

### **Dr. Mahir J. Ibrahimov (Dr. I.) Biography**



**Dr. Mahir J. Ibrahimov (also known as Dr. I.) is the Director of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College (CGSC) Cultural and Area Studies Office (CASO), the U.S Army Combined Arms Center, U.S. Department of Defense.**

**He is the author or editor of six books, and his expertise is featured in global media outlets such as BBC World News, Los Angeles Times, other global venues, as well as U.S. Department of Defense documentaries, interviews and newsreels.**

As the first U.S. Army Culture and Foreign Language Advisor, he established a successful Culture and Foreign Language Program during the U.S. and coalition military and related Counterinsurgency (COIN) operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and other regions of the world. It was recognized as the Army-wide model, and he was promoted to become the Army's Senior Culture and Foreign Language Advisor. In that position, and later as Director of CASO, he continues developing and improving the program with an outreach extending across the Army and beyond with a variety of educational programs, including publishing, guest speakers, direct support to CGSC classes, live panels, video podcasts, international cooperation, and research.

#### **Mahir is known for his unique background.**

Dr. I. served as a deputy platoon commander in the Soviet Army and witnessed the breakup of the Soviet Union. Then he was a Senior Middle East Expert in Moscow, USSR. After the demise of the USSR, Mahir helped to open the first embassy of independent Azerbaijan and served as a senior diplomat in Washington, DC., then he served as the vice president of the newly established American University in Azerbaijan, which followed by his work at the Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State in Washington DC.

While providing vital assistance to U.S. forces in the Middle East as a multi-lingual cultural adviser, Dr. Ibrahimov was featured as the linguistic 'genius' in early years of Iraq war and during the U.S. and coalition Counterinsurgency (COIN) operations in the region. He has then served as the first senior U.S. Army Culture and Foreign Language Advisor, travelled to Ukraine as part of the U.S. Army Chief of Staff 'Study,' and provided follow on recommendations in support of U.S. national security.

**Based on his extensive first-hand knowledge, regional and global expertise,** Mahir has been regularly invitee to support our European NATO partners' regional policy development over the last years.

**His extensive civilian, military education and training include** various U.S. Department of Defense programs; Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC; Joint Program of the Institute of World Politics and Boston University, Washington, DC; Academy of Social Sciences, Moscow, USSR; Peoples' Friendship University, Moscow, USSR; Soviet military school, Volgograd oblast (former Stalingrad) USSR.

**He is fluent in five languages and versed in many cultures.**