



## In Memoriam Professor Dr. Javad Tavakkoly Bazzaz M.D., Ph.D. (1966 - 2020)

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Dr. Javad Tavakkoly Bazzaz, Professor of the Medical Genetics Department, School of Medicine, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, without doubt, will forever live in minds as one of the unforgettable professors of Medical Genetics and this university. The grievous news of losing Dr. Tavakkoly in the first week of the first month of fall 2020 resulted in deep mourning and sorrow among students, colleagues, and all those who knew him from up close.

He only had 53 years to live, but he dedicated majority of his life to learning, teaching and helping human beings and in his short life, he became the source of many valuable services.

According to his C.V., he was born on 21.09.1966 in the green and beautiful city of Amol on edge of the Caspian Sea, and after completing his primary and secondary education, he headed to Mashhad University of Medical Sciences to begin his medical education career. Due to his interest in the science of Genetics, after completing his medical studies, he pursued his Ph.D. at the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom and after its completion, he returned to his country. He became a faculty member at Tehran University of Medical Sciences and along his teaching and research duties, he was responsible for various administrative duties such as Research Deputy of the Endocrine and Metabolism Research Center and subsequently, Deputy for Students and Cultural affairs at the School of Medicine. In the years in which he managed many heavy responsibilities, he consistently was recognized as a responsible and dedicated individual. As a university teacher, he was always available and alongside students. From students' point of view, he was recognized as a loving and caring professor. In works of charity, he was always a pioneer, and many individuals in need enjoyed his help with an open face from his own personal resources. Forgiveness and generosity were Dr. Tavakkoly's obvious traits.

In reflection, maybe the most important aspects of Dr. Tavakkoly Bazzaz were not his teaching, research and administrative works and duties. The quintessential trait by this one-of-a-kind Professor was his humanity and his safeguarding of humanity. In professional challenges, disputes, and squabbles, he was consistently patient, contained and stoic. He acted with respect and humility, and, usually, he was always searching for solutions with the least harm and with kindness to solve problems. He had dedicated all his might and time to serve Tehran University of Medical Sciences and for this reason, the lights in his office were usually the last lights to be turned off every night at the School of Medicine!

In his humaneness and in his personal life, Dr. Tavakkoly enjoyed superb artistic intellect and extraordinary literary understanding. His expansive and comprehensive studies on ancient and contemporary Iranian literature and his deep understanding of music were alongside full command of calligraphy and this made him a unique and distinct Professor who travelled in expansive transdisciplinary horizons. This exquisite attribute made it possible for him to be able to have respectful and positive interactions with people from all walks of life and people with different characters and personalities and be popular and loved.

Professor Javad Tavakkoly Bazzaz is no longer with us physically, but without doubt, he will always be in our minds and hearts. Whenever and wherever, there is mention of Dr. Tavakkoly, a picture of kindness, respect, and his ever-shining smile will light up in memories.

### Footnote

**Authors' Contribution:** Pantea Izadi and Mina Tabrizi contributed to the development of the original idea and prepared the manuscript.



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**Figure 1.** Professor Javad Tavakkoly Bazzaz M.D., Ph.D. (1966-2020)

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