

INSTITUT DE FRANCE
ACADEMIE DES INSCRIPTIONS ET BELLES-LETTRES
THE PIRASTEH PRIZE IN PERSIAN STUDIES

Selection Committee:

- Administration:
 - MM. Jean-François JARRIGE
 - André VAUCHEZ
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 - Académie:
 - MM. Gilbert LAZARD
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- French Corresponding Members:
- MM. Frantz Grenet
 - Georges Charachidzé
 - Philippe Gignoux
 - François Déroche.

2008 Prize Winner: Dr. Domenico Agostini

- Born in 1978 (Italian nationality)
- Former scholarship student at the l'Institut Français de Recherche en Iran (IFRI) (« French Institute of Research in Iran (IFRI) »)
- Doctorate in History (ancient and medieval Iranian world) from the University of Rome, « La Sapienza ».
- Member of the Italian team for drafting the international project, *Middle Persian Dictionary*.

Description of Project Winning The Pirasteh Prize :

- The Pirasteh prize was given to Domenico Agostini to assist him in a French edition of his thesis on *L'Âyâdgar î Jâmâspig: a Zoroastrian eschatological text* ».
- This is a scientific edition of a major text of pre-Islamic Iranian apocalyptic literature. It presents a sort of digest of total knowledge of human destiny. The text was extraordinarily popular at the beginning of the 20th century and the Parsees in India used it as a book for predicting the future
- This work of enormous erudition is at the forefront of present works in the realms of Iranian philology and History of Zoroastrianism. When it is published, it is expected to be the definitive reference for the international communities of Iranian scholars.