

## **ARDESHIR BABAKNIA, MD**

Ardeshir Babaknia, is a Johns Hopkins trained physician, and professor of Health Sciences at Chapman University, Irvine CA.



Dr. Babaknia is one of the pioneers of minimally invasive surgery and usage of laser beams in medicine. In addition to publishing more than 50 research and clinical articles on women's health and wellness in peer reviewed journals, he is the author and co-author of over dozen books in the field of women's health, and humanity.

He is the recipient of the National Medical Research Award for excellence in medical research from the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Dr. Babaknia has been a patron of the Persian arts and literature for many years. He was the founder and executive director of the Persian Arts Foundation (1987-2007). He has also served on the board of director of several scientific, cultural and charitable foundations. Over the past two decades, he has directed a team of researchers on Holocaust studies, resulting in the publication, in Persian, of a ground-breaking four-volume work on the Holocaust and other genocides of the last hundred years (2012), for which he received the "Refenc Book of the Year Award", from Association of the Jewish Librarian, 2013.

His later book, *Humanity, Not* (2014), with over 150 drawings by Ardashir Mohassess, explores, in words and images, the captured emotions of the victims, perpetrators, bystanders, and survivors of the Holocaust, as well as the reflections of a number of scholars on this horrific human tragedy.

In the past decade, Dr. Babaknia has embarked on one of his life-long dreams; creating glass and ceramic artworks on social justice and human rights, global peace, women and children's rights, global climate crisis, water rights, refugee's life and rights, and many other pressing social issues of our time, for which he has been the recipient of the Nowruz Award in the field of art and culture, 2022, from the Pasargad Heritage Foundation.

Dr. Babaknia has also created over 200 pieces of glass and ceramics artworks representing the glory of Iran's past history, rich literature and art, including a 30 pieces series based on the epic story of the "magical feathers of mythical bird; Simorgh", in the book of *Shahnameh*.