

Dear Farnoush and Sedaie:

*Friendly and warm greetings from the United States of America!*

Since our visit to Iran in May 2016 and my participation in the 15<sup>th</sup> Iranian Congress of Audiology in Tehran, my wife and I have told many friends, family members (and I have told many audiology colleagues) about the open and friendly people of Iran, and the historical and beautiful country you live in.

Along with many millions of other Americans, I am concerned about and unhappy with statements and recent decisions made by the new President of the United States regarding changes in immigration and visa policy for persons from some countries, including Iran. We totally disagree with his viewpoint on this issue (and more than a few other issues).

We are saddened and deeply disturbed by the President's statements and actions regarding the immigration ban because they do not reflect the founding principles and longstanding values of our country. In my opinion, our country should be guided by the beautiful words found on the Statue of Liberty in New York harbor: *"Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free, The wretched refuse of your teeming shore. Send these, the homeless, tempest-tossed to me, I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

I look forward to returning some day to visit with my audiology colleagues in Iran. Until then, please know that you have my professional respect and my friendship. I ask that you please pass this message on to other audiologists in Iran.

Best wishes ...

*Jay*

James W. Hall III