

## Prof. Mausam

Profile and Success Story as **Distinguished Fellow** in **Artificial Intelligence**, AI Forum of IIT Alumni Council

Prof. Mausam stands among the most accomplished and influential voices in artificial intelligence (**AI**) and computer science in India today—a rare blend of visionary researcher, *leadership* architect, prolific innovator, and inspiring mentor. His elevation as a **Distinguished Fellow** in **Artificial Intelligence** by the **AI** Forum of IIT Alumni Council honors a legacy defined by path-breaking *research*, institution-building, and societal impact.

### Academic Journey and Career Foundation

Prof. Mausam's academic story is deeply rooted in excellence and ambition. Earning his undergraduate degree as a Department Rank 1 student at IIT Delhi (B.Tech, Computer Science, 2001), he went on to complete his MS and PhD at the University of Washington, Seattle, under the guidance of the legendary Prof. Daniel S. Weld. His dissertation in stochastic planning with concurrent, durative actions is widely cited and forms a critical building block in automated planning and sequential decision-making under uncertainty.

He returned to India after an intensive tenure as *research* faculty at the University of Washington, and quickly established himself as a leader at IIT Delhi. Since 2014, he has served as a **Professor** in the Computer Science Department, eventually founding and heading the Yardi School of **Artificial Intelligence** at IIT Delhi—a landmark initiative which has become a catalyst for **AI** education and *research* in the nation.

### Research Contributions and Global Recognition

Prof. Mausam's *research* has spanned and shaped several key areas in artificial intelligence:

**Natural Language Processing (NLP):** He is ranked among the world's top scholars in NLP and **AI**, being listed as the 56th most influential NLP scholar and 64th in **AI** globally by ArnetMiner in 2021. He has authored more than 100 peer-reviewed papers—many cited extensively, including foundational works in information extraction, open language learning, and event extraction from social media.

**Open Information Extraction (Open IE):** Arguably, Mausam's most impactful project is the Open IE initiative. He continued and developed this line of *research* after his postdoctoral work, releasing new generations of extraction tools used extensively in academia and industry. These tools have enabled structured understanding of unstructured web data and significantly influenced downstream applications in language understanding, **AI**-assisted search, and more.

**Probabilistic and Sequential Decision Making:** His technical advances in Markov Decision Processes, decision-theoretic planning, and neuro-symbolic machine learning have been recognized with best paper awards, a Test-of-Time award at ACL (2022), and high adoption among researchers and practitioners alike.

Prof. Mausam's work is not only technically profound but also interdisciplinary, applying **AI** to robotics, radiology, education, and civic applications. Grants from agencies like Google Research and Bloomberg exemplify the global respect for his innovative ideas and applied solutions.

He has played program chair roles at flagship international conferences, such as AAAI 2021 and ICAPS 2017, and has received the prestigious AAAI Senior Member status (2015). In 2024, he was awarded

as AAAI Fellow, making him the first **AI** academic based fully in India to receive this global distinction.

### **Academic Leadership and Ecosystem Building**

As founding head of the Yardi School of **Artificial Intelligence**, Prof. Mausam has been instrumental in sculpting one of India's premier **AI** centers. Under his stewardship, IIT Delhi has launched innovative undergraduate and graduate curricula, cutting-edge interdisciplinary *research* programs, and broad-based outreach to faculty and students nationwide.

Prof. Mausam has fostered global collaborations, bringing together cross-border teams to develop **AI** for India, with inclusivity and responsible use at the core. This *vision* finds resonance in his advisory roles for government **AI** strategies, startup incubators, and social sector projects.

His influence as a teacher and mentor is equaled by few; generations of students and researchers cite his clarity, generosity, and rigorous standards as life-changing. Mausam is deeply committed to democratizing access to top-tier **AI** education, actively working to ensure that opportunities touch the lives of every aspiring learner in India.

### **Societal Impact and Success Story**

Prof. Mausam's story is one of persistent excellence, imaginative thinking, and a deep social conscience. His *research* enables smarter web search, better healthcare through **AI**-assisted diagnostics, advanced education platforms, and responsive civic services. He is known for advising governments on **AI** regulation and ethics, serving on corporate advisory boards, and championing *innovation* at the intersection of science and human values.

He has received significant recognition for his multi-faceted achievements:

Ranked among Forbes India's "30 Indian Minds in **AI**".

### **Over 13,000 citations for his scholarly work.**

### **Multiple best paper and test-of-time awards.**

Instrumental role in shaping India's response to the **AI** revolution, blending academic rigor with practical, ethical deployment.

### **Legacy and Continuing Vision**

Prof. Mausam's ongoing mission is clear: catalyzing a fair, responsible, and ambitious **AI** ecosystem for India and the world. His legacy will be seen both in the trailblazing *research* he authored and in the thousands of students, engineers, and scientists who walk the path he helped illuminate—a legacy rightly crowned with the title of **Distinguished Fellow** in **Artificial Intelligence** by the **AI** Forum of IIT Alumni Council.