



In Memoriam: Javad Tavakkoly-Bazzaz (1967-2020)

Javad Tavakkoly Bazzaz, Professor of Medical Genetics in School of Medicine, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, passed away on September 26th 2020, at the age of 53. He died in Tehran, where he spent most of his academic career in educational and executive roles.

The grieving news of his death deeply hurt our hearts, and left us all in sorrow. It was in early 2020, when he was diagnosed with leukemia. Despite early treatments, he was hospitalized several times due to complications. In his last hospitalization, his medical condition deteriorated and the COVID-19 infection was also added to the other complications, which all led to his death.

Professor Tavakkoly Bazzaz was born on March 1967 in Amol city, a beautiful city in north of Iran, in Mazandaran province. After finishing his primary education, he began his academic education in medicine in Mashhad University of Medical Sciences. After graduation, he continued his education in medical genetics in Manchester University, United Kingdom. Upon his return to Iran, he started his career as academic faculty in Tehran University of Medical Sciences, and became the full professor of medical genetics. During his academic services, he committed different executive roles, including the Vice Dean of Student and Cultural Affairs at School of Medicine, Tehran University of Medical Sciences. Of note, he dedicated a considerable part of his time to this responsibility, even at the time of his illness, including organizing cultural and traditional ceremonies for medical students, and establishment of a comfortable place for students' discussion and relaxation.

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Professor Tavakkoly Bazzaz was a compassionate teacher, who was admired by his students for all his support in the times of hardship and also for guiding them in the path of education. No doubt that there are so many ups and downs in the path of higher education for students, and only with a good teacher, one can pass all these. For sure, Professor Tavakkoly Bazzaz was one of the benevolent teachers who provided such support for his students. Moreover, and as an academic professor, he made efforts in medical research as well, which led to publication of about 70 valuable scientific papers in medical genetics.

Besides to medicine, he was also an expert in social sciences and humanities, especially in Persian literature and art. His dedication to studying culture and humanities made him a successful person in communication with everyone. He was also talented writer, who occasionally wrote literary pieces as well.

More importantly, Professor Tavakkoly Bazzaz was a sublime character, who was well-known for human morality, deep religious beliefs and patriotism for his country, Iran. His respectful behavior was an inseparable part of his great character, and treated everyone, senior or junior, student or professor, with respect and good manner. He was very grateful and appreciative to his professors as well. Therefore, everyone had good memories of his interpersonal behavior, and felt relieving comfort when having friendly conversations with him.

We must not forget that this great person, who was a family man, dedicated his life to his family as well. He will remain in the minds and hearts of all those who were close to him. May his name be always remembered with respect and kindness.