

## On the Occasion of World TB Day, 24 March 2009

*This year, for the annual event of world TB day, many actions were taken nationally, regionally and internationally to control this disease.*

*In honor of world TB day, EMRO TB office came up with a brilliant idea called “Million Youth March” by estimating the number of TB patients in the region which was about 1 million cases. In this regard, EMRO office calculated the share of each country of these TB patients and it was decided that a similar number of children and students in the related countries march and participate in TB-related advertising and advocacy programs.*

*In this manner, number of TB patients in Iran was calculated to be 25,000 cases. Therefore, with the efforts of Iranian Ministry of Health, NTP, Iranian Charity Foundation for TB and Lung Disease, NRITLD and Iranian Stop TB Partnership, comprehensive programs were conducted in Golestan province in North of Iran which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> province in terms of TB prevalence. In these programs, Minister of Health, Deputy of Health, the governor, dean of Golestan University and many of the national and local authorities participated. Also, the students highlighted the subject by a beautiful parade.*



*On the international level, Stop TB Partnership of the WHO held a successful conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil on 23 to 25 March in which representatives from almost all countries and governmental organizations and NGOs participated actively. Efforts, programs and obstacles in regard to TB control were all discussed during morning and evening sessions.*

*Considering these programs, we anticipate more serious actions to be taken worldwide for control of TB in 2009.*



*Meanwhile as we mentioned earlier in the previous issue of Tanaffos Journal, we decided to provide our valued readers with subjects related to the history of medicine in Iran. In this issue, in honor of world TB day we draw your attention to an editorial by Prof. Ali Akbar Velayati who possesses an extensive knowledge of history of Islamic and Iranian medicine as well as the medical science itself.*

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***Editor-in-Chief***