

Dear Professor Wilson and all of our guests,

As the Chancellor, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the Teachers day and TUMS Accreditation award ceremony. We are delighted to have you here to participate in the 34th annual Teacher's Day. Thank you for coming. We are honored to have Professor John Wilson from ASIC with us today.

This is a landmark event for TUMS, as we also will be celebrating the teacher's day, honoring teaching staff and at the same time receiving TUMS Accreditation Certificate by Professor Wilson.

The Iranian Teacher's Day is celebrated on May 1 (Ordibehesht 12, in Iranian Calendar), commemorating the martyrdom day of an Iranian eminent philosopher Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari on May 2, 1979

Martyr Motahhari is considered among the important influences on the ideologies of the Islamic Republic, and was a co-founder of Hosseiniye Ershad and the Combatant Clergy Association.

Ayatollah Motahhari played an important role in unifying two classes of students from the universities and the theological schools.

Although Murtaza Motahhari wrote several books on Islam, Iran, and historical topics, his emphasis was on teaching rather than writing.

Finally, after years of endeavor in political, religious, and educational fields, Morteza Motahhari was assassinated on May 2, 1979 by a member of the Forqan Group.

In this day youngsters clutch bunches of flowers in their hands as they go to school, colleges and universities hoping to be the first to surprise their teacher on his or her special day, but it is not just the students who uphold this tradition.

Teaching is a profession considered sacred in Iran, as it is in many parts of the world, and young and old sustain an undying respect for those who strove so hard to increase their knowledge, honoring them with a small gift or flowers on this day.

Teacher's day is the perfect opportunity for students around the world to appreciate their teachers. Although the event is celebrated in different countries of the world, it doesn't fall on the same day. In some countries, Teacher's Day is celebrated on working days, while in other countries the day is declared as a holiday. The day is observed with fun and fervor in educational institutions, predominantly schools.

Teacher's day is also celebrated in different countries such as China, India, Russia, USA, Thailand, Turkey, and Malaysia.

Teacher's Day also celebrated in Different Countries:

China

Teachers' Day was founded at National Central University in 1931. It was adopted by the central government of Republic of China, in 1932. In 1939, the day was set on August 27, Confucius's birthday. People's Republic of China government abrogated it in 1951. It was reestablished in 1985, and the day was changed to September 10. Now more and more people are trying to revert the Teachers' Day back to Confucius's birthday.

India

In India, Teachers' Day is celebrated on September 5, in honor of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, the second President of India. The 5th of September is his birthday. On the day, senior students in schools take up the responsibility of teaching their juniors, to show appreciation for their teachers. The day is not a holiday. It involves many activities in educational institutions.

Russia

In Russia, Teachers' Day was celebrated on the first Sunday of October, between 1965 and 1994. Since 1994, the day is observed on the 5th of October, coinciding with World Teacher's Day, established by UNESCO in 1994.

USA

In the United States, Teachers' Day is a non-official holiday on the Tuesday of the first full week of May. The day is celebrated with pomp and gaiety. A number of activities are organized in schools, to honor teachers. The celebrations may continue for the entire week of May.

Thailand

In Thailand, National Teacher's Day is celebrated every year, on January 16. The day was adopted as Teachers' Day in the island nation, by a resolution of the government on November 21, 1956. The first Teachers' Day was held in 1957. The day is declared as a holiday in schools.

Turkey

In Turkey, Teacher's Day is celebrated on 24th of November. Kemal Ataturk dedicated November 24th to honor teachers and their profession. In the profession of teaching is regarded as something incomparable and sacred. There is no holiday on this day.

Malaysia

May 16 is dedicated to teachers, in Malaysia. The day is celebrated as Teacher's Day in the country, with great enthusiasm. The day is called 'Hari Guru' in Malaysia and is a working day.

As it is all over the world, the teaching profession is a labor of love in Iran too.

Teachers can never be thanked enough for their selfless toil; or paid enough for that matter, but the few words of acknowledgement he or she receives from an appreciative student can make all the difference.

And before I handover to Dr. Kheradmand, our coordinator of the ceremony, who will outline the day's events, I want to say once more on behalf of TUMS Accreditation organizing committee, welcome. It's a pleasure to see so many of you here."

Thank You All

Mohammad Reza Mansouri, MD
Chancellor,
Tehran University of Medical Sciences