

LETTER TO EDITOR

A Historical Document on Spanish Flu Dating Back to 104 Years Ago

Dear Editor,

Although Pandemic of COVID 19 is the main health issue of the world in 2020; but infectious diseases were always considered as the dangerous threats for human race during the history. Cholera and Plague are some historical examples lead to millions deaths during the history. But, outbreak of Spanish Flu that was occurred about 102 years ago (January 1918 to December 1920), was one of the most deadly outbreaks during the history. It infected 500 million people, a quarter of world's population at that time and causes to more than 17 million deaths. It is called as the mother of all Pandemics.¹

Figure 1 shows a historical document of this outbreak was published in the Chehreh Nama Magazine (Vol. 16; No. 61 and 62) at January 1919 (in Persian). In this document, it is mentioned that according to the Times Newspaper the victims of this outbreak was 6 million people during only 12 weeks and predicted to more than 180 million deaths if it continued for 4 years. Also, the report of quarantine in some countries like Egypt and also its importance to con-

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1- Taubenberger, 2006: 15-22.

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trol of the outbreak is mentioned in this historical paper. This document is very important to review the history of Spanish Flu.



Figure 1. The paper on Spanish Flu, published in the Chehreh Nama Magazine (Vol. 16; No. 61 and 62) at January 1919 (in Persian)

References

Taubenberger JK, Morens DM. 1918 Influenza: The mother of all pandemics. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2006; **12**(1): 15-22.

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