with Nano compared with micro.

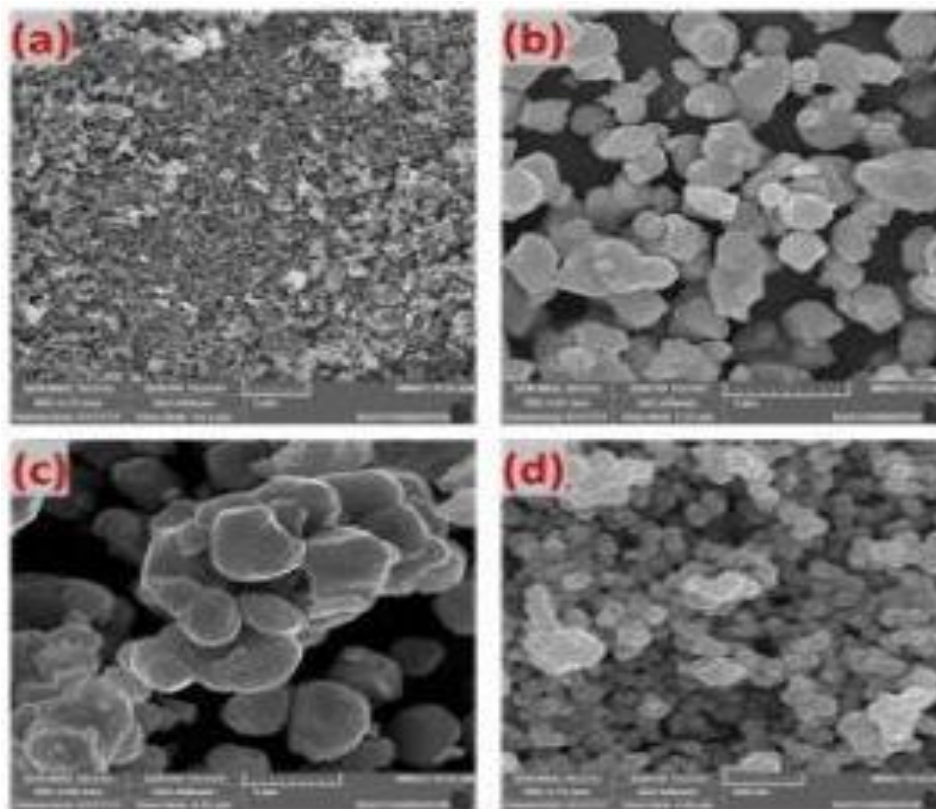


Figure 14: Scanning electron microscopy for (micro& Nano BaTiO₃) powders with different magnification, (a) SEM magnification 10.0X, 2µm, (b) SEM magnification 20.0X, 2µm, (c) SEM magnification 30 X, 1 µm, (d) SEM magnification 50.0X, 500nm.

The SEM images, show the particle size and agglomerations possibility. Some of these particles seem larger than the original may be due to the upper limit of the Scherrer's formula of about 100 nm [29].

5. Conclusions

In this study, we observed pure micro Barium Titanate has been synthesis by solid-state reaction of pure crystalline (BaCO₃) and Titanium Dioxide (TiO₂), and this method can be considered as an attractive process realistic alternative to more expensive wet-chemical route, we conclude that according to X-ray diffraction. XRD patterns for this method appear all the peaks of Barium Titanate BaTiO₃ and with prefer crystalline size for the powder calcined at 1350°C all peaks refer to the formation of Barium Titanate completely. by comparing each of the Nanopowder of BaTiO₃ with prepared micro powder that calcined at 1350 °C, by conducting x-ray diffraction, diffraction peaks undergo shifting toward higher angle (to the right) because of the Nanopowder particles which are smaller than micro powder and this refers to a decrease in lattice parameters, in terms of the peaks of the Nanopowder preceding the peaks of the micro powder of (BaTiO₃).

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Conflict of Interest: The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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