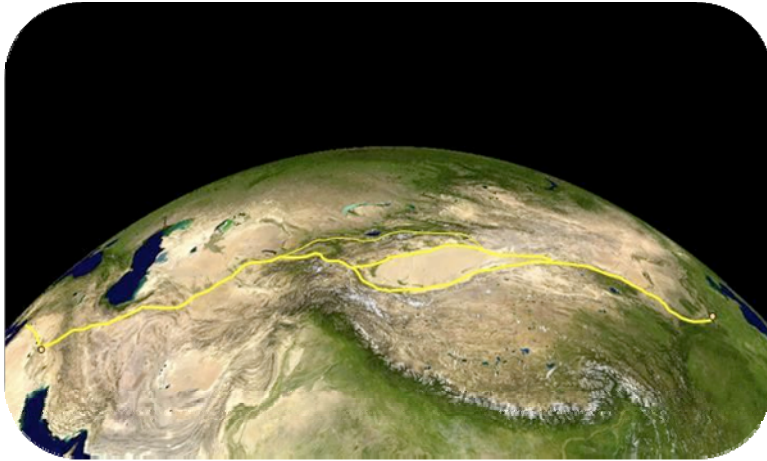


CALTA *Newsletter*

Central Asian Language Teachers' Association



About CALTA

Welcome to the first CALTA newsletter!

We started this newsletter to sustain the momentum we built up during the meeting of teachers of Central Asian languages at the NCLCTL-2010 Conference in Madison, WI. As we attended the conference, we realized that we need a network to keep us connected. We are publishing this newsletter to present our mission statement and brainstorm possible activities for teachers of Central Asian languages.

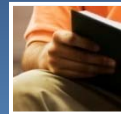
ISSUE 1, FALL-2010

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Хоş гәлмиşсиниз! Тавтай
морилно уу! خوش آمدید!
Қош келдіңіз! བགྲ་ཤེས་བདེ་ལེགས
Xush kelibsiz! بنه راغلاست!
Хуш омадед! Ноş geldiñiz!
Кош келиңиздер!
خوش کپلی پسیزی!

What is the mission of CALTA?

Today over 20 institutions in the USA offer language courses in Central Asian languages. Unfortunately, there is little cooperation and coordination of efforts among the teachers of these languages. The importance of cooperation is undeniable; it is essential to share resources, develop better language curricula, and refine our teaching practices. Thus, the main mission of CALTA is to promote the professional development and enrich professional interests of teachers of modern Central Asian languages. These languages include Azerbaijani, Dari, Dzongkha, Chechen, Kazakh, Kyrgyz, Mongolian, Pashto, Tajik, Tatar, Tibetan, Turkmen, Uyghur, Uzbek, and as well as closely related languages spoken in the adjacent landlocked areas of Central Asia.

What activities will CALTA organize?

In the short term, CALTA will start by publishing this quarterly newsletter to inform CALTA members about upcoming events, publications, conferences, and workshops of interest.

Furthermore, CALTA members will meet yearly in conjunction with the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages (NCOLCTL) Conference to

network and learn from each other's experience in teaching modern Central Asian languages.

In the near future, as we build an effective community together, CALTA plans to develop a website where members can virtually exchange teaching ideas and discuss classroom and language-related issues. We also invite the members to send their comments, suggestions, and story ideas to contact.CALTA@gmail.com



We invite you to send your comments, suggestions, and ideas to contact.CALTA@gmail.com

What would you like to see in CALTA newsletters?

Who can be a member of CALTA?



We welcome anyone who is currently teaching or developing curriculum for a modern Central Asian language to join CALTA. If you are interested in CALTA membership, and would like to receive our newsletter, please contact: contact.CALTA@gmail.com

There is no fee associated with the CALTA membership.

In the next issue...

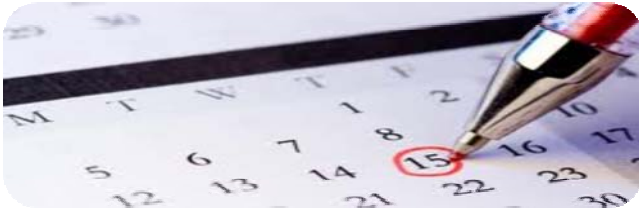
- Meet the CALTA members
- Learn about the institutions where CALTA languages are taught
- Read about common issues in Central Asian language classrooms
- Learn about upcoming events and new publications

Have you recently:

- *published a book or a paper?*
- *participated in and/or presented your work at a conference?*
- *accomplished something that added to your professional development?*

Share your story! Let the CALTA members know about you and your professional achievements!

Events & Publications



Workshop on the deep approach to language learning

Dates: August 23-27 (5 days)

Location: Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Teacher trainer: Prof. Francois Victor Tochon, UW-Madison

Goals: Providing training to language instructors such that they can start experimenting the deep approach in their intermediate and advanced courses.

Note: Although the workshop will target the teaching of Turkish, the teachers of other Central Asian languages may find it appealing and applicable to their own classrooms.

CESS – Central Eurasian Studies Society, Eleventh Annual Conference

Dates: October 28-31

Location: Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI

Note: The papers and panels presented at the conference deal with all aspects of Central Eurasia.

WAFL - 7th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics

Dates: October 29-31

Location: University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Note: The papers and panels presented at the conference deal with formal aspects of Altaic linguistics, including syntax, phonology, morphology, and semantics.



Fundamentals of Language Teaching Methods

The first series of courses developed for postsecondary foreign language instructors as part of the *National Online Less Commonly Taught Languages Teacher Training Initiative*. The course offers an introduction to how to teach foreign languages in accordance with the principles of communicative language teaching.

Available at: <http://onlinecourse.ncolctl.org/fundamentals/index.html>

Developing Classroom Materials for Less Commonly Taught Languages

The book provides both principles and practical guidelines for LCTL teachers of all levels and languages to transform raw materials into activities for the language classroom.

Available at: <http://www.carla.umn.edu/LCTL/>