



**Institute for Humanities and  
Cultural Studies**

**Faculty of Encyclopedia  
Research**

## **Web Conference on Human-Social Dimensions of Coronavirus in Iran**

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## **Web Conference on Human-Social Dimensions of Coronavirus in Iran**

In the last month of 2019, the COVID19- virus, a type of coronavirus, that has been named after this year has emerged, a virus that has become pandemic in recent months. The outbreak of the virus began in Wuhan, China, but in late February 2020, its infiltration into our country, Iran, was officially announced, and Iran quickly became involved in this pandemic. There is no doubt that, in order to confront the wave of this disease, like any other disease, the first scientific disciplines expected to get engaged were medicine and health sciences, but a pandemic can never be an issue specifically restricted to medical sciences. The widespread dimensions of these kinds of diseases in their process of outbreak are such that they permeate all aspects of social life, and throughout modern human history, no other pandemic has ever had such a devastating effect on the social level in Iran and the other parts of the world. In the current situation of the world, including Iran, Coronavirus is one of the main topics of discussion in the circles and meetings of politicians, and its most noticeable effect can be seen in the field of economics at both the micro and the macro levels. The atmosphere in houses and households has changed dramatically in the shadow of Coronavirus, as the educational systems have been overshadowed in their activities from elementary to higher education. The 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo has been postponed due to an unprecedented move in Olympic history, and all sports activities have been embroiled in the Coronavirus issue.

According to some civilization analysts, human life has entered a new era with the Coronavirus experience, and in semiotic terms, it can be said that wherever there is meaning and as far as Semiosphere is concerned, Coronavirus has found

its way. Based on what went before, it is clear that the human-social dimensions of Coronavirus are many times wider than those that can be the mere subject of medical study, and the intervention of humanities and social sciences in this field is widely expected. Given their diversity, humanities and social sciences can play a role in solving the problems arising from Coronavirus in two ways:

The first type of intervention and role of humanities and social sciences is that the pattern of expansion of pandemics, including Coronavirus, which is among the most complex, is strongly related to lifestyles and patterns of social behavior, and is interwoven with the behaviors of different classes of society and with regional and national cultures. A significant part of the discrepancy in the behavior of this virus in different countries and even different provinces of Iran is due to these meaningful differences in social behavior patterns. Years ago, Brazilian anthropologists studied the sexual behaviors of the Brazilian people and greatly helped their Ministry of Health to contain AIDS. They helped the physicians, by implementing a successful program to harness the disease. Today, given the vast dimensions of the crisis, there is an expectation of broader participation from humanities and social sciences and their effectiveness in curbing the crisis.

The second type of intervention by humanities and social sciences in facing the Coronavirus crisis is to assume responsibility to study and address issues that are directly related not to the disease itself, but to its social, political, and economic consequences. For instance, quarantine, the plan to maintain physical social distance, or other alternative models that seek to control and limit contacts at community level, lead to serious economic, political, security, educational, family, and other complications. That's why their resolution requires a multifaceted practical attendance of humanities and social sciences. Human society, including Iran, more broadly and more seriously than physicians, beds, and respirators, is in dire need of inhibitors and restorations that humanities and social sciences can provide to deal with the Coronavirus crisis. The current condition is an important arena for humanities and social sciences to be tested, to optimally play a role in helping to overcome the crisis, and to prove their usefulness in this critical condition.

With this aim, the Institute of Humanities and Cultural Studies (IHCS) has

commissioned the Faculty of Encyclopedia Studies to hold a web Conference concerning the Human-Social Dimensions of Coronavirus in Iran, and the faculty has started the process by holding various meetings and collaborating with experts in various fields of humanities and social sciences. The conference will be held in cooperation with domestic and foreign universities and scientific institutions, including the universities of Afghanistan and Tajikistan, and the faculty will hold pre-conference webinars until it reaches a scientifically reliable stance in the main conference.

This conference and the related webinars will be based on the following axes and according to the participants' expertise, different axes of the following types will be discussed:

♦ **Sociology and Anthropology Studies**

- The role of Coronavirus in increasing social solidarity and mending the divisions
- Citizen rights and citizen responsibility in confronting Coronavirus
- Civil society and voluntary movements to contain Coronavirus
- Coronavirus and creating national and global empathy and solidarity
- Social harms in the pandemic space
- Coronavirus pandemic and recreational habits: travel, picnics, and parties
- Maximum hygiene and its relationship with Iranian social etiquette
- Coronavirus and cultural occasions: The ChaharshanbehSoori feast, The Nowruz feast, The middle of Sha'ban, the holy month of Ramadan, and ...

♦ **Social Psychology**

- Changes in lifestyle due to Coronavirus pandemic
- Pandemic behavior between avoiding contact and respecting each other
- Coronavirus and the reaction of the Iranian society: between rational and emotional behaviors
- The effect of Coronavirus on the consolidation of the place of family

- Problems of, and damages to, the families struck by Coronavirus
- The elderly and the pandemic problem
- Coronavirus and the diversity of guilds and social classes
- The pandemic problem in special habitats: barracks, penitentiaries and ...
- The lasting effects of the pandemic on the social behavior of the Iranian people
- Psycho-social approach to the possibility of Coronavirus return in future

#### ♦ Psychology, Educational Sciences, and Ethics

- Resilience in pandemic conditions: quarantine and urban life
- The problem of obsession and the problem of Coronavirus
- Medical ethics and the issue of Coronavirus
- Preparing and controlling children in pandemic conditions
- Coronavirus damages to families and healing strategies
- Coronavirus and the effects of closing schools and universities

#### ♦ Health and Medical Management and Coronavirus

- Ethics and Justice Challenges in PandemyManagement
- Interaction between health and treatment units and social areas in pandemy management
- Similarities and differences between COVID19- and other currentcentury pandemics from a management perspective
- Responsibilities of governments in managing pandemics from a legal perspective and governance position

#### ♦ Media and News Management in crises

- News and statistics: from the role of warning and preparation to psychological harm
- Applying media to strengthen solidarity and public mobilization
- The role of media in managing social habits and cultural behaviors
- Internet, social networks and mobile channels in conditions of crisis
- Crisis conditions in the mass media: radio and television, press, cross-border broadcasts
- City-wide advertising and training in crises

#### ♦ Different aspects of Management and the issue of Coronavirus

- Government management approach to Coronavirus issue
- Teleworking, emergency shift management and human resource management in pandemic conditions
- Industrial management approach to pandemic problem
- Business management approach to pandemic problem
- Coronavirus and Tourism Management
- Coronavirus and management of medical centers
- Coronavirus and Crisis Management Patterns
- Conflict Management and Coronavirus Problem

#### ♦ Religious and Philosophical studies and the Coronavirus problem

- Using the Qur'an and religious texts to reach the correct worldview in the face of Coronavirus
- Using the Qur'an and religious texts to help with patience and practical confrontation with the Coronavirus problem
- Coronavirus and collective religious rites (congregational and Friday prayers, Hajj and Umrah, pilgrimage, ...)
- Coronavirus and the use of Sharia funds to deal with it
- New issues of Corona and Fatwas of the great religious authorities
- Verbal-philosophical approaches to pervasive evil
- Problems of medical philosophy in the case of Coronavirus

#### ♦ Political Studies and the Coronavirus Problem

- Relations between the government and the people in the face of Coronavirus
- Coronavirus and various aspects of the country's security
- The role of Coronavirus in dealing with political-military tensions in the region
- Effects of Coronavirus on the foreign relations of the Islamic Republic of Iran
- Coronavirus problem as a test for the efficiency of the relevant institutions

### ♦ Economic Studies and the Coronavirus Problem

- Dimensions of the damages to the country's economy due to Coronavirus (micro and macro)
- Coronavirus and the Nowruz market
- Coronavirus, heavy industry and large economic enterprises
- Coronavirus effects on the lives of the country's weak classes
- Coronavirus economic results in the short- and medium-terms
- The effects of Coronavirus on health, industry, and trade

### ♦ Coronavirus Legal Issues

- The effects of the Coronavirus issue as a forcemajeure factor in the implementation of contracts
- The issue of Coronavirus and insurance rights: health and life insurance
- The problem of Coronavirus and related crimes: The special case of hoarding health care items
- The issue of Coronavirus and the civil liability of individuals, institutions, and organizations
- The adequacy of the country's laws to manage the pandemic and similar crises

### ♦ Historical and Geographical studies

- Pandemic diseases in the history of Iran
- Iranian historical experiences in dealing with pervasive catastrophes
- Archival data collection on the Coronavirus problem and its Meta-analysis
- The environmental/climatic conditions of the provinces and the issue of Coronavirus
- Coronavirus and population density and socio-political situation in different regions of Iran
- Coronavirus problem in connection with roads and transport communications
- Adapting education and information on Coronavirus to different climates and regions of Iran

### ♦ Communication Sciences

- Coronavirus training and garbage labyrinth in cyberspace
- News studies, journalism and Coronavirus issue
- Coronavirus and media literacy
- Coronavirus and the expansion of distance education (resulting from the closure of schools and universities) and telecommuting

### ♦ Linguistics, Semiotics and Literature studies

- Language issues in education and information related to Coronavirus (from polysemy and opacity to transparency)
- The issue of language in education and information related to Coronavirus (bi-/multi-lingualism and the role of local languages)
- The relationship between the language of medicine and the language of people in education and information related to Coronavirus
- Coronavirus metaphors
- A semiotic approach to coronavirus
- Coronavirus phenomenon as a narrative
- Pandemics and all-encompassing disasters in Persian literature: ancient and contemporary
- The function of literature in training how to deal with Coronavirus
- The function of literature in resilience to, and the healing of, Coronavirus damages
- Reflection of Coronavirus problem in artistic manifestation

### ♦ Coronavirus-related Cultural studies

- The pattern of Coronavirus outbreak and the fight against it in the challenge between tradition and modernity
- A comparative approach to the human pattern of Coronavirus outbreak and its confrontation (Iran and China, Iran and Italy, ...)
- Gender issues regarding Coronavirus
- Coronavirus and philosophical issues of culture

### ♦ Epistemology, Scientometrics, Encyclopedia compiling and the Coronavirus problem

- The content production process for recognizing the nature and behavior of pandemics and coping methods with Coronavirus.
- Evaluation and examining the authenticity and accuracy of contents concerning the behavior of pandemics and ways to deal with Coronavirus
- Ability to search and access valuable content to understand the nature and behavior of pandemics and ways to deal with Coronavirus
- Bases for compiling encyclopedias for general education about collective natural threats/hazards