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The Legacy of Professor Moslem Bahadori; A Memorial Note

Moslem Bahadori
(1927-2022)



Moslem Bahadori, an astounding scholar with an immeasurable impact on the Iranian medical field and community, and a permanent member of the Iranian Academy of Medical Sciences coming from a humble background in the northern part of Iran, rose to the highest levels of the Iranian medical fraternity. He was not only a distinguished pathologist but also a persistent patriot who dedicated his life to flourishing Medical Education in his country, Iran.

Coming from an unprivileged socioeconomic background that had delayed starting his primary education, he did not take any opportunity life had brought his way for granted. He excelled by always standing among the top students, making his family and community proud of his achievements. He was admitted to Tehran Medical School, the only medical school in Iran in 1948, after passing a national exam in which he was ranked 20 among 280 successful candidates. Since his second year at medical school, he actively partook in the publication of the Medical Journal of Tehran Medical School. In those times, offset lithography was used for publishing handwritten articles by the faculties, which required several revisions. That is how he got close encounters with many legendary faculty members.

Dr. Bahadori's time in medical school coincided with the ongoing Nationalization of the Oil Industry Movement in Iran led by Dr. Mohammad Mosaddegh. This movement impacted academia as well, and the students and faculties were politically divided at the time. Dr. Bahadori was the leader of the National Front student campaign in Tehran Medical School, which cost him several imprisonments during the 1953 Iranian coup. His earned credits by diligent efforts at medical school guaranteed his successful graduation from medical school after completing his

training with the top-ranking professors. He joined the pathology residency program chaired by Dr. Kamaledin Armin with whom he had worked closely during the earlier years. In the late 1950s, he completed cardiopulmonary pathology training at Cardiff University in England. He also mastered clinical pathology techniques such as percutaneous lung, liver and kidney biopsy. Although his primary medical education was completed outside of the United Kingdom, due to his notable scientific achievements in the UK, he was awarded a Fellowship by the Royal College of Physicians and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists. In 1970, he was invited to work with the world famous international leader on the pathology of the lung Prof. Averill A. Liebow in the United States. The details of his enormous contribution to advancing Tehran Medical School as well as structuring the "National Council for Medical Education" and "National Organization for Educational Evaluation" in the 1960s and 1970s are very well narrated by his own words in his memoir, published in 2018: a history worth being taught to all Iranian medical students. One of his most outstanding achievements in Tehran Medical School was establishing diagnostic pathology laboratories at each university-affiliated hospital directly managed by pathologists onsite. He was also one of the founders of the Iranian National Tuberculosis and Lung Diseases Research Center in the 1990s, a reference center for the World Health Organization until the present.

Prof. Bahadori worked tirelessly to mentor medical students interested in research who would reach out to him for almost all of his career. His love for research and his dedication to advancing Iranian medical education made him always welcome and



support young faculties, which made the relationships unique, rich, and unforgettable. Over decades, the marvellous network he had created made him the best candidate to chair the Tehran University of Medical Sciences Alumni Office since its establishment in 2006.

He was a brilliant, and enthusiastic scholar who remained a profoundly decent and accessible teacher for whoever approached him. He enriched the lives of those fortunate enough to learn from him. His imprints will stay in our lives forever.

We miss him dearly and never forget him with great fondness.

This note is written by Elham Fakhrejahani, one out of thousands whose lives Prof. Bahadori touched. She had the honor of finishing her MD thesis under Prof. Moslem Bahadori's supervision. The thesis was compiled based on cardiovascular post-mortem research initiated and continuously supervised by Prof. Moslem Bahadori for more than a decade at Tehran University of Medical Sciences.

In 2017, she was very fortunate to attend the ceremony held by Bokhara Magazine in Tehran when she learned about Prof. Bahadori's life by listening to his own narration.

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