

The 3rd International and 10th National Congress of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases of Iran (Shiraz, Iran, November 1–3, 2017)

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The 3rd International and 10th National Congress of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases of Iran (NICOPA10) was held from November 1-3, 2017, at Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran (<http://nicopa10.sums.ac.ir/en/>) (Figure 1). This meeting brought together parasitologists from several prestigious universities and research centers throughout Iran, as well as leading experts from other countries including Germany, Norway, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Armenia, and Afghanistan (Figure 2).

The NICOPA10 was started by the opening ceremony followed by a plenary session. In total, 4 plenary sessions, 20 symposia on selected topics in each 1 or 2 invited speakers as well as 5 oral presentations had been programmed. Moreover, 3 poster sessions, and 2 workshops was held in NICOPA10. There were around 431 poster presentations and 92 oral communications. Relevant Iranian and international researchers participated in the symposia in order to get a straightforward vision of the recent and more successful scientific results. One of the main goals of the meeting was to stimulate the participation of young parasitologists, and give them an excellent opportunity to present their recent research results.

The opening ceremony was started by Quran recitation followed by National Anthem of I.R. Iran. Then the message of Prof. Seyyed Hassan Ghazizadeh Hashemi, the Minister of Health and Medical Education was read by Prof. Seyed Mahmoud Sadjjadi. The Chancellor of Shiraz University of Medical Sciences message was read. Then, Prof. Sadjjadi, Scientific Secretary of the 3rd International and 10th National Congress of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases had a welcome message in which he also proposed a report on selection process of abstracts for the congress; The opening ceremony was continued by Prof. Thomas Romig, President for European Federation of Parasitologists who talked about the ways of communications between Iranian and European



Figure 1. Poster announcing the 3rd International and 10th National Congress of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases of Iran.

scientists followed by a video clip about NICOPA10.

Different topics were covered in the program including helminths; echinococcosis: molecular aspects, *Toxocara*, schistosomes and cercarial dermatitis, malacology, veterinary helminthology, intestinal helminths, *Fasciola* and fasciolosis, filaria, echinococcosis: epidemiology, Also, *Leishmania*: epidemiology, *Giardia* and other intestinal and luminal protozoa, Malaria, *Toxoplasma* and coccidian parasites, *Leishmania*: pathology, immunology and molecular aspects, emerging parasitic disease, *Entamoeba* and free living amoeba, leishmaniasis: clinical and treatment, paleoparasitology, arthropods and arthropods borne diseases: veterinary protozoology



Figure 2. Participants in the 3rd International and 10th National Congress of Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases of Iran (NICOPA10).

and arthropods, and ethical issues in parasitic diseases researches.

The congress was particularly devoted to “The Iranian Society for Parasitology (ISP)”. A workshop on “Scientific writing with focus on Parasitology” was presented by Prof. Mohammad Bagher Rokni (Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran) based on his considerable and practical experience as editor of the *Iranian Journal of Parasitology* and *Iranian Journal of Public Health*. The workshop was of especial interest for young researchers. Another workshop with the topic “Cultivation of *Echinococcus granulosus* adult worm” by Dr. Tahereh Mohammadzadeh (Baqiyatallah University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran) provided a simple manual technique which could be performed in any laboratory for the purposes of diagnosis and Therapy. Moreover, in this congress the ISP gave 10 awards to those young researchers that presented the best oral and poster works.

Briefly, the Iranian Society for Parasitology held a high quality and successful meeting, complemented by social activities such as a visit to a cellar, and a guided tour to historical places in Shiraz. The Gala dinner dinner was celebrated at a historic event in Shiraz, Iran. Newspapers, radio and television of Fars Province showed a great interest in the congress.

Ethical Approval

Not applicable.

Conflict of Interest Disclosures

The author declares that he has no conflict of interests.

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