

2010 AATP LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP) has set out, since 2008, to recognize those remarkable individuals who have dedicated their lives to the promotion and instruction of Persian language, culture and literature in the United States of America.



Mehdi Marashi (University of Utah) was the 2010 recipient of AATP Award. A distinguished author and professor of Persian, he has dedicated over five decades of his life's work to the study of Persian language and linguistics. During his 23-year career at the University of Utah, Dr. Marashi also taught in the summer intensive programs at Princeton, NYU, University of Pennsylvania, University of Texas and in the Peace Corps Programs. Upon his retirement from the University of Utah, he was offered a position as University of California, Berkeley's Mellon Lecturer in Persian (1992-1996). Subsequently, he continued to teach at Monterey's Defense Language Institute (1996-2004) as an instructor and later as Curriculum Development Specialist. Dr. Marashi is the author of several publications related to Persian language and culture. He is a Fellow of the Middle East Studies Association of North America (MESA), a member and certified Persian tester for the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and a member of the American Association of Teachers of Persian (AATP). He has been a recipient of the Mellon Research Award (U.C. Berkeley), Faculty Fellow Award (U of U), Fulbright Lecturing Award (to teach at Tashkent State University), a Research Grant (U.S. Department of Education), and a two-year research grant (Ministry of Education, Iran).

At the 44th Annual Middle East Studies Association (MESA) conference held in San Diego, California, in November 2010, Professor Marashi was honored by the American Association of Teachers of Persian for his four decades of service in the fields of Persian language and literature. The event was co-sponsored by the International Society for Iranian Studies (ISIS), The Association for the Study of Persianate Societies (ASPS), and the American Institute of Iranian Studies (AIrS), the Farhang Foundation, and the Foundation for Iranian Studies.