A Report of the Second International Congress on the History of Medicine in Iran and Islam

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Tehran hosted the Second Congress on the History of Medicine in Iran and Islam. This international congress was held from 26th to 29th November 2019. Also, there were post congress events in Shiraz city from 29th November to 1st December. The previous congress (the first international Congress on the History of Medicine in Iran and Islam) had been held in 1992 with about 220 participants from different parts of the world.

During the four congress days in Tehran, several keynote speakers from various countries made speeches and researchers presented their conference posters. The main topics of the congress were Persian medicine, history of medicine in ancient Persia and history of medicine in Islamic golden era.

The Opening ceremony was held in Grand Eram Hotel on the evening of 26th November. In addition to speeches made, the specially designed stamp of the congress was signed by pioneers of this field and demonstrated to the participants. Also, three books written by Iranian Traditional Medicine scholars and an audio Iranian traditional album, were revealed. There was a videoconference with France about history of medicine. Then, the ceremony was followed by gala dinner.

During the four days of the congress, different scholars made speeches in various scientific topics including: History of Anatomy and Disease, Integrative Medicine, History of Pharmacology and Alchemy, Contemporary era, Medicine in Medieval Islamic Era, Museums and Documents, Late Medieval Islamic Era, History of Medical Ethics, Medicine and Philosophy, Student Panel, Ancient Persia, Identification in Persian Medicine Heritage; Culture, Literature and Medicine. Also,
posters were presented in poster halls.

While holding the congress, and in the evenings, congress participants visited some historical or famous places of Tehran including History of Medicine museum in Tehran, National Museum and Milad Tower.

Following the closing ceremony in Tehran, participants had a trip to Shiraz on 29th and 30th November and 1st December for post congress events and workshops. Visiting historical glories of Iran including Persepolis was among the programs of the congress.

All in all, there were more than 30 non-Iranian participants from India, Turkey, Italy, Germany, United states of America, England, the Netherlands, France, Germany, Tunisia and Bangladesh including the scholars who participated through video conference. Of the 152 papers submitted to the Secretariat, 100 were selected for presentation at the conference, of which 59 were lectures and 41 were posters.

It is noteworthy to mention that there were different collaborators in the conference; including UNESCO Traditional Medicine History Chair, World Academy of Pharmacy History, Ministry of Science International Affairs, Office of Medical History in Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Iranian Traditional Medicine Scientific Association, Iranian branch of World Traditional Pharmaceutical Association, Iranology Foundation and Foundation of Iranian Medicine. This international event, sponsored by the Iranian Medicine Office of Ministry of Health, was hosted by the School of Persian Medicine in Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran Knowledge and Research Development Institute, Academy of Medical Sciences and Shiraz University of Medical Sciences.

Photos adapted from official website of the Second Congress on the History of Medicine in Iran and Islam: [http://medhistcong.ir/](http://medhistcong.ir/)