

SFUSIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
ENGAGING THE WORLDCENTRE FOR THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF
MUSLIM SOCIETIES AND CULTURES

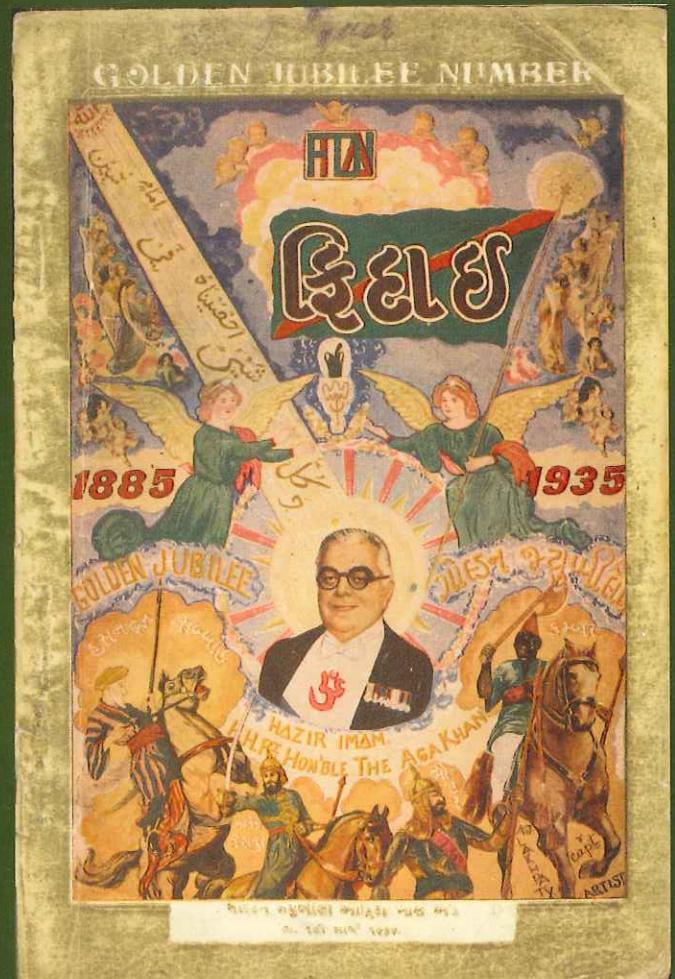
Dr. Ali Asani is Professor of Indo-Muslim and Islamic Religion and Cultures at Harvard University, where he is also the Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations and Director of the Prince Alwaleed bin Talal Islamic Studies Program. Born in Nairobi, Kenya, and educated at Harvard, Dr. Asani is the author or editor of numerous books on Islamic devotional traditions, including the ground-breaking *Ecstasy and Enlightenment: The Ismaili Devotional Literature of South Asia* (London: I.B. Tauris, 2002).

Shamshu Jamal is a distinguished composer, teacher, and musician, with an emphasis on the full range of global Ismaili music, including ginans, ghazals, and bhajans. Educated musically in Tanzania under his father, the late Noordin Jamal, a renowned ginan interpreter, Mr. Jamal relocated to Canada in 1973 where he has been active in expanding the expression and understanding of this pivotal music. He has recorded numerous collections of ginans, including the influential *Jubilee ke Naghme* (1982).

ILLUSTRATION FRONT: Cover of *Fidai*, Golden Jubilee Number, March 1937 (Mumbai: The Kandi Moholla Ismailia Students' Library, Fidai Printing Press, 1937).

ILLUSTRATION INSIDE: Photograph of Alwaez Abualy Alibhai Aziz, Mombasa, 1947.

Al-Waez Abualy Alibhai Aziz Collection

**Fidai Magazine, 1937**



**Abualy Alibhai Aziz
(1919-2008)**

Al-Waez Abualy Alibhai was perhaps the most renowned and influential preacher-scholar of the Ismaili community in the post-World War II era. (Ismaili preachers were called "missionaries," and Abualy Alibhai was known to many in the Ismaili community as Missionary.) Born in Amritsar, India, he attended the University of Bombay, at which time he began his preaching career and met and married Tajbib, daughter of Mohamed Muradali Juma, a senior missionary in the Mumbai Jamat. In 1945 Imam Sultan Mohamed Shah (Aga Khan III) directed him to set up and run the Ismaili Mission Centre in Dar es Salaam, Tanganyika (now part of Tanzania). A passionate scholar, traveller, collector of books and manuscripts, and a reciter and translator of ginans, Abualy Alibhai delivered more than 2000 sermons to Jamats all over the world. In 1985 he emigrated to Burnaby, British Columbia. He authored several books, tracts and articles on Ismaili history and faith, his magnum opus, written when he was in his eighties, being a study of Pir Satgur Nur, "Miracles and Gnosis" (forthcoming).

Al-Waez Abualy Alibhai Aziz Collection

Al-Waez Abualy's library is a monumental collection of over 12,000 items indispensable for scholarly research into the history and evolution of Satpanth Ismailism and the complex relationship between India and East Africa. Reflecting his wide intellectual interests, the collection consists of several hundred Khojki and Gujarati texts (primarily ginans and farmans); Urdu manuscripts and lithographs on Islam and Urdu literature; English-language texts on a range of subjects; Arabic Fatimid manuscripts; Persian poetry; scarce community magazines going back to pre-Partition India; several thousand documents relating to community issues; Abualy Alibhai's own writings; Abualy Alibhai's sermons recorded on various media; miscellaneous items.

THE ABUALY FAMILY

has the pleasure of inviting you to celebrate

The Dedication of the Al-Waez Abualy Alibhai Aziz Collection

Co-sponsored by
THE CENTRE FOR THE COMPARATIVE
STUDY OF MUSLIM SOCIETIES AND
CULTURES (SFU)
and the
W. A. C. BENNETT LIBRARY (SFU)

Saturday, October 5, 2013, 2pm

HALPERN CENTRE
SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
8888 UNIVERSITY DRIVE, BURNABY, BC

- 2:00 pm DEDICATION CEREMONY
- 2:20 pm ADDRESS BY DR. ALI ASANI
"The Ismaili Literary Traditions of South Asia"
- 2:45 pm GINAN RECITAL BY SHAMSHU JAMAL AND
MUSICAL GROUP
- 3:00 pm RECEPTION AND EXHIBIT OF BOOKS AND
MANUSCRIPTS

RSVP by Monday, September 16.
Please send email to ccmsmc@sfu.ca or telephone 778.782.5278.

Directions and parking information enclosed.