



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

July 11, 2013

Greetings from the Prime Minister

I am delighted to join with Ismaili Muslims in Canada and around the world in marking Khushiali (Imamat Day), commemorating the 56th anniversary of the accession of His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan as 49th Imam of the Shi'a Ismaili Muslims.

This wonderful celebration is an occasion to honour a truly benevolent global leader. The Aga Khan is widely admired for his exemplary leadership as a dedicated champion of international development, pluralism and tolerance. These values resonate strongly in Canadian society and we were proud to grant His Highness an honorary citizenship – one of only five in our country's history.

As a testament to our country's great success as a pluralistic society, the Aga Khan selected Ottawa as the site of the Global Centre for Pluralism. We will soon welcome the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, which will house some of the most important works of Islamic art in the world and build on His Highness's munificent legacy. I know Canada's vibrant Ismaili community is proud of our country's strong support for the Aga Khan's vision of a better world.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, I offer my warmest congratulations to His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan on this joyous occasion. Please accept my best wishes for a memorable celebration.

Khushiali Mubarak!

*The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada*