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دکتر علی موسوی در تهران متولد شد و دبستان و دبیرستان خود را در همان شهر گذراند. سپس لیسانس و فوق لیسانس خود را در فرانسه از دانشگاه لیون در رشته باستانشناسی دریافت کرد و دکترای خود را از دانشگاه کالیفرنیا برکلی دریافت کرد. مطالعات دکتر موسوی بخصوص درباره باستانشناسی هزاره دوم قبل از میلاد و باستانشناسی دوره هخامنشی می باشد.

Dr. Ali Mousavi was born in Tehran, Iran in 1967. His elementary and secondary education was in Tehran, Iran. Mousavi studied in Lyon, France, and took his B.A. in Art History, and his M.A. in Ancient History and Archaeology from the University of Lyon. He came to the United States as the first Guitty Azarpay Fellow and obtained his Ph.D. in Near Eastern Studies from the University of California, Berkeley, in 2005. His interests range from the archaeology of second millennium B.C. in Iran to Achaemenid architecture and archaeology as well as late Medieval art and archaeology in Iran and Europe.

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