

## In the name of GOD

## Tehran Municipality Report On

## Commemoration of the

# International Day of the Older Persons

**Tehran IR Iran** 

1 October 2012



## Preface:

The United Nations' (UN) International Day of Older Persons is celebrated annually on October 1 to recognize the contributions of older persons and to examine issues that affect their lives.

On December 14, 1990, the UN General Assembly made October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons, following up on initiatives such as the Vienna International Plan of Action on Ageing, which was adopted by the 1982 World Assembly on Ageing and endorsed later that year by the assembly. The International Day of Older Persons was observed for the first time throughout the world on October 1, 1991.

In 1991 the UN General Assembly adopted the United Nations Principles for Older Persons. In 2002 the second World Assembly on Ageing adopted the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing to respond to the opportunities and challenges of population ageing in the 21st century and to promote the development of a society for all ages.

The theme of the 2012 commemoration is "Longevity: Shaping the Future". Ageing and health was also the theme of this year's World Health Day on 7 April. These themes focus on how healthy behaviours throughout life can help older men and women lead full and productive lives and be a resource for their families and communities.

"Ageing is a development issue. Healthy older persons are a resource for their families, their communities and the economy." WHO Brasilia declaration on healthy ageing, 1996.

This important cause cannot be achieved until and unless all social, political and governmental institutes and organizations work hand in hand to ensure an active ageing policy is adopted and is being implemented at all sectors of the society.



The list of the programs developed for the international day of the older persons in Tehran is depicted below:





## 1- Holding the festival for the old and the aged:

This program was held on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2012 in the name of an especial gathering for the members of the elderly clubs from all 22 districts of Tehran with its slogan: "*old people are the treasures of the city*" at "Javanmardan Garden" in district 5 by the Director General Office for Health of Tehran Municipality. The program was held by participation of 1500 old people members of the elderly clubs and in the presence of the authorities of the municipality namely advisor to the mayor and acting deputy for social and cultural affairs, deputies of the DG Office for Health and city managers. The festival had a varied program from cultural events with participation of the artists, actors and actresses from the National TV, choir singing group by the old people as well as matches among the aged.

At the end of the ceremony eight persons who had their age over 90 were given medals and special gifts and were officially commemorated as senior citizens in the city of Tehran.









## 2- Holding gatherings, seminars and educational workshops:

The best strategy to adjust the society to the ageing process and to achieve a normal, healthy and successful life for the aged is to provide general and specialized educational schemes for the old people and their families.

In this line Health Departments of the 22 districts of Tehran held more than **1000 workshops** and **educational classes** with the subjects provided in the diagram below:

## **Active Living:**

- Strengthening memory
- The reasons behind stress and strategies to fight it back
- Insomnia in the aged

### **Nutrition:**

- The importance of nutrition in the elderly
- Food needs of the aged
- The nutrition of aged in health and disease

Improvement of the life style for the ageing period

## Special problems for the aged:

- Gastrointestinal system
- Hypertension and Diabetes
- Osteoporosis
- Cardiovascular system

## **Physical Exercises:**

- Appropriate physical activities
- Sports and mobility



## 3- Holding recreational, pilgrimage and educational tours

To enhance the spirituality for the old people and to provide them with a sense of self-confidence and livelihood, they are given the chance of enjoying free tours.

In this line health departments of the 22 districts of Tehran held over 300 recreational, pilgrimage and educational tours for the aged as per the diagram below:

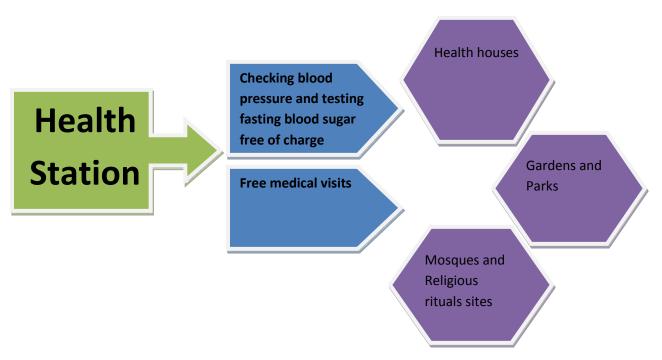




## 4- Holding Health Stations:

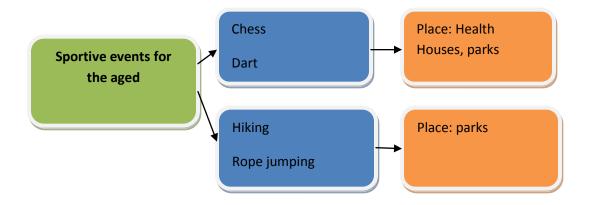
Understanding the risk factors causing grave and disabling diseases in the aged and undertaking screenings followed by treatment of those at risk will greatly help the old and would bring them healthy lives.

In this line health departments of the 22 districts of Tehran established 80 health stations throughout the city to provide primary care as per diagram below:



## 5- Holding sporting events

The health departments of the 22 districts of Tehran held more than 200 sportive events and matches for the aged throughout the city in different gardens and parks of Tehran and the winners were appreciated and given presents as:





## 6- Visiting the aged and the old people

In this activity the city managers, secretaries and members of the elderly clubs attended the caring institutions and the shelters for the old, hospitals and dorm houses and visited the old people and listened to their problems while dignifying them with flowers and gifts as:

Caring institutions for the old

Visiting the aged in the hospitals

Visiting the aged in their homes











## 7- Holding Cultural festivals:

To increase social participation of the aged and to show their abilities and capacities as well as to create the sense of competitiveness among the old people in a healthy environment, cultural festivities were held with different titles such as food festival and handicraft festival; those ranking as firsts were given presents and appreciation trophies:

## **Food festival**

Holding Place: Health houses, gardens, neighborhood houses

Local and traditional food festival

Diabetic food festivals

Festival on food appropriate for the aged

Handicraft festival











## 8- Advertisement and information dissemination in the field

To beautify, sensitize and inform the citizens on this occasion the health departments of the 22 districts of Tehran in cooperation with Beautification Department of the municipality installed banners and advertisements stands throughout the city:







