

Memories

Volume I*

*Golden Jubilee
of
Mawlana Hazar Imam*

Shah Karim Al Hussaini

July 11, 2007

to

July 10, 2008

BISMI-LLAHI-R-RAHMANI-R-RAHIM

And hold fast,
All together, by the Rope
Which God (stretches out
For You), and be not divided
Among yourselves;
And remember with gratitude
God's favour on you;
For ye were enemies
And He joined your hearts
In love. So that by His Grace,
Ye became brethren;
And ye were on the brink
Of the Pit of Fire,
And He saved you from it.
Thus doth God make
His signs clear to you:
That ye may be guided.

Holy Qur'an 3:103

O mankind! Verily
There hath come to you
A convincing proof
From your Lord:
For we have sent unto you
A light (that is) manifest

Holy Qur'an 4:174

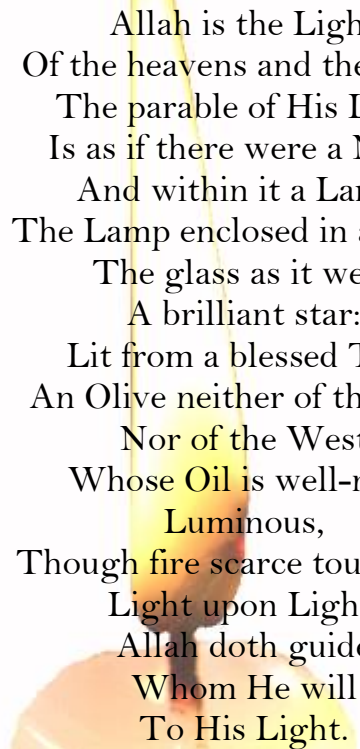
“Believe, therefore, in Allah and His Messenger, and in the Light
which we have sent down. And Allah is well acquainted with all
that ye do.”

Holy Qur'an 64:8

“I am leaving behind me two important things: the Quran and
the Ahl al-bayt. If you follow them both, you will never go astray.”

Prophet Muhammad

BISMI-LLAHI-R-RAHMANI-R-RAHIM



Allah is the Light
Of the heavens and the earth.
The parable of His Light
Is as if there were a Niche
And within it a Lamp:
The Lamp enclosed in a Glass:
The glass as it were
A brilliant star:
Lit from a blessed Tree
An Olive neither of the East
Nor of the West
Whose Oil is well-nigh
Luminous,
Though fire scarce touched it;
Light upon Light!
Allah doth guide
Whom He will
To His Light.

Holy Qur'an 24: 35

*"As we work towards ... the future we will
remember the Sura of Light from the Qur'an.
It tells us that the oil of the blessed olive tree
lights the lamp of understanding; a light that
belongs neither to the East nor West. We are
to give this light to all. In that spirit, all that
we learn will belong to the world and that...
is part of the vision I share with you."*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam
Address to the Asia Society, New York
September 25, 1979**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Memories is a personal initiative to capture the momentous activities and events of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Golden Jubilee Year.

The numerous comments of gratitude and encouragement I received following the release of my book titled *Footprints*, in 2007 served as a further inspiration for me to produce this publication. *Footprints* was a humble attempt to highlight Mawlana Hazar Imam's work of the past 50 years. It reached an audience in North America, the United Kingdom, Mozambique, United Arab Emirates, and Iran. It appears to have fulfilled a need for a publication that integrated some of the work of the Imam in a workbook format that was both fun and educational.

Memories attempts to document many special moments that have taken place during the Golden Jubilee Year. Many of us have already participated in Darbars of a lifetime. Complementing these special gatherings has been the launching of events and staging of programmes whose impact has been forethought for generations of the future.

Let this publication serve to preserve the feelings of joy that you, your family and your friends experienced during the Golden Jubilee Year. I hope that the exercises that are interspersed, serve as a basis of continuing discussion and reflection within your family and friendship circles.

I wish to acknowledge my family: my husband Almoonir, and daughters Nafeesa and Ruhee, for their unwavering love and support. Special thanks to Fiaz Merani and Arif S. Ali for providing suggestions which, I believe, have resulted in a significantly improved text.

I wish you and your families a warm Golden Jubilee Mubarak.

Nimira Dewji
Calgary, Alberta, Canada
July 11, 2008

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THE GOLDEN JUBILEE: A GLOBAL JOURNEY

HOMAGE CEREMONY

July 11, 2007

- Inaugural Ceremony to mark the Golden Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Imamat



"I have dedicated my life to the upliftment and progress of the Ismailis all over the world."

Mawlana Hazar Imam wearing ceremonial regalia outside his residence as he greets the leaders of the global Ismaili community

Photo: Gary Otte/[The Ismaili](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam and his family outside his residence

Left to right: Iliyan Boyden, Sara Boyden, Prince Aly Muhammad, Princess Zahra, Prince Rahim, Mawlana Hazar Imam, Prince Aryn, Prince Hussain, Princess Khaliya, Princess Aleya, and Princess Yasmin

Photo: Gary Otte/[The Ismaili](#)

July 11, 2007



Leaders of the Jamat from the past 50 years arriving at Mawlana Hazar Imam's residence to pay homage on behalf of the global Jamat. The procession was accompanied by devotional recitations from the different cultural traditions of the global Jamat.

Photo: Gero von Boehm/ZDF
www.zdf.de/ZDFmediathek/content/339638?inPopup=true

The Golden Jubilee Emblem

At the centre of the Emblem is the Imam's crest. The fifty crescents surrounding the Crest represent the half century of the spiritual leadership of Mawlana Hazar Imam. The outer ring embodies a verse from the Quran (Surah 4, Ayat 1) rendered in calligraphy in the Fatimid Kufic script and reads as follows:

*O mankind !
Be careful of your duty to your Lord
Who created you from a single soul
and from it created its mate
and from them twain hath spread abroad
a multiple of men and women*



The *kufic* script of calligraphy is named after the city in which it originated. In the first centuries of Islam, copies of the Quran were written on parchment and a number of different styles of script became prominent. The term *kufic* was named after the city of Kufa in Iraq, where a particular variant of the angular style developed, and came to be used generically to denote all angular scripts. While not an easy script to read, *kufic* provided great aesthetic delight. Over time, cursive hands took on a more exalted role and copies of the Quran were written in various other scripts. Regional styles also flourished: in north India *bihari* was a favourite style for fine copies of the Quran, while *maghribi*, the only cursive script which arose directly out of *kufic*, became the standard in the region which gave the script its name (the Maghrib - in mediaeval Muslim geography it referred to the western part of North Africa: present-day Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia).¹

White and gold were the colours of the coat of arms of the Fatimids of Egypt, who founded al-Azhar University in Cairo, one of the oldest institutions of higher learning.²

¹ www.iis.ac.uk/view_article.asp?ContentID=105553

² Aziz Ali Nanji, *Heritage Reviewed Tradition Revived* (Elite Publishers (Pvt) Ltd.)

July 12, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam opened the *Spirit and Life* Exhibition at The Ismaili Centre, London, UK. Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cornwall and the Prince of Wales attended the opening Of the Exhibition, which ran from July 12 to August 31, 2007.



Mawlana Hazar Imam greeting Their Royal Highnesses the Duchess of Cornwall and the Prince of Wales at the Ismaili Centre, London

Photo: Arnhel de Serra/AKDN



Mawlana Hazar Imam speaking at the *Spirit and Life* Exhibition

Photo: Arnhel de Serra/AKDN

Regarding the significance of the exhibition, Mawlana Hazar Imam said:

“This exhibition of artistic masterpieces from the Islamic world underlines that the arts, particularly when they are spiritually inspired, can become a medium of discourse that transcends the barriers of our day-to-day experiences and preoccupations. Many questions are currently being raised in the West about the Muslim world, with countless misconceptions and misunderstandings occurring between our contemporary societies. I hope that this exhibition will hold a special significance at a time which calls for enlightened encounters amongst faiths and cultures.”

[AKDN Press Release](#)

***Spirit and Life* Exhibition**

Organized by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, *Spirit & Life* exhibited manuscripts and art from the permanent collection of the Aga Khan Museum, which will open in Toronto, Canada, in 2010. The exhibition displayed over 165 objects from the collection showing the diversity of artistic traditions in the Muslim world, covering a geographical area stretching from India in the East to Morocco in the West and spanning over a thousand years from the ninth to the nineteenth century.

AKDN Press Release

“The arts have always had a special significance for my family. More than a thousand years ago my ancestors, the Fatimid Imams, encouraged patronage of the arts and fostered the creation of collections of outstanding works of art and libraries of rare and significant manuscripts. Many of my family members are art lovers and collectors. In particular my late uncle, Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan, was a great connoisseur of manuscripts and miniatures, and many of the works on paper and parchment presented in this exhibition come from his collection. I have been adding to these holdings myself for a number of years to create a complementary collection of Islamic works of art. I believe that these works all contribute to an understanding of some of the aesthetic values which underpin Muslim arts and the humanistic traditions of Islam.....The objects in this exhibition span over a thousand years of history. At times, the Muslim and Western worlds opposed each other in antagonism and conflict; at others, they cooperated constructively and in harmony. It was during the latter that the greatest scientific, social and economic developments occurred, to the benefit of all. It is my deepest wish that this be the path of the future.”

Mawlana Hazar Imam
Forward
Spirit and Life Catalogue
Published by Aga Khan Trust for Culture

FIRST GOLDEN JUBILEE VISIT – EAST AFRICA

August 12, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Nairobi, Kenya, on the first leg of an official visit to East Africa, at the invitation of the Governments of Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. This was the first Golden Jubilee visit.



Mawlana Hazar Imam being presented with a bouquet by seven year old Ramla Saleh upon arrival

Photo: Aziz Islamshah/[The Ismaili](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam meets with leaders of Kenya's Muslim communities

Photo: Gary Otte/[The Ismaili](#)

August 13, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya at the State House.



Mawlana Hazar Imam in discussion with His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki of Kenya

Photo: Gary Otte/ [The Ismaili](#)

August 13, 2007

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam and Professor Saitoti, Kenyan Minister of Education, formally launched the Faculty of Health Sciences of the Aga Khan University (AKU-FHS) – East Africa’s first premier private medical school. This was the first Social Development project of the Golden Jubilee Year.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Professor George Saitoti, Kenyan Minister for Education unveil a plaque to commemorate the launch of the Faculty of Health Sciences

Photo credit: Zahir Daya/AKDN

“A golden jubilee is a valuable opportunity for putting the present into historical perspective. In that spirit, I would begin today by emphasizing how my concern for education grows intimately out of my family history. It was just a century ago that my late Grandfather, Sir Sultan Mahomed Shah Aga Khan, began to build a network of educational institutions which would eventually include some 300 schools, many of them in East Africa. My late Grandfather, who was also the founding figure of Aligarh University in India, was renewing a tradition which stretches back over 1000 years, to our forefathers, the Fatimid Imam-Caliphs of Egypt, who founded Al-Azhar University and the Academy of Knowledge in Cairo. And going back even further, I would cite the words of the first hereditary Imam of the Shia Muslims, Hazrat Ali Ibn Abi Talib, who emphasized in his teachings that “No honour is like knowledge.” Those words have inspired an emphasis on education within our tradition ever since that time. That tradition has been expressed in recent decades in many ways, ranging from the sponsorship of Madrasa early childhood projects to the founding of the Aga Khan University and the University of Central Asia. We are also establishing a new network of Aga Khan Academies – outstanding residential primary and secondary schools - teaching the International Baccalaureate and covering no less than 14 countries in Africa and Asia.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the Inauguration
of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the Aga Khan University
Nairobi, Kenya, August 13, 2007**

[AKDN](#)

August 13, 2007

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam attended a State banquet hosted by His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki.

“As I observe this Jubilee year, I plan to use this occasion to do two things: first, to visit places and people that have been particularly important to the Ismaili community and to me throughout this last half century, and, secondly, to discuss issues which have been particularly important to us, with a special effort to put them into historical perspective, and to build for the future.

Kenya has played a role in past Jubilee celebrations of the Ismaili Imamat—during my late Grandfather’s time and my own. Some of our projects here bear names which came from those celebrations—like Diamond Trust and Jubilee Insurance. Some of our proudest accomplishments were launched as Jubilee initiatives. In that same spirit, we are announcing this week a number of new Golden Jubilee projects in Kenya and other parts of East Africa...If one of the themes of a Jubilee celebration is the search for historical perspective, then perhaps it will be appropriate for me to stretch that search back to the roots of the Islamic and Ismaili traditions, as I cite the words of the first hereditary Imam of the Shia Muslims, Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib. Hazrat Ali said: “No honour is like knowledge. No belief is like modesty and patience. No attainment is like humility. No power is like forbearance. And no support is more reliable than consultation.

Those words seem particularly relevant today. The spirit that Hazrat Ali evokes - the spirit of modesty, humility, forbearance, and consultation - is an approach we might also call the spirit of partnership. It is this spirit which I hope will characterize these Jubilee celebrations—even as it guides leaders in the public, private and civil sectors as they confront the great challenges of our time.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the State Banquet
Nairobi, Kenya, August 13, 2007**

- During dinner, Hazar Imam was bestowed Kenya’s highest medal of honour, the Chief of the Order of the Golden Heart of Kenya, (C.G.H.) by His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki.



Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

August 14, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam attended a ceremony marking the 25th anniversary of the Aga Khan Development Network's Madrasa Programme in Mombasa, which was initiated during the Silver Jubilee year. This programme provides early childhood education for children from marginalized communities in East Africa. The Madrasa Programme was launched at the request of East Africa's Muslim leaders who wanted to improve the overall educational achievement of their children while at the same time promoting a secular, integrated curriculum based on the universal ethics and values of Islam and local cultural traditions.

[AKDN Press Release](#)

"A deep concern for Knowledge - and the best ways of sharing Knowledge - goes back to the very roots of the Islamic tradition. When we think of our proud educational traditions, however, we often think first about the great Universities and Libraries which became centers of Islamic culture down through the centuries.... It is also important to note some additional distinctions concerning this program. One is the Programme's pluralistic, inclusive approach - embracing Muslim and non-Muslim children alike - and helping all of them to learn important lessons about diversity.... It is striking that modern neuro-sciences have demonstrated that long before the age of 6, children are aware of the different cultural backgrounds amongst each other in their classes. It is thus before that age that pluralism can be instilled as a life value."

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the
Commemoration of the 25th Anniversary of the Madrasa Programme
Mombasa, Kenya
August 14, 2007**

- Mawlana Hazar Imam laid the foundation stone for the construction of the new residential campus at the Aga Khan Academy in Mombasa along with Professor George Saitoti, Kenya's Minister for Education.



"Educating effective future leaders is a high responsibility. To do it well, we must look beyond the world which is passing from sight and turn our eyes to the uncharted world of the future. We must rise above the antiquated approaches of earlier days and instead infuse our students with what I would call three "A's" of modern learning - the spirit of anticipation, the spirit of adaptation and the spirit of adventure. This will happen best in learning environments which are both serious and focused on the one hand, but which are also joyous and inspiring places, operating on the cutting edge of pedagogy and knowledge."

August 14, 2007

- In the evening, Hazar Imam hosted a banquet in Nairobi in honour of His Excellency President Mwai Kibaki.

August 15, 2007

- The first Darbar of the Golden Jubilee year was held in Nairobi. President Zul Abdul of the Ismaili Council for Kenya submitted a loyalty address on behalf of the Jamat.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam attended a dinner reception organized in his honour by the Jamati institutions of Kenya.



Mawlana Hazar Imam at the institutional dinner in Nairobi, Kenya

Photo: Aziz Islamshah/The Ismaili

August 16, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, in the morning.



Honourable Joseph James Mungai, Tanzania's Minister for Home Affairs, receives Mawlana Hazar Imam at Julius K. Nyerere International Airport

Photo: AKDN/Gary Otte/The Ismaili



Mawlana Hazar Imam waves to the Jamat as he leaves the airport with Honourable Joseph James Mungai

Photo: AKDN/Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili

August 17, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar in Dar-es-Salaam. President Zahir Jivani of the Ismaili Council for Tanzania submitted a loyalty address on behalf of the Jamat.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam attended a reception hosted in his honour by the Ismaili institutions of Tanzania.



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing leaders of the Jamat and various AKDN Institutions

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=166

August 18, 2007

- In the morning, Mawlana Hazar Imam flew to Zanzibar – home to one of East Africa's oldest Ismaili communities and the site of the region's oldest Ismaili Jamatkhana. He received a warm welcome by cultural dancers.
- At a State luncheon hosted in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam, His Excellency Abeid Karume, President of Zanzibar presented Mawlana Hazar Imam with a gift of a traditional Zanzibar chest.
- Later in the day, Mawlana Hazar Imam returned to Dar-es-Salaam and met with His Excellency President Jakaya Kikwete of Tanzania at State House, where an official collection of commemorative postage stamps, marking the Imam's Golden Jubilee, were formally unveiled.



Mawlana Hazar Imam being welcomed by cultural dancers upon arrival

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=166



His Excellency Abeid Karume, President of Zanzibar presents Mawlana Hazar Imam with a traditional Zanzibar chest

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=166



His Excellency Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of Tanzania and Mawlana Hazar Imam officially unveil the commemorative stamps

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=166

August 18, 2007

- In the evening, President Kikwete hosted a State dinner in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam. At the dinner, Mawlana Hazar Imam announced plans to build a major new university campus in Arusha, in north-eastern Tanzania. The U.S. \$450-million complex will be developed over the next 15 years. He said that the decision to erect a new campus in Arusha stemmed from his faith in the future of the East African Region. Arusha is official seat of the East African community which includes Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

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“The story of the Ismaili community in East Africa goes back well before the start of my Imamate, at least as far back as the middle of the 19th century. Various Aga Khan institutions have been active here for more than 100 years – ever since my late Grandfather founded the first Aga Khan Girls School in Zanzibar in 1905. Today, our work here takes many forms: We work in the medical field through the Aga Khan Hospital and an array of clinics and dispensaries. Our educational institutions serve students and teachers of all ages. We are active in banking and microfinance, insurance, tourism, leisure and cultural preservation. As you know, the field of education has been a central concern of my Tradition – going back to the great institutions of learning which were such a distinguished part of Islamic history for so many centuries.

The challenge of development – in education as in other fields – is highly complex –and it calls for complex responses. We must replace old, dogmatic prescriptions with new pragmatic approaches... The best way to celebrate the past is to grasp the future – and that it is good to make new plans with an eye on their historical context.Our dream is that the Aga Khan University – as it expands in East Africa and elsewhere – will play a central role in the great Knowledge Society of tomorrow. This vision for the future is important to me personally because it so fittingly honors the past.

The great chapters of Islamic history, after all, demonstrate how peoples of a common faith, spread widely throughout the world, have flourished when they embraced and advanced a cosmopolitan Society of Knowledge. As the 49th Imam of the Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims, I often look back to the words of the Fourth Caliph, who was also the first Imam of the Shia Muslims, Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib. Listen to Hazrat Ali’s words: ‘No honour is like knowledge. No belief is like modesty and patience. No attainment is like humility. No power is like forbearance. And no support is more reliable than consultation.’ The passage – beginning with the word ‘knowledge’ and ending with the word ‘consultation’ – sums up my message to you tonight. It is my prayer that all of us – with a common commitment to knowledge – and in a continuing spirit of consultation – can go forward together to meet our great challenges.”

Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the State Banquet
Dar-es Salaam, Tanzania
August 18, 2007

August 19, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived at Entebbe Airport in Uganda.



Anne Marie Mirembe welcomes Mawlana Hazar Imam with flowers in the presence of Martin Alier, Advisor to the President of Uganda, Mayor Sebaggala, Yusuf Karmali, President of the Aga Khan Council for Uganda, and Mahmood Ahmed, Resident Representative of the AKDN Uganda

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili

- Hazar Imam met His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda at State House.
- Hazar Imam was hosted by the Government of Uganda at an official luncheon.

August 20, 2007

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam flew to Dar-es-Salaam, where he hosted a dinner in honour of the President of Tanzania.



His Excellency President Kikwete and Mawlana Hazar Imam in conversation over dinner

Photo: Zahur Ramji/ The Ismaili

- After dinner, Mawlana Hazar Imam flew to Kampala.

August 21, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam flew to Jinja by helicopter, where he laid the foundation stone of the Bujagali Hydroelectric Power Project. The US \$770 million project is the country's first private hydroelectric power project, and is expected to significantly lower the price of electricity in Uganda. The plant is also one of the largest independent power plants in sub-Saharan Africa.

Mawlana Hazar Imam was joined by Prince Ayn and Prince Rahim.



Mawlana Hazar Imam welcomes His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda to the Bujagali site. Looking on are Prince Ayn, Chairman of the Executive Committee, Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development and Mahmood Ahmed, Resident Representative, AKDN Uganda

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN



Mawlana Hazar Imam and His Excellency President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, lay the foundation stone for the Bujagali Hydropower Project

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

"The laying of this foundation stone is indeed an historic moment. The project we celebrate today is an unprecedented endeavour....it represents the largest single private sector investment of any sort in East Africa and the largest independent power project in sub-Saharan Africa. I understand it is the largest single power investment ever made by the International Finance Corporation - anywhere in the world... I believe that the Bujagali project will propel a great chain of positive developments - an exciting upward spiral.From the very beginnings of civilization, the use of water - intelligently, respectfully, and creatively - has been at the very center of human concerns. The Nile River itself has been a great source and sustainer of life for thousands of years. Today, we repeat and renew that ancient story once again as we lay this Foundation Stone - and thus signal the opening of a new era in African history."

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the
Foundation Stone Ceremony of the Bujagali Hydropower Project
Jinja, Uganda
August 21, 2007**

August 22, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam laid the foundation stone of the Aga Khan Academy in Munyonyo, Kampala, Uganda. The Academy will be built on a 44 acre plot on the shores of Lake Victoria, about 18 km from the centre of Kampala.



Mawlana Hazar Imam lays the foundation stone for the Aga Khan Academy, Kampala in the presence of His Excellency Professor Gilbert Bukenya, Vice President of the Republic of Uganda

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

“A strong commitment to learning has been at the very root of Ismaili and Islamic culture, going back to the first Imam of the Shia Muslims, the fourth Caliph, Hazrat Ali ibn Abi Talib, and his emphasis on knowledge. The tradition was renewed over many centuries in many places by the Abbasids, the Fatimids, the Safavids – the Mughals, the Uzbeks and the Ottomans. During his Imamate, my late Grandfather started some 300 schools in this region. The Academies Programme is thus planted in rich historic soil... The final point I would emphasize today, above all else, is our uncompromising commitment to Quality-- in every aspect of the Academy experience. Our hallmark will be quality students, quality instructors, quality facilities - an unwavering devotion to world-class standards.”

Excerpt from Speech made by Mawlana Hazar Imam at
the Foundation Stone Ceremony of the Aga Khan Academy
Kampala, Uganda
August 22, 2007

August 23, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar at Darkhana Jamatkhana in Kampala. President Yusuf Karmali of the Ismaili Council for Uganda submitted a loyalty address on behalf of the Jamat.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Entebbe after a twelve-day Golden Jubilee visit to East Africa.

September 4, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam announced the nine recipients of the 2007 Aga Khan Award for Architecture, at a ceremony held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Award marked its thirtieth anniversary and the completion of its tenth triennial cycle.



Standing back row: Hani Rashid, Homi Bhabha, Okwui Enwezor, Sahel Al-Hiyari, Billie Tsien, Farrokh Derakhshani

Standing front row: Mohsen Mostafavi, Modjtaba Sadria, Homa Farjadi, Han Tümertekin, Omar Akbar, Glenn Lowry, Farshid Moussavi

Seated, left to right: Shirazeh Houshiary, Kenneth Yeang, Prince Hussain, Mawlana Hazar Imam, Princess Khaliya, Brigitte Shim, Rashid Khalidi

Photo: AKDN

“A central concept when this all began 30 years ago was the power of Architecture to connect the past with the present and the future. It was my strong impression then that Architecture had largely abandoned the indigenous past - especially in Muslim societies and in the developing world.....This is one of the reasons our Award Ceremonies have normally been held in historically significant settings - reminders of just how rich our Islamic heritage has been..... In my view, a healthy life, for an individual or a community, means finding a way to relate the values of the past, the realities of the present, and the opportunities of the future. The built environment can play a central role in helping us to achieve that balance.

At its best, architecture is an inherently pluralistic enterprise - one that honours diversity - including diversity within and among Islamic communities. At its best, architecture will help people to come together across old divides rather than re-enforcing those divides and isolating one group from another.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the
Awards Presentation Ceremony of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, September 4, 2007**

September 22-23, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition in Washington, D.C.

The Historic Cities Programme exhibition is a Golden Jubilee International Programme that provides a unique lens on the role of culture in development. It features five projects of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in Egypt, Syria, Mali, India, and Afghanistan. During the Jubilee, the Exhibition will tour cities in various countries around the world.

[The Ismaili](#)

October 2007

- Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) hosted an exhibition at the Kohi Vahdat complex in Dushanbe to increase awareness of the work of AKDN agencies in Tajikistan.

Since launching its first programme 12 years ago to alleviate food shortages in the Gorno-Badakhshan region, AKDN has expanded the geographic reach and thematic scope of its activities in Tajikistan. It operates in the areas of health, education and culture, as well as infrastructure and economic development. Projects include the construction of three major bridges connecting Tajikistan to Afghanistan across the Pyanj River and the rehabilitation of power facilities in the Gorno-Badakhshan region. Projects to be opened in the future are a Serena Hotel in Dushanbe and a campus of the University of Central Asia in Khorog.

Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme transported 800 kg of carved marble stones from Khorog to demonstrate how local materials have been used in the reconstruction of Khorog Park.

The Aga Khan Foundation's Mountain Societies Development Support Programme exhibited products from the projects it supports, including intricate handicrafts made in the Rasht and Gorno-Badakhshan regions, and pickled fruits and vegetables bottled in rural processing plants, alongside a display of live bees from a bee-keeping facility.

Representatives of First MicroFinanceBank of Tajikistan, an institution of Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance, informed visitors about services available at its branches throughout the country.

[The Ismaili](#)



A representative from Focus Humanitarian Assistance demonstrates how solar powered wireless communication devices have greatly assisted in disaster response activities in the Gorno-Badakhshan region of Tajikistan

Photo: Michael Romanyuk/AKDN

October 6-14, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition in Texas, USA

October 6-10 Houston Principal Jamatkhana Center

October 12-14 Sugar Land City Hall

October 14, 2007

- Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya attended the formal inauguration of the Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme's exhibition at the City Hall in Sugar Land, Texas, USA.



Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya examining the description and model of Cairo's 12th century Ayyubid wall being restored by the Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme

Photo: Aly Z. Ramji/[The Ismaili](#)

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at The Centre for Performing Arts in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

October 17, 2007

- Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya viewed *A Mystical Journey* at the Winspear Centre in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.



Mohamed Manji, President of the Ismaili Council for Canada, Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya at the pre-performance reception

Photo: Alnoor Nathoo/[The Ismaili](#)



The Whirling Sufis

Photo: Aziz Ladha/[The Ismaili](#)

A Mystical Journey - Sufi Music and other Expressions of Devotion from the Muslim World, an international Golden Jubilee initiative featuring artists from Algeria, Bosnia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Syria performing music from various Sufi and other esoteric traditions of Islam.

[The Ismaili](#)

October 17, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam addressed the Louvre Roundtable in Paris, France, at the exhibition of Islamic masterpieces at the Louvre in collaboration with the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. The exhibition ran at the Louvre from October 5, 2007 to January 7, 2008.



Prince Ayn, Souren Melikian (curator of a related exhibition) and Mawlana Hazar Imam viewing objects from the Masterpieces of Islamic Art from the Aga Khan Museum exhibition at the Louvre

Photo: [AKDN](#)

“...the 1,428 years of the Ummah embrace many civilisations and are therefore characterised by an astonishing pluralism. In particular, this geographic, ethnic, linguistic and religious pluralism has manifested itself at the most defining moments in the history of the Ummah, hence the objective of the Aga Khan collection, which is to highlight objects drawn from every region and every period, and created from every kind of material in the Muslim world....the Muslim world has always been wide open to every aspect of human existence. The sciences, society, art, the oceans, the environment and the cosmos have all contributed to the great moments in the history of Muslim civilisations. The Qur'an itself repeatedly recommends Muslims to become better educated in order better to understand God's creation. Our collection seeks to demonstrate the openness of Muslim civilisations to every aspect of human life, even going so far as to work in partnership with intellectual and artistic sources originating in other regions.”

Excerpt from Closing Address by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the "Musée-Musées" Round Table, Louvre, Paris, France
October 17, 2007

October 19-20, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition in Los Angeles, California, USA

October 20, 2007

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at the Stampede Corral in Calgary, Alberta, Canada

October 26, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam inaugurated the restored monuments of Darb al-Ahmar in Cairo. The restoration of the fourteenth century Umm al Sultan Shabaan mosque and the Khayrebek complex, which encompasses a thirteenth century palace, a mosque, and an Ottoman house. The restoration was undertaken by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in collaboration with the Supreme Council of Antiquities of Egypt.

AKDN Press Release

"I have found that this endeavour has provided for me, personally, a profound sense of connection with my own ancestors, the Fatimid Caliphs, who founded Cairo and who laid its physical and cultural foundations 1000 years ago. To reach back across 35 generations and to be able to engage in the restoration and renewal of their legacy is a rare and stirring privilege. How could I not be affected seeing the remains of the original Fatimid walls and towers that protected this city when they founded it? And this experience has special meaning for me as I mark my own 50th year as Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims.....The Fatimids, after all, prided themselves on a broadly inclusive approach to knowledge. What they founded here would become a truly global city – to use contemporary parlance. Pluralism was indeed the hallmark of a Golden Age of the City Victorious 1000 years ago. I am happy that I can feel in this time also, like during the time of my predecessors, that there is true pluralist consensus surrounding our endeavours – all of us working together – to revive the Islamic city."

Mawlana Hazar Imam
October 26, 2007



Mawlana Hazar Imam, H.E. Farouk Hosni, Egypt's Minister of Culture, and H.E. Dr. Abdel Azim Wazir, the Governor of Cairo, marked the completion of the restoration of the fourteenth century Umm al Sultan Shabaan mosque and the Khayrebek complex.

Photo: AKDN

www.akdn.org/press_release/379/Two-Major-Landmarks-Restored-in-Historic-Cairo-Media-Advisory

October/November 2007

- Regional sports festivals in the provinces of Badakhshan, Baghlan, Bamyan and Kabul, Afghanistan, in preparation for the Golden Jubilee Games in Nairobi, Kenya

October 28-November 1, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at Berkley, California, USA

November 4, 2007

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at Roy Thompson Hall in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

November 5, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with Government officials in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada



The Honourable Jason Kenney, Secretary of State (Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity), along with the Hon. Josee Verner, Minister of Canadian Heritage, met with Mawlana Hazar Imam in Ottawa to discuss issues relating to pluralism

Photo: Ismaili Mail
www.ismailimail.wordpress.com

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at Place des Arts, Théâtre Maisonneuve, Montreal, Quebec, Canada

November 9-11, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the Symphony Center in Chicago, Illinois, USA

November 13, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam delivered the keynote address at a conference in Berlin, Germany titled Central Asia and Europe: A New Economic Partnership for the 21st Century. The Conference was hosted by the German Federal Foreign Office and the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECA). The conference is the first major international gathering to review prospects for partnership in the region.

AKDN Press Release



Mawlana Hazar Imam meets with German Foreign Minister, Dr Frank-Walter Steinmeier in Berlin.

Photo: Arnhel de Serra/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_berlin_2007nov.asp

“A sound enabling environment must create a favourable framework in which people’s energy and creativity can be motivated, mobilized and rewarded.... Throughout Central Asia, with each passing day, we see new examples of what can be achieved when we learn to transcend old boundaries - to replace the icy past of the Cold War by the warmth of new partnerships.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the Conference on Central Asia and Europe, Berlin, Germany
November 13, 2007**

November 14, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam was interviewed by BBC News UK about his funding of regeneration projects across the Muslim world.

Hazar Imam said restoration work in historic cities *“can actually change the economic standings of thousands of people who are amongst the poorest because these historic cities are concentrations of the ultra poor.”*

www.news.bbc.co.uk

HAZAR IMAM’S VISIT TO MOZAMBIQUE

November 20, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Maputo, Mozambique. A few hours after his arrival, he met with President Armando Guebuza at the Ponta Vermelha Presidential Palace.



Mawlana Hazar Imam is greeted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs & Cooperation, Ms. Alcinda Abreu, at the Maputo Airport.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172



Mawlana Hazar Imam meeting with the President of Mozambique, Armando Guebuza, in the President’s office.

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

November 20, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam attended State Banquet hosted in his honour at Ponta Vermelha Presidential Palace in Mozambique.



Mawlana Hazar Imam speaking at the State Banquet hosted in his honour

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

“An anniversary is always an occasion for reflection - for looking back and for looking ahead. As we reflect tonight, we can do so with a special sense of hope and promise- in the future of Mozambique and in the future of Africa...”

Mozambique has learned to set careful priorities - to establish clear markers for progress, and then, carefully, to measure its progress against those indicators The key ingredient in all of these efforts - within Mozambique and in its regional neighborhood, is a spirit of genuine partnership - an understanding that we can do things together that we can never do separately. ...

We must also help young people build “Bridges to the Future” - that is the name, in fact, of one of our new scholarship programs. Our philosophy is to build leadership for tomorrow by educating the young on the basis of academic potential - not on social status or family income. That philosophy is at the core of our Aga Khan Academies program. Many of you were present three years ago when we laid the foundation stone for a new Aga Khan Academy at Maputo. It will be part of an 18 school network - in 14 different countries - all teaching the international baccalaureate curriculum....In all of these Schools, moreover, our watchword will be “Pluralism” as we develop leaders who can deal effectively with diverse peoples in a globalizing world.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the State Banquet
Maputo, Mozambique
November 20, 2007**

November 21, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted a reception at the Polana Serena Hotel for the Diplomatic community, international organizations and donor agencies. The reception was followed by the unveiling of an official collection of Golden Jubilee commemorative postage stamps for Mozambique by President Armando Guebuza and attended by several government dignitaries. The five stamps portray images of projects supported by AKDN in Mozambique as well as the Maputo Jamatkhana.

www.theismaili.org/cms/104/Mozambique-visit



An official collection of Mozambique postage stamps marking Hazar Imam's Golden Jubilee

Photo: The Ismaili

www.theismaili.org/cms/104/Mozambique-visit

- Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted lunch in honour of President Guebuza.
- Later in the day, Hazar Imam met with the President of the Assembly of the Republic, Eduardo Mulembwe.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with Eduardo Mulembwe, President of the Assembly of the Republic of Mozambique

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN/The Ismaili

www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

- Hazar Imam was guest of honour at a banquet in Maputo hosted by Mozambique's President, His Excellency Armando Guebuza

At the banquet, Mawlana Hazar Imam announced that AKDN will expand its involvement in Mozambique to establish a garment factory, as well as the country's first microfinance bank. He also said the people of Mozambique will benefit from the construction of a new undersea high-speed fibre optic cable that will link Southern and Eastern Africa with Mumbai in India and Marseille in France – a project co-financed by the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development the network's economic development arm. The cable will also serve Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar and Rwanda.

[AKDN Press Release](#)

November 21-25, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at Plano Ismaili Center and Jamatkhana in Dallas, Texas, USA
- National Sports Tournament in Dallas, Texas, in preparation for the Golden Jubilee Games in Nairobi, Kenya

November 22, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar at the Texlon factory. President Amirali Bhanji of the Ismaili Council for Portugal submitted a loyalty address on behalf of the Mozambique Jamat, which falls in that country's area of jurisdiction. As he arrived at the hall, Mawlana Hazar Imam took the time to look at a display of paintings and works of art by children of all ages from the Mozambique Jamat.



Mawlana Hazar Imam looks at a display of calligraphy produced by children from the Jamat of Mozambique before entering the Darbar hall

Photo: Aziz Islamshah/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed for Pemba later in the day.



Mawlana Hazar Imam is met by leaders of the Ummah upon his arrival in Pemba

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

November 23, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam travelled to two villages in the heart of Cabo Delgado to review projects supported by the Aga Khan Foundation, Mozambique.

In Pemba's Cabo Delgado region, the Aga Khan Development Network is involved in rural support projects designed to reduce poverty in the remote areas of the country. The programme covers 146 villages and benefits 21,000 households.

Situated in the northernmost district of Mozambique, Cabo Delgado is among the poorest districts in the country, with a life-expectancy of only around 36 years. The Aga Khan Foundation's Coastal Rural Support Programme is implementing an integrated rural development programme in this district, combining improved agricultural techniques, education and health initiatives and a microfinance programme.

AKDN Press Release



Mawlana Hazar Imam walking through the village square accompanied by (from left to right) Lebreton Saah Nyambe, Director of the CRSP programme, Sikander Jamal, Chair of AKF Mozambique, Faiza Janmohamed, CEO, AKF Mozambique and Nazim Ahmad, Resident Representative, AKDN Mozambique

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

Mawlana Hazar Imam toured the Natungo village, a settlement of mud and bamboo huts inside the Quissanga National Park populated by 755 people, virtually all of them Sunni Muslims. The entire population gathered at the main square to greet the Imam, who congratulated the villagers on the progress they have made in improving living conditions over the past few years and urged them to send more of their children to school. The Aga Khan Development Network has been active in the village since 2003, managing education and poverty reduction projects.

The village chief, Henriques Gutura, said the villagers were better off today than a few years ago with a decent school building, an early education programme and more modern land tilling techniques. "For us, the Aga Khan presence means that we have better health, more education and better agricultural techniques," he said.

AKDN Press Release

www.akdn.org/press_release.asp?id=668

November 23, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam went to Ibo Island, where he reviewed income generation activities supported by the Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance. At the Fort Sao Jao Baptista, he viewed the detailed work of silversmith groups, flower artisans, a carpenter, and agriculturalists.



Eliane Damasceno, Director of the Entrepreneur Development Initiative (EDI) of the Aga Khan Foundation, welcomes Mawlana Hazar Imam to the São João Baptista Fort. The old Portuguese fort is now an important tourist attraction where several silversmiths come daily to develop their crafts.

Photo: Lucas Moura/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172



Mawlana Hazar Imam is presented with a bouquet of dried flowers by Balbina Pinheiro, one of the artisans of the flower group supported by the Aga Khan Foundation, Mozambique

Photo: Lucas Moura/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=172

Ibo Island is just north of the small town of Pemba in the Quirimbas Archipelago. Mawlana Hazar Imam was warmly received by villagers and the Island's administrator. At the Ibo Fort, he spent time with several villagers who had benefited from loans from the Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance. They included traditional silversmiths who had maintained their exceptional filigree work skills, carpenter groups, fisherman, and crafts groups, all of whom had increased their standards of living in the last few years as a result of small loans. "I used to have a thatched roof, and now I have a corrugated iron roof," said one fisherman.

AKDN Press Releas
www.akdn.org/press_release.asp?id=668

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO MADAGASCAR

November 26, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Antananarivo, Madagascar.



Mawlana Hazar Imam being welcomed to Antananarivo by Nishad Djaffar, President of the Ismaili Council for Madagascar. Looking on is Rajemison Rakotomaharo, President of the Senate of Madagascar (left) and Anvaraly Jiva, President of the Ismaili Council for the European Union (centre).

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/103/Madagascar-visit



Mawlana Hazar Imam greeting members of the Jamat from Madagascar and around the world who had gathered at the airport to welcome him to Antananarivo.

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/103/Madagascar-visit



Mawlana Hazar Imam and President of the Senate, Rajemison Rakotomaharo taking questions from the media following Mawlana Hazar Imam's arrival in Madagascar.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/103/Madagascar-visit

November 27, 2007

- Met with the President of the Republic of Madagascar Marc Ravalomanana to review current projects of the AKDN in Madagascar
- Met with Prime Minister Charles Rabemananjara at the Primature
- Met with the President of the Senate Rajemison Rakotomaharo



Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_madagascar_nov2007.asp



Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_madagascar_nov2007.asp



Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_madagascar_nov2007.asp

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the Prime Minister Charles Rabemananjara of Madagascar.

“Islam’s ethics establish an inextricable link between spiritual and material life, Din and Dunya. Consequently, my responsibilities as spiritual leader and interpreter of the faith are coupled with a deep commitment to improving the quality of life. These activities are not limited to the Ismaili community but extend to those who share their lives, whether on a local, national or international scale. Our duty is to try to free people from poverty. And to me, poverty means being without shelter, without protection, without access to healthcare, education, or credit, and without hope of ever controlling one’s own destiny. This means condemning one’s children and grandchildren to unacceptable living conditions.

A voluntarist and innovative strategy is needed in order to break this chain of despair and total imprisonment.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the State Banquet
Antananarivo, Madagascar
November 27, 2007**

November 28, 2007

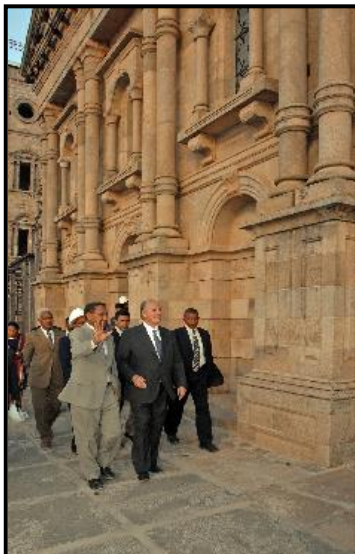
- Mawlana Hazar Imam visited the Sofia region in the north of the country where he met with representatives from villages that have been supported by the Aga Khan Foundation's Rural Support programmes. This programme has helped the villagers increase their production of rice, a commodity produced by 80% of rural households. Most have doubled their yield and some villagers have increased their production by up to six times



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Philibert Rakotosom, the Secretary General of the Ministry for Agriculture arriving in the village of Ambalafary greeting villagers who have participated in the integrated rural development programme organized by AKF

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/103/Madagascar-visit

- Mawlana Hazar Imam returned to Antananarivo, where he visited the Palais du Rova, an important monument of Malagasy national heritage which is currently undergoing reconstruction after a fire damaged the structure in 1995.



Mawlana Hazar Imam visiting the Palais du Rova in Antananarivo

Photo AKDN/Zahur Ramji
www.akdn.org/photos_madagascar_nov2007.asp

November 28, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted a reception in honour of President Marc Ravolamanana who was represented by Prime Minister Charles Rabemananjara.

November 29, 2007

- Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar in Antananarivo. President Nishad Djaffar delivered a loyalty address on behalf of the Malagasy Jamat.
- Later that day, Mawlana Hazar Imam visited the offices of the Premier Agence de Microfinance (PAMF) in Antananarivo.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was the Guest of Honour at a reception hosted by the Jamati institutions of Madagascar.



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing Jamati institutional leaders at the dinner hosted in his honour in Antananarivo

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/103/Madagascar-visit

November 30, 2007

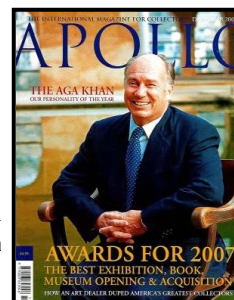
- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Madagascar in the morning.

December 2007

- The December issue of Apollo magazine named Mawlana Hazar Imam Personality of the Year for his efforts in developing and promoting culture.

www.apollo-magazine.com/contents/?issue=December%202007

Photo: Ismaili Mail
www.ismailimail.wordpress.com



December 14-16, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the University of Central Florida, USA

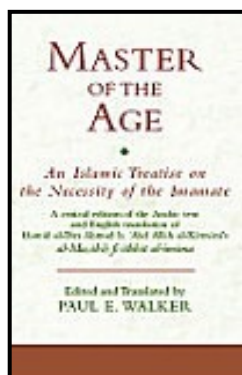
December 21-22, 2007

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at City Hall of Miramar, Florida, USA

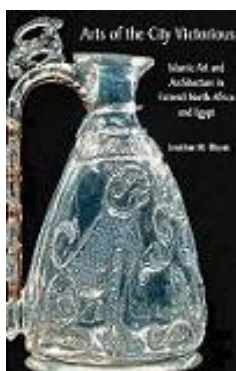
December 27, 2007

- As part of The Institute of Ismaili Studies' Golden Jubilee publications, three new books were introduced at the Scarborough Jamatkhana, Toronto, Canada, by Professor Azim Nanji and Dr. Fahmida Suleman.

➤ *Master of the Age: An Islamic Treatise on the Necessity of the Imamate*, is a critical edition and translation by Professor Paul E. Walker



➤ *Arts of the City Victorious: Islamic Art and Architecture in Fatimid North Africa and Egypt* by Professor Jonathan M. Bloom, Norma Jean Calderwood



➤ *Word of God, Art of Man: The Qur'an and its Creative Expressions. Selected Proceedings from the International Colloquium, London, October 18-21, 2003, Edited by Dr. Fahmida Suleman.*



www.iis.ac.uk/view_article.asp?ContentID=10919

December 30, 2007

▪ *Spark of Knowledge* Symposium

The Jamat gathered at the Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. They were joined via live video telecast by Jamat from Edmonton, Calgary, and Montreal. The symposium explored ways in which to advance the frontiers of knowledge in an increasingly pluralistic and interconnected world. A similar event was held on December 29 in Toronto. The symposium was opened by Mohamed Manji, President of the Ismaili Council for Canada.

www.theismaili.org/?id=170

January 2008

- In celebration of the Golden Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam, and in recognition of the contributions of the Ismaili community in Portugal, Correios de Portugal (Portuguese Mail Services) issued commemorative stamps featuring photos of the Centro Ismaili, Lisbon.



Photo: Courtesy Correios de Portugal/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/187/Portugal-issues-commemorative-stamps



January 30, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with President of the Asian Development Bank in Gouvieux, France.

Mawlana Hazar Imam, founder and Chairman of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), met with Mr. Haruhiko Kuroda, President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), for discussions on joint collaboration between the ADB and AKDN. The meeting preceded the signing of an agreement aimed at expanding the partnership between the two institutions. Prince Ayn, who signed the agreement on behalf of Mawlana Hazar Imam, thanked the ADB for its long-standing cooperation and lauded the Bank's efforts to adopt a new long-term strategy this year in the face of growing challenges and opportunities in the Asia-Pacific region.

AKDN Press Release

www.akdn.org/photos_gouvieux_jan2008.asp



Mawlana Hazar Imam receiving Mr. Haruhiko Kuroda in Gouvieux, France

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

www.akdn.org/photos_gouvieux_jan2008.asp



Prince Ayn and Mr. Haruhiko Kuroda signing the agreement in the presence of Mawlana Hazar Imam

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

www.akdn.org/photos_gouvieux_jan2008.asp

January 31, 2008

- Best-selling author Ms. Karen Armstrong delivered the first of five lectures in Islamabad, Pakistan, on the pluralistic and intellectual traditions of Islam, at the Serena Hotel. Aga Khan Foundation (Pakistan) organized this lecture as part of a series of events, conferences and seminars being held to mark the Golden Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam.

Aga Khan Foundation Press Release/Ismaili Mail

February 1, 2008

- Official launch of the Aga Khan Foundation's travelling exhibition, *Bridges that Unite*, in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. The exhibition was on display until February 13, 2008.



Alan Lowe (left), Mayor of Victoria, Hon. Beverley Oda, Minister of International Cooperation, and Khalil Shariff, CEO of Aga Khan Foundation Canada

Photo: *Bridges that Unite*
www.bridgesthatunite.ca/home2

The Honourable Beverley J. Oda, Minister of International Cooperation joined Aga Khan Foundation Canada's Chief Executive Officer Khalil Z. Shariff along with local dignitaries and other guests to officially launch *Bridges that Unite*, a new, interactive exhibition showcasing our national ability to bridge the developed and the developing world.

Twenty-five years ago, Canada invested in an innovative partnership with the AKDN in northern Pakistan – one of the world's poorest, most isolated and volatile regions. Since then, this partnership has grown in scope and depth and created a wealth of knowledge and practical experience that has had a ripple effect across Asia and Africa. Visitors to the exhibition will discover that, from Afghanistan to Zanzibar, a ring of chairs, in which people meet to discuss and find solutions to their problems, has become a symbol of lasting, positive change.

***Bridges that Unite* Press Release**
www.bridgesthatunite.ca/press-releases

REFLECTION

Canada has partnered with the AKDN in several projects. What role should Canada play in this partnership with the AKDN as the needs of the people in the developing countries evolve?

March 8, 2008

- *Spark of Knowledge* Symposium held at Ismaili Centre, London, UK
- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at Royce Hall, UCLA, Los Angeles, California, USA

March 11, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at Palace of Fine Arts Theatre in San Francisco, California

March 13, 2008

- Official opening of the art exhibition titled *The Path of Princes: Masterpieces of the Aga Khan Museum Collection*, in Lisbon, Portugal by Prince Ayn. Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya were also in attendance. The exhibition was on display from March 14 to July 6, 2008.

The Path of Princes: Masterpieces of the Aga Khan Museum Collection exhibition at the Calouste Gulbenkian Museum in Lisbon was officially opened by Emílio Rui Vilar, President of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Prince Ayn, who was representing Mawlana Hazar Imam.

The exhibition comprised works of Islamic art, covering over a thousand years of history, from the collection of the future Aga Khan Museum, planned for opening in 2011 in Toronto, Canada.

AKDN Press Release

www.akdn.org/press_release.asp?ID=458



João Castel-Branco of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (left), Prince Ayn and Luis Monreal, General Manager of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture, at the inauguration of the exhibition

Photo: Lucas Moura/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_portugal_march2008.asp



Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya with curator Maria Fernanda Passos Leite at the inauguration of the exhibition

Photo: Lucas Moura/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_portugal_march2008.asp

March 15, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at Olympia Theatre Gusman Center in Miami, Florida, USA

March 17, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at The Arena at Gwinnett Center in Atlanta, Georgia

March 22, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at Cadillac Palace Theatre in Chicago, Illinois

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

March 23, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam commenced his Golden Jubilee visit to the United Arab Emirates in the country's capital, Abu Dhabi.



Sheikh Mohammed Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan welcomes Mawlana Hazar Imam at Abu Dhabi airport, upon his arrival in the United Arab Emirates

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit

- Shortly after his arrival, Princess Zahra and Prince Rahim arrived in Abu Dhabi.

March 23, 2008

- In celebration of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Golden Jubilee, a Jamati orchestra in Dubai together with the Ismaili Council for the United Arab Emirates produced a unique musical synthesis titled *Frontierless Brotherhood — A Fusion of Diversity*. The two-disc set reflects the cultures and heritage of Ismailis from around the world. The Orchestra, which has entertained the Jamat in the United Arab Emirates for a number of years, brought together talented individuals from different cultural, linguistic and geographical backgrounds.

www.theismaili.org

March 24, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam, Prince Rahim, and Princess Zahra met His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates. Sheikh Hamdan hosted an official lunch at his palace. Sheikh Hamdan's wife, Sheikhha Shamsa, hosted lunch in honour of Princess Zahra.



Mawlana Hazar Imam, Princess Zahra, and Prince Rahim with His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam, Prince Rahim, and Princess Zahra were the guests of His Highness Sheikh Mohammad Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the UAE at an official dinner.

March 25, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Dubai accompanied by Prince Rahim and Princess Zahra.



Mawlana Hazar Imam being greeted by leaders of the Jamat upon arrival in Dubai

Photo: Aziz Islamshah/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam granted a Darbar. Prince Rahim and Princess Zahra were present during the Darbar proceedings. President Naushad Rashid of the Ismaili Council for the UAE submitted the loyalty address.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam visited the Ismaili Centre Dubai.

Mawlana Hazar Imam visiting the Early Learning Centre at The Ismaili Centre Dubai

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit



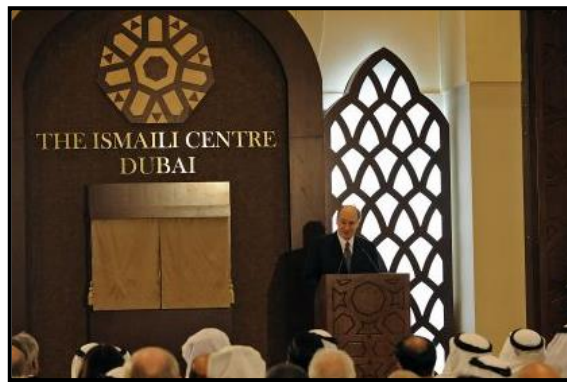
March 26, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam officially opened the Ismaili Centre Dubai in the presence of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum and His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan. Prince Rahim and Princess Zahra were present at the ceremony.



Mawlana Hazar Imam, His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum (left), and His Highness Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan unveil the ceremonial plaque marking the opening of the Ismaili Centre Dubai

Photo: Aziz Islamshah/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=263



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing the guests at the opening ceremony of the Ismaili Centre Dubai

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit

“(the) ethic of exploration and interconnectedness is one that is deeply shared by the Ismaili community. It is an ethic, in fact, that is firmly rooted in our faith — a value system which grows from deeply spiritual roots. It understands that human diversity is itself a gift of Allah — that pluralism is not a threat but a blessing. It sees the desire to explore and connect as a way to learn and grow — not to dilute our identities but to enrich our self-knowledge. This ethic emanates ultimately from a relationship to the Divine which inspires a deep sense of personal humility — and a relationship to humankind which is infused with a spirit of generous service and mutual respect.

This new Centre is itself a profoundly spiritual place. Its defining symbolism is inspired by the Fatimid tradition — stretching back over 1000 years and widely shared with sister traditions throughout the Islamic world — from Baghdad to Bokhara. This building exists fundamentally as a place for peaceful contemplation, but one that is set in a social context. It is not a place to hide from the world, but rather a place which inspires us to engage our worldly work as a direct extension of our faith.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the Inauguration of the Ismaili Centre Dubai
March 26, 2008**

March 26, 2008

- Following the opening of the Ismaili Centre, Mawlana Hazar Imam inaugurated the Dubai Park located adjacent to the Centre. Presented as a gift from Hazar Imam to the City of Dubai, the 3,000 square metre park was developed by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Hussain Nasir Lootah, Acting Director General of Dubai Municipality cut the ribbon to inaugurate the Dubai Park

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit

- Later in the day, Mawlana Hazar Imam was Guest of Honour at the launch of the “Khor Dubai” Cultural Project being unveiled by UAE Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai, Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid al-Maktoum. The project which aims to establish Dubai as a global centre for cultural and civilised dialogue, will create a cultural hub along the 20 km shoreline of Dubai Creek and envisions the construction of libraries, theatres, museums and other cultural institutions, including the first museum dedicated to Prophet Mohammed (peace be upon him and his family).

www.theismaili.org/cms/262/United-Arab-Emirates-visit

March 27, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Dubai. He was bid farewell at the Royal Terminal of the Dubai International Airport by His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum on behalf of the Ruling Family, as well as leaders of the UAE Jamat.



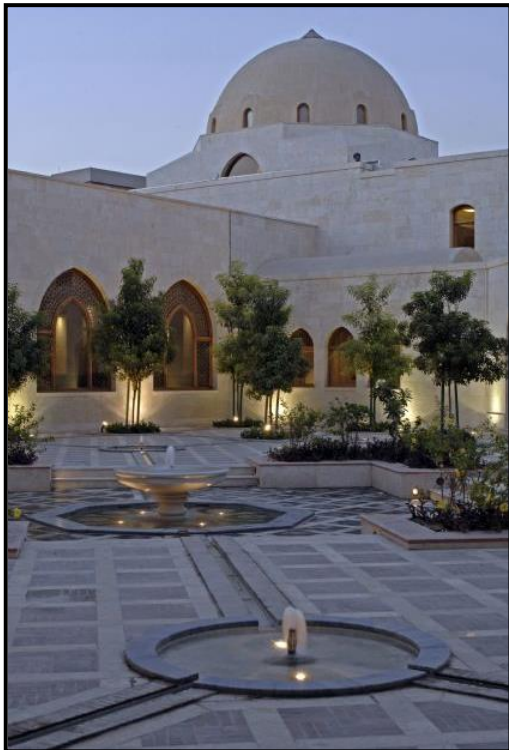
His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum bids farewell to Mawlana Hazar Imam at the Royal Terminal of Dubai International Airport, as members of the Jamati leadership look on

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.theismaili.org/cms/262/UAE-visit

The Ismaili Centre Dubai

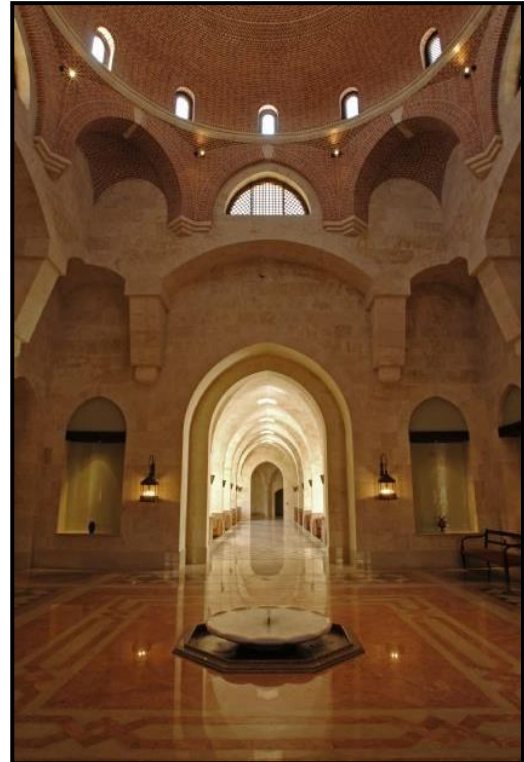
The site of the Ismaili Centre Dubai, located at Oud Metha, was a gift of the Ruling Family of Dubai presented by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai, to Mawlana Hazar Imam on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee in 1982.

The Centre incorporates an Early Learning Centre (ELC) with a capacity of 225 children and will offer early childhood programmes that will be culturally relevant, dual medium (Arabic and English) and pluralistic in approach. The ELC is scheduled to open in early 2009.



The main courtyard features an intricate geometric arrangement of channels that use gravity to carry water from a central fountain. The marble patterns and flower beds draw upon various traditions from across the Islamic world.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=258



The main courtyard features an intricate geometric arrangement of channels that use gravity to carry water from a central fountain. The marble patterns and flower beds draw upon various traditions from across the Islamic world.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=258

March 29, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at McFarlin Memorial Auditorium in Dallas, Texas, USA

March 30, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas

April 2008

- National sports tryouts held at the Aga Khan University in Karachi, Pakistan, in preparation for the Golden Jubilee Games to be held in Nairobi, Kenya.



Athletes line-up to register at the Aga Khan University Sports Complex

Photo: Ismaili Council for Pakistan/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/asia

April 1-13, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at McCord Museum in Montreal, Quebec, Canada



Christophe Bouleau of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in discussion with guests at the opening of the Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the McCord Museum in Montreal.

Photo: Aliya Allibhai/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=279

April 1-13, 2008

- *Bridges that Unite* exhibition at the Nickel Arts Museum, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

April 5, 2008

- Performance of *A Mystical Journey* at York College Performing Arts Centre in Queens, New York, USA

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES

April 11, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Austin, Texas, for an eight-day visit to the United States.

Mawlana Hazar Imam, who was also accompanied by Princess Zahra, was received by Mayor Will Wynn of Austin, Deputy Secretary of State for Texas Coby Shorter III, other Texas dignitaries, and leaders of the US Jamat.

www.theismaili.org/?ID=282



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Princess Zahra walk under a sabre arch salute presented by the Sol Ross volunteers of Texas, as they disembark in Austin, Texas.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=282



Princess Zahra greets leaders of the US Jamat at Austin airport.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=282



Mawlana Hazar Imam, accompanied by Mayor Will Wynn of Austin, waving to the leaders of the Jamat at Austin airport.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=282&image=1

April 12, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam and Princess Zahra met with Governor Rick Perry at State Capitol.
- A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the University of Texas and the Aga Khan University that aims to strengthen collaborations between the two institutions.



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing the media prior to the signing of the MOU, as Governor Rick Perry of Texas looks on

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=282

The MOU provides for an expansion of the two Universities' existing programs relating to education and teaching about Muslim Histories and Cultures as well as identifies a number of other intellectual development areas for further initiatives, including architecture and human settlement; management, government, public policy and civil society; economic growth and development; education, science and technology; health sciences including joint research and training; and human development. Mawlana Hazar Imam stressed the importance of the developing countries' abilities to nurture and retain the talent of their people. He said:

"Developing countries in Asia and Africa urgently need to retain the best brains, to educate their most talented young men and women, if we are to bridge the gulf between industrialized states and developing countries."

AKDN Press Release

- At the signing ceremony, Mawlana Hazar Imam announced the establishment of the new Ismaili Centre at Houston, Texas.

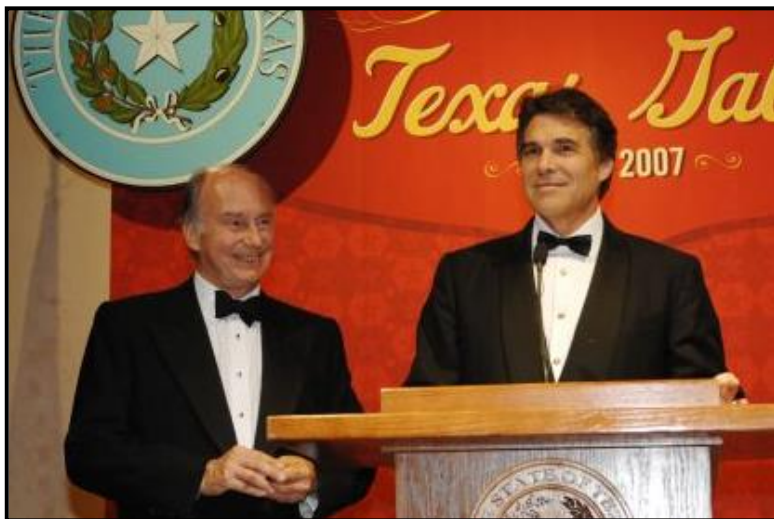
"As many of you know, Ismaili institutions everywhere are anchored in the community's Jamatkhanas, our places of congregation.....We are confident that the new Ismaili Centre in Houston, like the Centre in Dubai, will not only enhance the physical fabric of the city, but will also serve as a tangible symbol of the values we share with our good neighbours here in Texas."

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the Signing Ceremony Austin, Texas
April 12, 2008**

- The signing ceremony was followed by a lunch hosted by the University of Texas.

April 12, 2008

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam and Princess Zahra attended a Gala hosted by the Governor and First Lady of Texas in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam.



Governor Rick Perry of Texas introducing Mawlana Hazar Imam to the guests at the Texas State Gala

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=282

“The United States’ position as a world leader, in my view grows directly out of its accomplishments as a Knowledge Society - and this Knowledge - rightly applied - can continue to be a resource of enormous global value.

I thought it might be appropriate for me to say a few words at this point about the Ismaili community and my role as Imam. The Ismailis are a diverse community within the Shia branch of Islam, living in many parts of the world, and encompassing numerous ethnic and linguistic traditions. Their diversity reflects the profound pluralism of the Muslim world. The diverse Ismaili community has been united over many centuries by an allegiance to the living hereditary Imam of the time. Let me also emphasize the inseparable nature, within Islam, of faith and world: the intertwining of spiritual responsibility with the conduct of daily life. My responsibilities as Imam for interpreting the faith are thus accompanied by a strong engagement with issues relating to the quality of life, affirming the dignity of all peoples.”

**Excerpt from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the
dinner hosted by the Governor and First Lady of Texas
Austin, Texas
April 12, 2008**

April 13, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar at San Antonio Convention Center for the Jamat from Southwest and North Texas regions of USA. Princess Zahra was present for the Darbar. President Mahmoud Eboo of the Ismaili Council for USA submitted a loyalty address on behalf of the Jamat. This was the first of four Darbars held in the US.
- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam departed for California.



Leaders of the Jamat bid farewell to Mawlana Hazar Imam and Princess Zahra at San Antonio airport.

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=282

- At Van Nuys airport near Los Angeles, Mawlana Hazar Imam was received by Will Fox, Deputy Chief of Staff and Charlotte Schultz, Chief of Protocol from the office of the Governor of California, President Samia Rashid, and other leaders of the Ismaili Council for Western USA.



Mawlana Hazar Imam is greeted by Charlotte Schultz, Chief of Protocol and Will Fox, Deputy Chief of Staff from the office of the Governor of California, and President Samia Rashid and other leaders of the Ismaili Council for Western USA.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/280/USA-visit

April 14, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger at his office in Santa Monica.

Photo: Ismaili Mail
www.ismailimail.wordpress.com



- The Governor and First Lady Maria Shriver hosted lunch at the Getty Centre in Los Angeles.



Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and First Lady Maria Shriver are joined by guests in a standing ovation for Mawlana Hazar Imam at the luncheon

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=282

During the luncheon Governor Schwarzenegger praised the Aga Khan Development Network and Mawlana Hazar Imam's efforts to alleviate poverty, and promote architecture and culture. In his remarks, Hazar Imam thanked the Governor for his hospitality and stressed the need for the strengthening of human resources, which contribute towards the building of a civil society that supports fragile democracies.

www.theismaili.org/cms/280/United-States-of-America-visit

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was the guest of Mayor of Los Angeles, Antonio Villaraigosa, for dinner at Getty House, the official residence of the Mayor.

Mawlana Hazar Imam with the Mayor of Los Angeles, Antonio Villaraigosa

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?ID=282



April 15, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar at Los Angeles Convention Center for the West region of the US and the international Jamat.
- Following the Darbar, Mawlana Hazar Imam departed for Chicago, Illinois.
- Upon his arrival at Midway International Airport in Chicago, Mawlana Hazar Imam was received by Ms. Sheila Nix, Deputy Governor of Illinois, Mr. Jack Lavin, Director of Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and Ms. Eva Sieradzki, Director of International Relations and Protocol from the office of the Governor of Illinois, as well as leaders of the Jamats of Midwestern and Northeastern USA.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with Ms. Sheila Nix, Mr. Jack Lavin, and President Mahmoud Eboo of the Ismaili Council for USA

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=282

April 16, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with Governor Rod Blagojevich of Illinois and Mayor Richard Daley of Chicago, at the Aon Centre in Chicago.
- The Governor hosted a lunch at the Mid-America Club in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam.



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing guests at a luncheon hosted by Governor Rod Blagojevich of Illinois

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=290

"I am here to learn. I am also here to seek partnerships. The global knowledge society is led by the United States. And therefore we are looking for partnerships. Partnerships which are long, which are stable and which produce quantifiable results. We will work with anybody who wants to help us in social development, economic development, pluralism and more important than anything else, building civil society."

Excerpt from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the luncheon hosted in his honor by the Governor of Illinois Chicago, Illinois, April 16, 2008

- Later in the day, Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar at Donald E. Stephens Convention Center for Midwestern US and international Jamat

April 16-19, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at Metro Hall in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

April 17, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed for Atlanta, Georgia.
- At Fulton County Airport in Atlanta, Mawlana Hazar Imam was welcomed by Chris Young, Chief of Protocol for the State of Georgia, State Representative Melvin Everson, and leaders of the Jamat.

A Guard of Honour welcomes Mawlana Hazar Imam to the State of Georgia

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/280/United-States-of-America-visit



- Later in the day, Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar at Georgia International Convention Center in Atlanta for Southeast US and Florida Jamat.

April 18, 2008

- In the morning, Mawlana Hazar Imam met with Georgia Governor Sonny Purdue and First Lady Mary Perdue of Georgia at the Governor's Mansion.
- The Governor and First Lady hosted lunch in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam. Hazar Imam thanked the Governor for his warm welcome to Georgia and expressed his appreciation for the United States' relief efforts in Central Asia.



Mawlana Hazar Imam in conversation with Governor Sonny Purdue of Georgia

Photo: Gary Otte /The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=292

“Islam is a faith of generosity; it is not always seen as a faith of generosity. You have an ethic of generosity in the United States. Generosity is also an ethic of our faith. Our faith reminds us constantly to care for the poor, the weak and the marginalized in society.”

**Excerpt from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the luncheon hosted in his honor by the Governor and First Lady of Georgia
Atlanta, Georgia, April 18, 2008**

April 18, 2008

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam delivered the annual Peterson Lecture on *Global Education and the Developing World* to the Annual Meeting of the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) at their annual meeting. IBO was marking its fortieth anniversary.



Mawlana Hazar Imam delivering the Peterson Lecture. Seated behind him is Mr. Jeffrey Beard, Director General of the International Baccalaureate, Dr Monique Seefried, Chairman of the International Baccalaureate Board of Governors, and Salim Bhatia, Head of the Aga Khan Academies unit.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=292

“In the final analysis, the great problem of humankind in a global age will be to balance and reconcile the two impulses of which I have spoken: the quest for distinctive identity and the search for global coherence. What this challenge will ultimately require of us, is a deep sense of personal and intellectual humility, an understanding that diversity itself is a gift of the Divine, and that embracing diversity is a way to learn and to grow - not to dilute our identities but to enrich our self-knowledge.

What is required goes beyond mere tolerance or sympathy or sensitivity - emotions which can often be willed into existence by a generous soul. True cultural sensitivity is something far more rigorous, and even more intellectual than that. It implies a readiness to study and to learn across cultural barriers, an ability to see others as they see themselves. This is a challenging task, but if we do that, then we will discover that the universal and the particular can indeed be reconciled. As the Quran states: "God created male and female and made you into communities and tribes, so that you may know one another." (49.13). It is our differences that both define us and connect us."

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
“The Peterson Lecture”
Atlanta, Georgia, April 18, 2008**

- Following the lecture, Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Board of Governors of the IBO as well as educators and teachers invited to the event.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the Jamati institutions of the USA.

April 19, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam concluded his eight-day Golden Jubilee visit to the USA. Leaders of the US Jamat gathered at the airport to bid Hazar Imam an emotional farewell.



President Mahmoud Eboo of the Ismaili Council for USA and his wife Karima Eboo bid farewell to Mawlana Hazar Imam

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=292

April 20-25, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at Ontario Science Centre in Toronto, Ontario, Canada

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO WEST AFRICA

April 23, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Bamako, Mali. He was accompanied by Prince Rahim, Prince Hussain, and Princess Khaliya. Mawlana Hazar Imam and his family were received at the airport by the President of the Republic, Amadou Toumani Touré, senior government ministers, and representatives of the Aga Khan Development Network. Mawlana Hazar Imam held meetings with these officials.



Mawlana Hazar Imam, Prime Minister of Mali Modibo Sidibé meeting with Heads of AKDN and Government leaders

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_mali_may2008.asp

- Mawlana Hazar Imam attended State dinner hosted in his honour. At the dinner, Mawlana Hazar Imam was awarded the Grand Cross of the National Order of Mali, the country's highest honour, by President Touré.

April 24, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam, Prince Rahim, Prince Hussain, and Princess Khaliya visited Mopti, where they were welcomed by President Touré. Hazar Imam and President Touré officiated over the inauguration of the Komoguel I Mosque, which had been restored by the AKTC.

“The history of the Ummah has reason to remember the prestige and influence of Mali’s great mosques. At the height of the empire, in the eighth century, it was from these great seats of learning, these veritable centres of intellectual and spiritual activity, that Islam spread across Africa . It is therefore an immense privilege for me to be able to restore these magnificent mosques..... the great tradition of mud brick building has been revived and the skills acquired can henceforth be put into practice in the construction of all mud brick buildings, whether intended for religious or secular purposes.....My hope is that the regeneration of the areas around the mosques will mean the preservation and protection of the heritage of our glorious past which deserves our respect and admiration. And it is our duty as Muslims to contribute to and to encourage this effort, as the Holy Qu’ran reminds us by commanding us to leave the world in a better condition than that in which we received it, and instructing us to help one another in the performance of good works.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the Inauguration of the Great Mosque of Mopti**

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam travelled to Timbuktu. Mawlana Hazar Imam was awarded an honorary degree *Doctor Honoris Causa* from the University of Sankoré as well as an Honorary Citizenship to the Community of Timbuktu by the Imam of the Djingarey Ber Mosque and other local leaders.

“I feel extremely humble, since there can be no greater honour than to be accorded citizenship of a city that has always been renowned for its dedication to the quest for knowledge. Amid such a worthy and learned gathering I am reminded of the verses of the Holy Qur’an in which Allah reminds us that He gives the blessing of wisdom to whoever He wills, but only those with intelligence remember that He has done so..... this university has been the alma mater of the town’s 180 Qu’ranic schools and the birthplace of the many scholarly works which became uniquely influential in Africa during the Middle Ages. The sum of all that knowledge has been preserved in the richly-stocked libraries of Timbuktu which house thousands of manuscripts, most of them written by scholars born in the town. This tradition of learning and the transmission of knowledge is at the heart of Islam and the practice of the faith.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam following the presentation
of the title of Honorary Citizen of the Republic of Timbuktu and an Honorary Doctorate from the
University of Sankoré, Timbuktu, Mali, April 24, 2008**

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam returned to Bamako.

April 25, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam and Prince Rahim met with government Ministers of Mali in the morning.
- In the afternoon, President Touré accompanied Mawlana Hazar Imam to the inauguration ceremony for the Bamako Park.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted a reception for members of the diplomatic corps, international organizations, and senior government officials in Mali.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and President Amadou Toumani Touré of Mali review a model of the Bamako Park project with Luis Monreal, Director General of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

www.akdn.org/photos_mali_bamako_april2008.asp

April 26, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed Mali for Burkina Faso.
- At the airport in Ouagadougou, Mawlana Hazar Imam and his family were greeted by Prime Minister Tertius Zongo, senior government Ministers, and representatives of AKDN.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam and Prince Rahim met with President Blaise Compaoré and government ministers to review the work of the Aga Khan Development Network in Burkina Faso.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam spoke at a special seminar of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture held to celebrate three past Burkinabé recipients of the Award . The Seminar was organised by the Burkinabé Ministry of Culture and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya attended the seminar.



Farrokh Derakhshani, Director of the Aga Khan Award with Mawlana Hazar Imam and representatives of the Ministry of Culture

Photo: Arnhel de Serra/AKDN

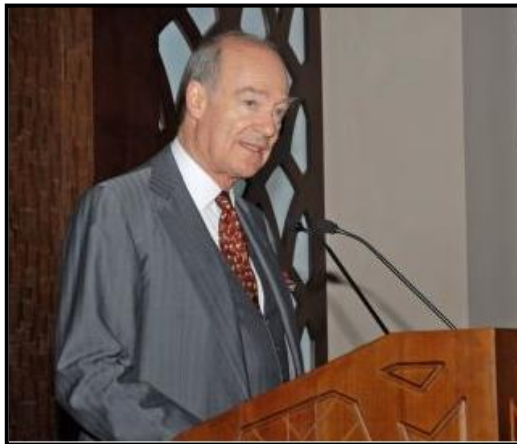
www.akdn.org/photos_burkina_april2008.asp

April 26-28, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the University of Waterloo School of Architecture in Cambridge, Ontario, Canada

April 27, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam and Prince Rahim visited the Susuco sugar plant in Banforo; the plant is owned by Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development.
- Prince Amyn opened the Ismaili Economic Forum, a Golden Jubilee International Programme, in Dubai, UAE. Approximately 270 delegates from 25 countries, participated in the three-day conference held at the Ismaili Centre Dubai.



Prince Amyn addressing the Ismaili Economic Forum at the Ismaili Centre Dubai

Photo: Courtesy Ismaili Council for the UAE/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/197/Ismaili-Economic-Forum

"I hope that this Economic Forum, in this special Jubilee year, will reach new levels of success in identifying opportunities, in analysing and meeting the challenges that lie ahead. In our world, where both the workings and effects of globalisation are evolving and are as yet neither fully evident nor fully understood, it is important, I believe, that Ismaili professionals and businesses around the world review how best they can work together, how our traditions of collaboration can be given new life and new, original, productive forms of expression."

Excerpt from Speech by Prince Amyn at the First Ismaili Economic Forum
The Ismaili Centre Dubai, UAE
April 26, 2008

April 28-29, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire, where he held meetings with Government officials. Hazar Imam also launched the Premiere Agence de Microfinance (PAMF). The Agency will begin operations in northern Côte d'Ivoire.

PAMF will serve disadvantaged communities through a network that is expected to grow to over eight branches by 2012. Loans are primarily intended for income-generating activities, and are designed to improve agricultural productivity, acquire livestock, and establish small enterprises in rural and urban areas.

