

## **Biography**

**Dr Massoumeh Ebtekar is born in 1960, she has received a PhD in Immunology and served as Faculty Member of Tarbiat Modares University since 1996. She has been involved for more than two decades with women's issues, and she headed the Womens NGOs Network in Iran up to 1997 .In addition to her academic publications on immunology, she has numerous research and publications on civil society, women's issues and sustainable development. She served as the country's first woman Vice President and Head of the Department of Environment 1997-2005. During her tenure environmental awareness and practice improved significantly and Iran played an influential role in international environmental decisions.**

**She was awarded the 2006 "Champion of the Earth" award by UNEP. In 2006 she was elected by the people of Tehran as a member of the Tehran City Council where she has established the Environment Committee and its subcommittees. She has currently founded a Center for Peace and Environment and pursues the environmental agenda through civil society initiatives. Ebtekar has spoken as Keynote Speaker in several international events after her government office including:**

**International Conference on Women and Tradition , University of Damascus, Damascus, 2005**

**International Conference on Women and the Alliance of Civilizations, Istanbul, 2005**

**Delhi Sustainable Development Summit, Delhi ,2006 and in 2008**

**Earth Dialogues, Brisbane, Australia, 2006**

**International Conference on Role of Women in the Middle East, Kuwait University, Kuwait, 2006**

**World Environment Day Conference on Sustainable Development , Tromso, Norway ,2007**

**Religion Science Environment Conference on Arctic the Mirror of Life , Greenland ,2007**

**Global Summit for Businesswomen and Leaders, Dubai in 2007 and 2008**

**International Workshop on Islam- West Dialogue, Geneva , 2008.**

**International Seminar of Women, Equality and Peace, 2008**

**International IUCN Congress Barcelona, 2008**

**International Conference on Religion in A Modern World, Tehran , 2008. Ebtekar is married and has two sons.**

## **Courses Taught**

Immunology of Viral Diseases  
Immunology of Nervous System  
Psychoneuroimmunology  
Immunology of AIDs  
Immunology of Ageing  
Cytokines  
New Vaccines  
AIDs Vaccine

**Areas of Research Include**

Immunoregulation / Cytokines  
Psychoneuroimmunology  
Immunology of the Nervous System  
DNA Vaccines/ cytokine adjuvants  
Effect of Pollutants on immune system function  
Cord Blood /Cytokines