

EDITORIAL

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Obituary:

Prof. Mohammad-Bagher Eslami (1936-2023)



We deeply mourn the passing of Prof. Mohammad-Bagher Eslami, an esteemed Immunology scholar, scientist, and former Editor-in-Chief of the Iranian Journal of Allergy, Asthma, and Immunology, who passed away on 2nd July 2023. Prof. Eslami's remarkable journey began in the scenic town of Khansar in Isfahan, province of Iran, where he was born in 1936. His passion for knowledge and pursuit of excellence led him to Tehran, the capital city of Iran, where he completed his education at the Pahlavi High School. Following the completion of his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) degree at the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, University of Tehran in 1959, Professor Eslami commenced a groundbreaking academic journey. He traveled to Germany and later to Scotland, where he worked as a Postgraduate Fellow of Immunology. After graduation in 1981, he returned to Iran and joined the Department of Pathobiology, School of Public Health at Tehran University of Medical Sciences as an Assistant Professor of Immunology, where he passionately nurtured young minds and inspired future generations of scientists.

Professor Eslami played a pivotal role in establishing the specialized Ph.D. program in Immunology following the Islamic Revolution of Iran. He introduced this field for the first time in the school of Public Health. Before the revolution, Immunology was primarily a specialized field of study in the medical, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine residency programs. His tenure as the Head of the department for more than a decade exemplified his

exceptional leadership and dedication to academic excellence.

Additionally, Professor Eslami held several prestigious positions, including the vice president of research at the Tehran University of Medical Sciences and the vice president of the Iranian Blood Transfusion Organization. In the year 2000, Professor Eslami initiated his involvement with the Iranian Society of Asthma and Allergy (ISAA) and Iranian Society of Immunology and Allergy (ISIA) as a Board Member and collaborated with the Immunology, Asthma, and Allergy Research Institute (IAARI) as a Research Council Member. Simultaneously, he took on the responsibility of being the Editor-in-Chief of the IJAAI, a position he held for an impressive 17 years. His commitment to the intricate details of scientific aspects and ethical principles within the submitted manuscripts was exemplary (Figure 1). Under his guidance, the journal became a beacon of knowledge, fostering international collaboration and knowledge exchange in the fields of Immunology, Asthma, and Allergy. He continued his collaboration with the IJAAI on a voluntary basis until the end of his profoundly blessed life.

Prof. Eslami's legacy extends far beyond his professional achievements. As stated by his family, colleagues and students, he was known for his kindness, generosity, mentorship, and fostering a supportive academic community. His multifaceted contributions to various sectors underscored his immense impact on the academic and scientific community. Dr. Eslami was known for his dedication to staying up-to-date on the latest advancements in the field of immunology. He consistently refreshed his expertise and added a personal touch to his teaching materials, incorporating his distinctive style by utilizing transparent sheets displayed with an opaque device, which was the only available technology during his era. His lesson slides, meticulously designed and painted, bore the mark of his creativity and commitment to making the learning experience engaging and memorable for his students. Prof. Eslami was one of the main authors of the "Dictionary of Immunology" a highly esteemed book among students. Dr. Eslami's legacy is not only rooted in his academic achievements but also in his moral

integrity and devoutness. His passing leaves an irreplaceable void, and the loss will be deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him. However, his legacy of dedication, kindness, persistent commitment to education, and updating with scientific papers will

continue to inspire and shape the future of generations to come. In remembrance of a brilliant scientist and a beloved leader, we extend our deepest condolences to Prof. Eslami's family, friends, and the scientific community he profoundly influenced.



Figure1. Certain instances involved Professor Eslami's handwritten notes in Farsi on the papers, indicating his efforts to assess the final revisions of the manuscripts.

This memorial letter has been written On behalf of:

- ❖ The IJAAI's Director, Editor-in-chief, Associate Editors, National and International Editorial Board Members and staff (<https://ijaai.tums.ac.ir>)
- ❖ The ISAA's Board Members (<https://www.isaa.org.ir>)
- ❖ The IAARI's Head, Deputy of Research, Scientific Committee and Staff (<https://eniaari.tums.ac.ir>)
- ❖ The ISIA's Board Members
- ❖ And all Iranian Immunologists throughout the country

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