



The American Association of Teachers of Persian

<https://www.aatpersian.org>

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A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

Dear Colleagues,

As we embark on a new academic year and journey, we would like to share our heartfelt gratitude for your involvement in, support of, and membership with the American Association of Teachers of Persian. The past year offered us the opportunity to engage with various activities in our community of Persian language pedagogues and allowed us to gain a clearer understanding of what we envision for this new academic year. We anticipate and are grateful for your continued engagement with this community of colleagues as we strive to strengthen and expand the field of Persian language pedagogy.

Sincerely,

AATP Executive Board

AATP ACTIVITIES, 2022–2023

- Online presentations at the Association of Iranian Studies Conference, Salamanca, Spain, August 2022
- Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony, Denver, CO, December 2022
- Launch of AATP's Financial Support for MESA Presenters, 2023

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AATP Executive Board

Nahal Akbari, President

Sahba Shayani, Secretary

Narges Nematollahi, Treasurer

AATP Executive Officers

Farima Mostowfi

Latifeh Hagigi

Peyman Nojournian

AATP LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD CEREMONY, 2022

AATP had the honor of celebrating Dr. Jaleh Pirnazar as the recipient of our Lifetime Achievement Award at the 2022 MESA Conference in Denver, Colorado. Dr. Pirnazar was Senior Lecturer in Iranian Studies, Persian Language Coordinator, and Senior Research Scholar at the University of California, Berkeley, where she taught from 1970 to 2020. She received her Ph.D. in Middle Eastern Studies and Persian Literature from this same institution in 1984. Dr. Pirnazar taught elementary and intermediate-level Persian language courses to both heritage and non-heritage students, as well as classes on Modern Persian Literature, Classical Persian Literature, and Iranian Film and Fiction. Dr. Pirnazar began teaching Persian in the United States at a time when Persian language teaching resources were quite limited and, as a result, Persian language instructors had to rely much more on their own self-made teaching materials. She, likewise, experienced first-hand the major shift that took place in the Persian language classroom make-up in the 1990s and early 2000s, when larger numbers of heritage learners began populating Persian classes. Dr. Pirnazar was at the helm of Persian language pedagogy to heritage students at the university level by creating teaching materials geared specifically towards heritage students and classes, which would better suit these students' unique needs. As a result, she garnered heritage students' interest in the acquisition of their mother tongue and their engagement with their culture of origin. Dr. Pirnazar has published on Persian language pedagogy, Persian literature, the Iranian Jewish community, and Iranian cinema in a variety of academic journals and edited volumes, such as: "The Literary Review," "Iran Nameh," and "Film and Society." We are so pleased to have had the opportunity to honor such an important figure, colleague, and mentor in the AATP community and we look forward to continuing to benefit from Dr. Pirnazar's knowledge in the many years to come.



MEMBER PUBLICATIONS & NEWS

Publications

[*Persisch aktiv: Eine Einführung in Sprache und Kultur*](#) (Reichert 2022)
by Anousha Sedighi

[*Iranian and Minority Languages at Home and in Diaspora*](#) (De Gruyter Mouton 2023) edited by Anousha Sedighi

[*The Routledge Intermediate Persian Course, Farsi Shirin Ast 2nd Edition*](#) (Routledge 2024) by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi and Dominic Parviz Brookshaw

[*The Routledge Handbook of Persian Literary Translation*](#) (Routledge 2022) edited by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi, Patricia J. Higgins, and Michelle Quay

[*Island of Bewilderment: A Novel of Modern Iran*](#) (Syracuse University Press 2022) by Simin Daneshvar, translated by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi and Patricia J. Higgins

[*Hafez in Love: A Novel*](#) (Syracuse University Press 2021) by Iraj Pezeshkzad, translated by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi and Patricia Higgins

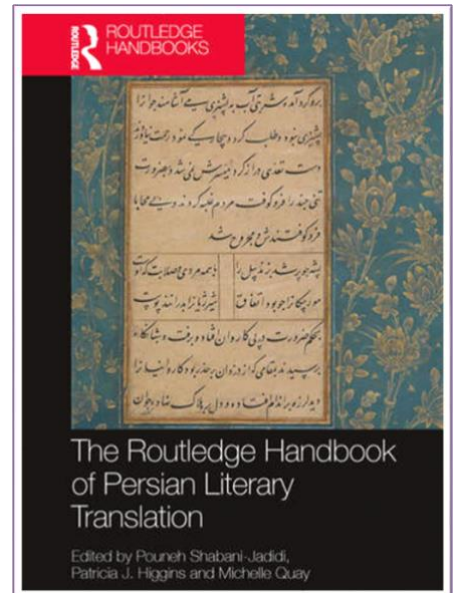
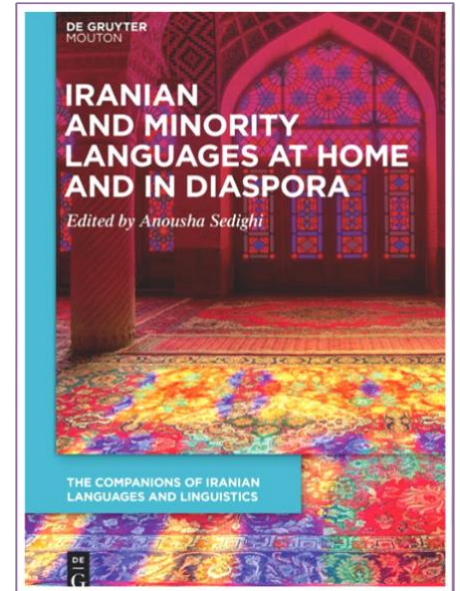
[*The Eight Books: A Complete English Translation*](#) (Brill 2021) by Sohrab Sepehri, translated by Pouneh Shabani-Jadidi and Prashant Keshavmurthy

[*A Breeze from Persia: A Selection of Ten Iranian Contemporary Poets*](#) (2023) by Mahvash Shahegh Hariri and David Darick

[*Farsi Book 4*](#) (2023) by Farhangian Educators Association

Activities & Updates

- Virtual lecture series entitled, "Persian Language Pedagogy: New Trends and Innovations" sponsored jointly by The Elahé Omidyar Mir-Djalali Institute of Iranian Studies at the University of Toronto, and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago. This lecture series ran through the 2023 winter and spring quarters. The second part of the lecture series began in fall quarter of 2023.



- North Carolina State University offers four, task-based Persian language courses (Pers 101, 102, 201, and 202), each of which comes with an accompanying culture and conversational supplement.
- Farhangian Educator Association (FEA) now offers a program to prepare students for the Persian “Challenge Exam”—an exam for high school students in Greater Vancouver for a three-credit course entitled, “Farsi as a Second Language.”

MOVING FORWARD

We anticipate the opportunity to further discuss the future of AATP and Persian language pedagogy on a larger scale with you all at the upcoming MESA Conference in Montréal, QC. AATP will be meeting on Thursday, November 2nd from 11 AM to 2:30 PM in room 511D at the Palais de congrès de Montréal. The event will include our annual business meeting (open to AATP members only) from 11 to noon, AATP townhall discussion from 12:00 to 1:00 PM, and our Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony in honor of Dr. Mehdi Khorrami from 1:15 to 2:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