Two microfinance institutions were launched in Mali and Burkina Faso in 2006.

www.akdn.org/news/2008april23_mali.htm

During their visit, Mawlana Hazar Imam and Prince Rahim also inspected Filtisac Côte d'Ivoire — a manufacture of jute, polypropylene and polyethylene bags for the agricultural trade. Filtisac is one of the oldest entities of the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development in the region, and Mawlana Hazar Imam was present at its opening in 1965.

www.theismaili.org/cms/297/West-Africa-visit



Mawlana Hazar Imam touring the jute bag manufacturing plant at Filtisac

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

www.akdn.org/photos_coteivoire_april2008.asp

May 1, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed Côte d'Ivoire for Senegal.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam held meetings with government officials in Dakar, Senegal. In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Dakar, concluding his Golden Jubilee visit to West Africa.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and President Abdoulaye Wade in Dakar, Senegal

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN

www.akdn.org/photos_africa_april2008.asp

May 2-5, 2008

- Canadian Ismaili Games held in Vancouver, British Columbia in preparation for the Golden Jubilee Games in Nairobi, Kenya.

May 11, 2008

- The Portuguese Jamat celebrated the launch of the three new publications by the IIS at the Ismaili Centre in Lisbon, which featured keynote addresses by Professor Azim Nanji, Director of the IIS, and Dr. Omar Ali-de-Unzaga, Academic Co-ordinator of the IIS Qur'anic Studies Unit.

May 11-19, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the Pendulum Gallery in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO INDIA

May 12, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in New Delhi, where he was received at the airport by the Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. E. Ahmad, the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Shivshankar Menon, the Chief of Protocol for the Government of India, Mr. Sunil Lal, and leaders of the Jamat in India.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Minister of State for External Affairs, Mr. E. Ahmad, the Honourable Vice President, Mr. Mohammad Hamid Ansari, the Prime Minister, Dr. Manmohan Singh and the Chairperson of the ruling United Progressive Alliance, Mrs. Sonia Gandhi.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the Vice President of India.



Mawlana Hazar Imam meeting with Indian Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/321/India-visit

May 13, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam visited the Sundar Nursery and Nila Gumbad.

In addition to housing and protecting hundreds of plants, the Sundar Nursery also includes a number of ancient monuments, many of which date back to the Mughal period. The Aga Khan Trust for Culture is currently working on the preservation of these monuments.

www.theismaili.org/cms/321/India-visit

May 13, 2008

- Later in the day, Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Honourable President of India, Mrs. Pratibha Patil and with the Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Lal Krishna Advani.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted a reception for the diplomatic corps of India.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with the Honourable President of India, Mrs. Pratibha Patil

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/321/India-visit

May 14, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam travelled to Hyderabad, where he was greeted at the airport by Government representatives and leaders of the Jamat. The Jamat lined the streets around the airport to greet the Imam.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Dr. Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy and the Governor of the state, Mr. Narayan Dutt Tiwari.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam also visited the site of the Aga Khan Academy in Hyderabad, where he had laid the foundation stone of the Academy in 2006.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam flew to Mumbai, where he was greeted by members of the Jamat.



Mawlana Hazar Imam waves at members of the Jamat

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/321/India-visit

May 14-16, 2008

- The International Conference on School Safety was held in Islamabad, Pakistan. This Golden Jubilee initiative aimed to discuss issues related to school safety across the globe and to come up with recommendations for action at national and regional levels. The Aga Khan Development Network, represented by Aga Khan Planning and Building Service, Pakistan and Focus Humanitarian Assistance, Pakistan, was the main sponsor of the Conference.

www.schoolsafetyconference.org/Index.html

May 15, 2008

- In the morning Mawlana Hazar Imam visited the Prince Aly Khan Hospital in Mumbai. Established in 1945, the hospital was named after Hazar Imam's father, Prince Aly Khan, who donated the land upon which it was built. Mawlana Hazar Imam toured the facility, and also met with the Senior Management of the hospital and the Directors of the Aga Khan Health Services in India.
- From the hospital, Mawlana Hazar Imam went to the Diamond Jubilee School in Mumbai. Originally established in 1947 following the Diamond Jubilee of Imam Sultan Mahomed Shah, the school was last visited by Mawlana Hazar Imam in 1958. In 2007, it moved to a new site which was inaugurated by Princess Zahra. Mawlana Hazar Imam reviewed the school facilities and met briefly with the Directors of the Aga Khan Education Service in India

www.theismaili.org/cms/321/India-visit



Mawlana Hazar Imam smiles as he looks at photographs of his visit to the Diamond Jubilee High School in 1958, and Princess Zahra's inauguration of the new school in 2007

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=328

- The Ismaili community in the Democratic Republic of Congo hosted a commemorative dinner in Kinshasa. The event provided a forum to exhibit the work of the Ismaili Imamate in the country. Guests included the Minister of State for the Interior (Home Affairs), Special Representatives of the President of the Republic, Special Advisors on Political, Diplomatic and Economic Matters, as well as other senior political figures, diplomats and representatives from the Ummah

www.theismaili.org/cms/343/Congolese-Jamat-hosts-a-dinner-in-celebration-of-the-Golden-Jubilee

May 16, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Mumbai early in the morning for Ahmedabad, where he met with the Chief Minister of Gujarat, Mr. Narendra Modi and the Governor of the state, Mr. Nawal Kishore Sharma.



Mawlana Hazar Imam meets with the Governor of Gujarat, Mr Nawal Kishore Sharma, in Ahmedabad

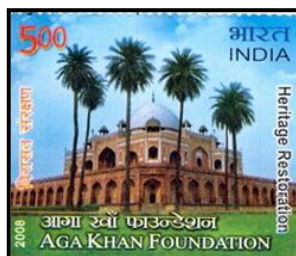
Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=328&image=6

May 16, 2008

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam travelled by helicopter to the small Gujarat town of Sidhpur for the first of three Golden Jubilee Darbars. The Jamat from across the state of Gujarat, had travelled to Sidhpur for this Darbar which was held at a site specially constructed to accommodate over 50,000 people.
- After the Darbar, Mawlana Hazar Imam returned to Mumbai.

May 17, 2008

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam granted a Golden Jubilee Darbar to the Jamats of Western India who had gathered at the Bombay Exhibition Centre in Goregaon.
- Commemorative Postage Stamps issued by India Post to commemorate the work of Aga Khan Foundation's in India.



<http://www.indiapost.gov.in/Stamps2008.html>

May 18, 2008

- In the afternoon, the Jamats of South, Central, North, and East India gathered in Mumbai for the third Golden Jubilee Darbar of Mawlana Hazar Imam's visit to India.
- In the evening, the Jamati institutions of India hosted a dinner in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam.

May 19, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Mumbai for Dhaka, Bangladesh.

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO BANGLADESH

May 19, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Dhaka, where he was received by the Honourable Chief Advisor of Bangladesh, Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, Government ministers, and Jamati leaders.
- From the airport, Mawlana Hazar Imam went to the National Martyr's Memorial at Savar to lay a wreath.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with Chief Adviser Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed, government officials, and leaders of the Jamat

Photo: Ismaili Mail/bdnews24.com
www.ismailimail.wordpress.com

May 19, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met the Chief Advisor of Bangladesh at his office to discuss the work of the Aga Khan Development Network in Bangladesh.
- In the evening, the Chief Advisor unveiled a set of postage stamps commemorating the Golden Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Imamat.



http://www.mediabd.com/newissue/show_country.php?country_id=1

- Thereafter, Mawlana Hazar Imam attended a State banquet hosted in his honour. In his address, Hazar Imam said:

“Economic value is no longer tied to how much land one controls – or how many machines or factories one owns. Within our lifetimes, predominantly “Agricultural Societies” and “Industrial Societies” of the past have been joined – and sometimes supplanted – by what many call the “Knowledge Society,” propelled by the digital revolution, and focusing on the creation and management of information. In a Knowledge Society, the most productive investments we can make are investments in education. And education is another priority we share with the Bangladeshi people.

Education has always been a central theme in Islamic life- and in the life of my family, going back a thousand years, to my forefathers, the Fatimid Imam-Caliphs of Egypt. My Grandfather built on this tradition by founding a network of some 300 educational institutions, including Aligarh University in India. And we renewed this commitment more recently through the founding of The Aga Khan University and the University of Central Asia.”

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the State Banquet,
Dhaka, Bangladesh
May 19, 2008**

May 20, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam presided over the foundation stone laying ceremony of the first Aga Khan Academy in Bangladesh. The Academy in Bashundhara District in Dhaka will eventually be part of a network of 18 centres of educational excellence in a total of 14 countries across Africa, Central and South Asia and the Middle East.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Dr. Hossain Zillur Rahman, Bangladesh's Education Adviser, unveil the plaque commemorating the foundation stone laying ceremony of the Aga Khan Academy in Dhaka

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_bangladesh_may200

In his address, Hazar Imam stated that Bangladesh is the first Muslim country to host an Aga Khan Academy.

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam met with Bangladesh's Honourable Adviser for Foreign Affairs, the Honourable Adviser for Finance, the Honourable Adviser for Religious Affairs and the Honourable Adviser for Education.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted a Banquet in honour of the Chief Advisor of Bangladesh, Dr Fakhruddin Ahmed, which was preceded by a reception for the Bangladesh diplomatic corps.

May 21, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Honourable President of Bangladesh, Iajuddin Ahmed at the Bangabhaban Palace.
- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam presided over the foundation ceremony of the Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre in Dhaka, in the presence of Bangladesh's Honourable Adviser for Foreign Affairs Dr. Iftekhhar Ahmed Chowdhury.



Mawlana Hazar Imam addresses guests at the foundation ceremony of the Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre in Dhaka

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=333

May 21, 2008

In his address, Mawlana Hazar Imam said the Jamatkhana will be:

“.. a place of peace and tranquillity, filled with a spirit of humility and prayer. It will not be a place for conceit or self-satisfaction, but rather a place for search and enlightenment. It will be a place where men and women in this pluralist country can help strengthen those common bonds which reflect our common challenges and which will shape our common destiny.”

**Excerpt from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam
at the Foundation Ceremony of Dhaka Jamatkhana,
Dhaka, Bangladesh
May 21, 2008**

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the Jamati institutions of Bangladesh.

May 22, 2008

- In the morning, Mawlana Hazar Imam granted a Darbar to the Jamat of Bangladesh.
- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam departed from Dhaka.

Mawlana Hazar Imam bids farewell to the Jamat as he prepares to leave Dhaka

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/331/Bangladesh-visit

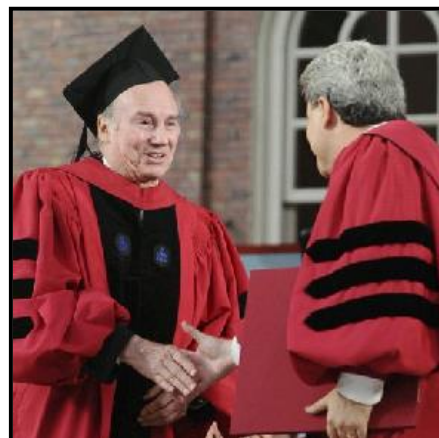


May 23-26, 2008

- Athletes representing USA, Australia, and New Zealand gathered in Meadville, Pennsylvania, USA to train for the Golden Jubilee Games to be held in Nairobi, Kenya.

June 5, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam received an Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, during the Commencement Ceremony.



Mawlana Hazar Imam receiving an Honorary Degree from Marc Goodheart, Secretary of the university
Photo: Robert Spencer Getty Images/
Ismaili Mail
www.ismailimail.wordpress.com

June 8, 2008

- *Friends of the Environment* Competition held in Lahore, Pakistan

The Aga Khan Planning and Building Service Pakistan held an art competition titled *Friends of the Environment* at a local hotel. The event was held as part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations.

June 11-22, 2008

- *Bridges that Unite* exhibition at the Roundhouse Community Arts and Recreation Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

June 12, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam attended the one-day International Donors Conference – Aid for Afghanistan, held in Paris France. Over 65 countries and more than a dozen international organisations met at to pledge funds for Afghanistan and review their development strategy for the violence-plagued state. In his speech to the delegation, Mawlana Hazar Imam confirmed that the Aga Khan Development Network would be making a \$100m commitment over the next five years to support Afghanistan.

Later, Mawlana Hazar Imam, French Foreign Minister, Bernard Kouchner, Afghan Foreign Minister, Rangin Dadfar Spanta, and the Director of the French Development Agency, Jean-Michel Severino signed a letter of intent to further develop and train medical and paramedic personnel for the French Medical Institute for Children (FMIC) in Kabul.

www.akdn.org/news/2008june12_photos.html



French President Nicolas Sarkozy, center, welcomes U.S. First Lady Laura Bush, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Mawlana Hazar Imam, and Afghan President Hamid Karzai, at the opening of the conference

www.foxnews.com/photoessay/0,4644,4221,00.html

June 18, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam was officially installed as an Associate Foreign Member of France's Académie des Beaux Arts. The official ceremony, held under the dome of the Institut de France in Paris, was attended by the Académie's President, Yves Millecamps and its Perpetual Secretary, Arnaud d'Hauterives, as well as other members of the Académie and representatives of civil society and the diplomatic corps. The French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, was represented by his top aide on cultural affairs, Mrs. Isabelle Mariani

www.akdn.org/news/2008june18.html



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing the audience

Photo: Pierre Verdy/AFP/Getty Images/Ismaili Mail
www.ismailimail.wordpress.com

June 21, 2008

▪ CIVIC Programme, Canada

In the spirit of service, the CIVIC program, which stands for “Challenging Ismaili Volunteers In Communities”, was introduced as a Golden Jubilee youth initiative that allowed youth between the ages of 13 to 25 to become “ambassadors” for the spirit of voluntary service. The CIVIC day volunteer activity focused on one or more themes which reflected initiatives of the AKDN, including Health, Environment, Humanitarian Assistance and Architecture.

Region	Theme	Partner Organization(s)	Activity
British Columbia	Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The City of Vancouver▪ The Vancouver Board of Parks and Recreation▪ The Stanley Park Ecology Society▪ University of British Columbia Farm▪ Evergreen-Chubb Creek▪ Byrne Creek Streamkeepers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Park Restoration
Prairies	Humanitarian Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mustard Seed Ministry▪ Habitat for Humanity▪ Ismaili Seniors Action team▪ Aspen Family and Community Network Society▪ Boys and Girls Club of Calgary▪ Calgary Drop-In and Rehab Center	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Serving meals to homeless• Building fences and landscaping for new homes• Assisting seniors and homeless families
Edmonton	Humanitarian Assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Habitat for Humanity	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Building sheds for homes
Ottawa	Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ City of Ottawa – Adopt a Park Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Park Restoration
Ontario	Humanitarian Assistance, Environment		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Helping at the Becel Ride for Heart event• Interactive story-telling sessions with seniors▪ Park clean up and tree planting
Quebec and Maritimes	Environment		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Restoration activities at local schools

June 23-29, 2008

- Golden Jubilee Games held in Nairobi, Kenya. Over 1,200 athletes from twenty seven countries participated in the games.



Performers at the Opening Ceremony of the Golden Jubilee Games in Nairobi

Photo: Ejaz S. Karamali/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/gjg

June 23-July 1, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the Alberta Legislature in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

June 29, 2008

- Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya were present on the last day of the Golden Jubilee Games in Nairobi, Kenya. They also attended the closing ceremonies in the evening.



Prince Hussain and Princess Khaliya at the Golden Jubilee Games in Nairobi

Photo: Moez Visram/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/imagetail/1491

June 30, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam received an Honorary Doctorate of Law degree from National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He was cited for “outstanding contributions to the elimination of global poverty, the advancement of women, the promotion of Islamic culture and the furthering of pluralistic values in society.”

Mawlana Hazar Imam is the first Muslim to receive this honorary degree from NUI, Maynooth.



Mawlana Hazar Imam, Princess Zahra, and Dr. Garret FitzGerald, Chancellor of the National University of Ireland in the courtyard of the University

Photo:Maxwell/AKDN
www.akdn.org/photos_ireland_june2008.asp

HAZAR IMAM'S VISIT TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

July 2, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in London, England, in the afternoon, to commence his seven-day Golden Jubilee visit to the United Kingdom. He was greeted at the airport by officials of the British Government and leaders of the UK Jamat.



Leaders of the UK Jamat welcoming Mawlana Hazar Imam

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/484/

July 3, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the British Government's Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, the Right Honourable David Miliband MP at the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.
- Mawlana Hazar Imam was a guest of honour at a luncheon hosted by the Right Honourable Jack Straw, Secretary of State for Justice and the Lord Chancellor.
- After lunch Mawlana Hazar Imam met with British Prime Minister the Right Honourable Gordon Brown.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with British Prime Minister, the Right Honourable Gordon Brown at 10 Downing Street

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/484/

- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam hosted a reception for diplomats and senior government officials, followed by an Imamat dinner attended by political and civil society leaders from across the United Kingdom.

"In 1957, there was only one Ismaili space here for congregational prayer - and that was on leased premises! Creating places of prayer as centres for community life was fundamental to ensuring the cohesion of the community, and there are now over 40 such places. Among them, of course, a central focal point is The Ismaili Centre, located in South Kensington. Having Baroness Thatcher with us tonight is particularly significant because The Ismaili Centre was opened by her in 1985.

Like other Ismaili Centres around the world, the London Centre serves not only as a gathering place for Ismailis, but as an active participant in local society, sponsoring a variety of cultural initiatives - exhibitions, lectures and other public events. These efforts reflect our pride in our heritage and our eagerness to share it with others."

**Excerpts from Speech by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the Banquet
London, UK
July 3, 2008**

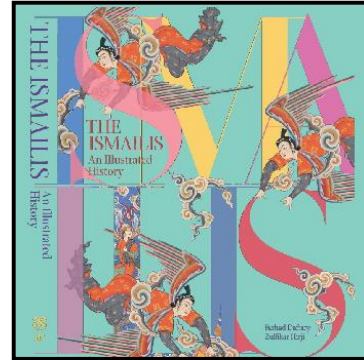
July 4, 2008

- In the morning, Mawlana Hazar Imam met with faculty and staff from The Institute of Ismaili Studies and the Aga Khan University's Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations at the Ismaili Centre. During the reception, the leaders of the IIS presented Mawlana Hazar Imam with a copy of their latest publication titled *The Ismailis: An Illustrated History*.



Professor Azim Nanji and Dr. Farhad Daftary of the IIS present Mawlana Hazar Imam with a copy of *The Ismailis: An Illustrated History*

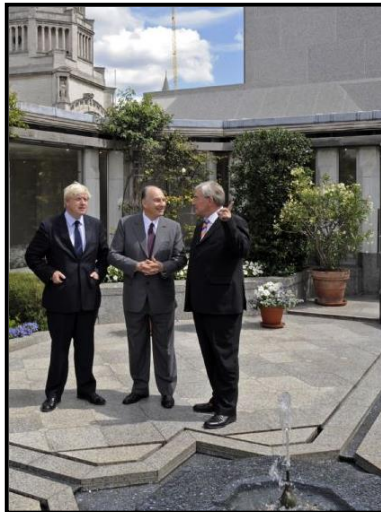
Photo: Gary Otte /The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/484/United-Kingdom-visit



The Ismailis: An Illustrated History, a publication on the origins and history of the Ismailis

Photo: The Institute of Ismaili Studies
www.iis.ac.uk

- Later in the day, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, visited the Ismaili Centre to meet with Mawlana Hazar Imam.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Mayor Boris Johnson (on Imam's right) visit the roof-top garden of the Ismaili Centre London

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/484/United-Kingdom-visit

July 4-10, 2008

- The Historic Cities Programme exhibition at the Headquarters Jamatkhana in Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

July 5, 2008

- In the afternoon, Mawlana Hazar Imam granted Darbar to the Jamat of United Kingdom and the countries under its jurisdiction, as well as members of the international Jamat, at the ExCeL centre in London. President Zauhar Meghji of the Ismaili Council for the United Kingdom delivered the loyalty address.



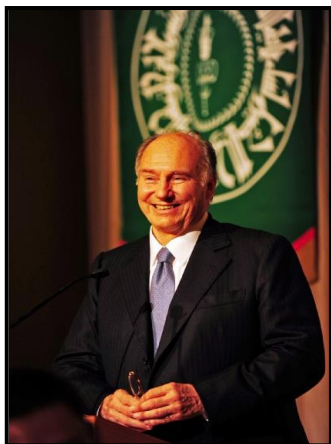
Mawlana Hazar Imam in conversation with volunteers as he departs the ExCeL centre following the Darbar

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/cms/484/United-kingdom-visit

- Inaugural Canadian National Ismaili Students Total Achievement and Recognition (I-STAR) Awards gala held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Calgary, Alberta. Dr. Tom Kessinger, the Deputy Chairman, Board of the Aga Khan Development Network, and General Manager of Aga Khan Foundation, was the keynote speaker.

July 6, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Ismaili Leaders' International Forum at the Ismaili Centre in London.
- In the evening, Mawlana Hazar Imam was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the Jamati institutions of the United Kingdom, held at the Banqueting House in Whitehall.



Mawlana Hazar Imam addressing the guests during the Jamati institutional dinner

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485



Mawlana Hazar Imam is accompanied by President Zauhar Meghji of the Ismaili Council for the United Kingdom, as he leaves the Jamati institutional dinner

Photo: Zahur Ramji/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485

July 7, 2008

- In the morning Mawlana Hazar Imam met with the Right Honourable Douglas Alexander, Secretary of State for International Development at the Department for International Development.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with the Right Honourable Douglas Alexander

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485

- In the afternoon the Right Honourable David Cameron, Leader of the Opposition, met with Mawlana Hazar Imam at the Ismaili Centre.
- In the evening Her Majesty the Queen hosted a black-tie dinner in honour of Mawlana Hazar Imam at Buckingham Palace. The Duke of Edinburgh, the Prince of Wales, the Duchess of Cornwall, and the Duke of York from the Royal Family, and Prince Ayn, Princess Yasmin, Princess Zahra, Prince Rahim, Prince Hussain, and Princess Khaliya from the Imam's family were also present at the dinner.



Mawlana Hazar Imam presents Prince Hussain to Her Majesty the Queen. Prince Ayn, and Prince Rahim prepare to be greeted by His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh and the Duchess of Cornwall, as Princess Yasmin looks on.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485



Mawlana Hazar Imam together with Her Majesty the Queen and His Royal Highness The Duke of Edinburgh at a dinner hosted in Hazar Imam's honour at Buckingham Palace to commemorate his Golden Jubilee.

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485

July 8, 2008

- In the morning, leaders of the UK Jamat gathered at the London Heliport to bid farewell to Mawlana Hazar Imam, who departed by helicopter.



Leaders of the Jamat gather at the London Heliport as Mawlana Hazar Imam prepares to depart the UK

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485&image=36



Mawlana Hazar Imam conveys his appreciation to the police escort prior to departing the UK

Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili
www.theismaili.org/?id=485&image=36

July 10, 2008

- Mawlana Hazar Imam arrived in Lisbon, Portugal, in the afternoon. Leaders of the Jamat gathered at the airport to welcome Mawlana Hazar Imam, who was received by Alberto Costa, Minister of Justice, on behalf of the Government of Portugal.

Mawlana Hazar Imam receives a guard of honour upon his arrival in Lisbon. Ambassador Manuel Corte Real, Head of State Protocol received Mawlana Hazar Imam

Photo: Gary Otte/AKDN



- From the airport, Mawlana Hazar Imam went to the Presidential Palace for a meeting with President Cavaco Silva. Following their meeting, the Portuguese President hosted a lunch in honour of Hazar Imam.
- Later in the afternoon, the United Nations High Representative for the Alliance of Civilizations, Jorge Sampaio, met with Mawlana Hazar Imam at his hotel.



Mawlana Hazar Imam with the President of the Portuguese Republic, Cavaco Silva
Photo: Gary Otte/The Ismaili

Events from July 11, 2008 onwards will be included in *Memories* Volume II

ADDITIONAL GOLDEN JUBILEE INITIATIVES

- Lifelong Learning Programme initiated by the Ismaili Council for the European Union (ICEU) to equip the European Jamat with the skills to adapt and continue learning in order to take advantage of emerging opportunities. The ICEU Lifelong Learning programme has launched two initiatives that reflect the broad perspectives and approaches to learning.

The first initiative, launched during the Golden Jubilee, is the Certificate in Lifelong Learning, being offered in partnership with the London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE). The LSE-awarded certificate encourages learners to engage in a wide variety of learning and skill development, and also provides accreditation to courses inside and outside the Jamati institutional framework. Over 280 learners, representing a wide variety of backgrounds from across Europe, are currently participating in the Certificate programme.

A second initiative, the Language Learning Lab, has begun its pilot testing and aims to provide the European Jamat with a platform to engage with cultural diversity through the development of language skills.

www.theismaili.org/cms/339/Lifelong-learning-A-priority-for-the-European-Jamat

- The Heritage Discovery Programme (HDP) is an international Golden Jubilee initiative that facilitates travel and learning, explores heritage and history, and nurtures frontierless brotherhood and ambassadorial skills among young Ismailis.

<https://heritagediscoveryprogramme.org>

- DVD produced by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture titled *Let The Beauty We Love Be What We Do* (2008).

“Twenty years later, the Trust has shown how culture can be a catalyst for development even in the poorest and most remote areas of the globe. From Afghanistan to Zanzibar, from India to Mali, the Trust’s support to historic communities demonstrates how conservation and revitalisation of the cultural heritage...can provide a springboard for social development.”

Mawlana Hazar Imam