



Editorial

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The current issue of the Iranian Endodontic journal (*IEJ*) meets Christmas and the new Gregorian year; i.e. 2023. The spirit of Christmas represents masses; for some a festivity, for others a miracle; for some a chance for family get-togethers, for others a route towards the renewal of friendship; for some a chance for celebration, and for others an occasion for prayers. Truth be told, Christmas is the actual commencement of a new year's novel stories; a true story of forgiveness, a myriad tale of redemption, and an untold carol of realisation:

“Then, you will know the truth”, said Jesus, “and the truth will set you free”

The holy celebration of Christmas is a great opportunity to deeply realise that despite subtle differences, Iranians and Christians as well as all nations around the world do share same hopes, desires and dreams; Iranians plant and care for minute representations of spring at Nowruz, and Christians decorate forever greens with lights and ornaments at Christmas and the New Year; Iranians greet each other with Samano and pastries, Christians feast on candy canes and sweets; Iranians read Quran before a mirror, Christians pray under the Christmas tree; but we both light candles to scare the darkness, and pray for the ever-lasting happiness, peace, progress and persistence, the prayer which brings the true meaning of divinity to us, all.

Then, there is the New Year; ending the strange eventful history of the previous year, presenting new hopes and wishes towards a brighter path. New Year is also the beginning of taking the very first new steps in people's lives,

with plenty to scrutinise, loads to deliberate and piles to achieve; no matter how challenging, difficult and seemingly impossible they are, since the world is nothing but a provision of stages to be stepped upon:

‘All the world’s a stage, and all the men and women merely players; and one man in his time plays many parts’

(Act 2 Scene 7)

In 2023, following previous years of constant innovations as well as the persistent fast-paced progressions in Endodontics, *IEJ* pioneers to promote cutting-edge science and therefore, warmly welcomes notions, concepts and papers focusing on state-of-the-art perceptions and theories; *Artificial Intelligence, Dentronics Metaverse* and alike. What's more, *IEJ* has been invariably a home for manuscripts with high level of evidence, e.g. systematic reviews & meta-analyses, randomised clinical trials or prospective studies, and thus, encourages thinkers, scientists and researchers to share their latest studies with our audience in order to address topics and issues with possible basic and clinical implications altering the outcomes of current knowledge.

All-in-all, *IEJ* wholeheartedly salutes the warmth of closeness of Christmas and New Year 2023, and sincerely celebrates one of the most divine occasions for Christians and people worldwide in the hope of re-awakening qualities already embedded in all humankind. May the Year ahead be a year full of peace, wisdom and perfect amity.

...Let's out with the old, and in with the new...