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# Commemorating the opening ceremony of the Ismaili Centre, Toronto & Aga Khan Museum

Toronto, ON, Canada • September 12 2014

*Learning Through Aesthetic Experience*  
the beautiful cradle of friendship  
radiates the legacy of **true** enlightenment

yasmin pyarali karim • SEPT 14 2014 • BURNABY BC, V5G 1E1



# *A Gateway to the History & Art of Muslim World*

Our beloved Nur Mawlana Shah Karim al-Husayni Hazir Imam during his opening speech said we all have the opportunity for “continuing search for peace through prayer”.



The new Ismaili Centre and the Aga Khan Museum are “places & spaces of true enlightenment”



## *Culture of Gregarious Spirit!*

Nur Mawlana Shah Karim al-Husayni Hazir Imam said, we are a community with “gregarious spirit!. Yes! We are a community that welcomes the smile!”.



For me  
gregarious  
spirit is a  
symbol of  
MONOREALITY!

## Soaring Above

Through the great crystalline dome **light from the prayer hall**  
will provide a glowing beacon, **symbolising the spirit of  
enlightenment** that will always be at the heart of the Centre's life.

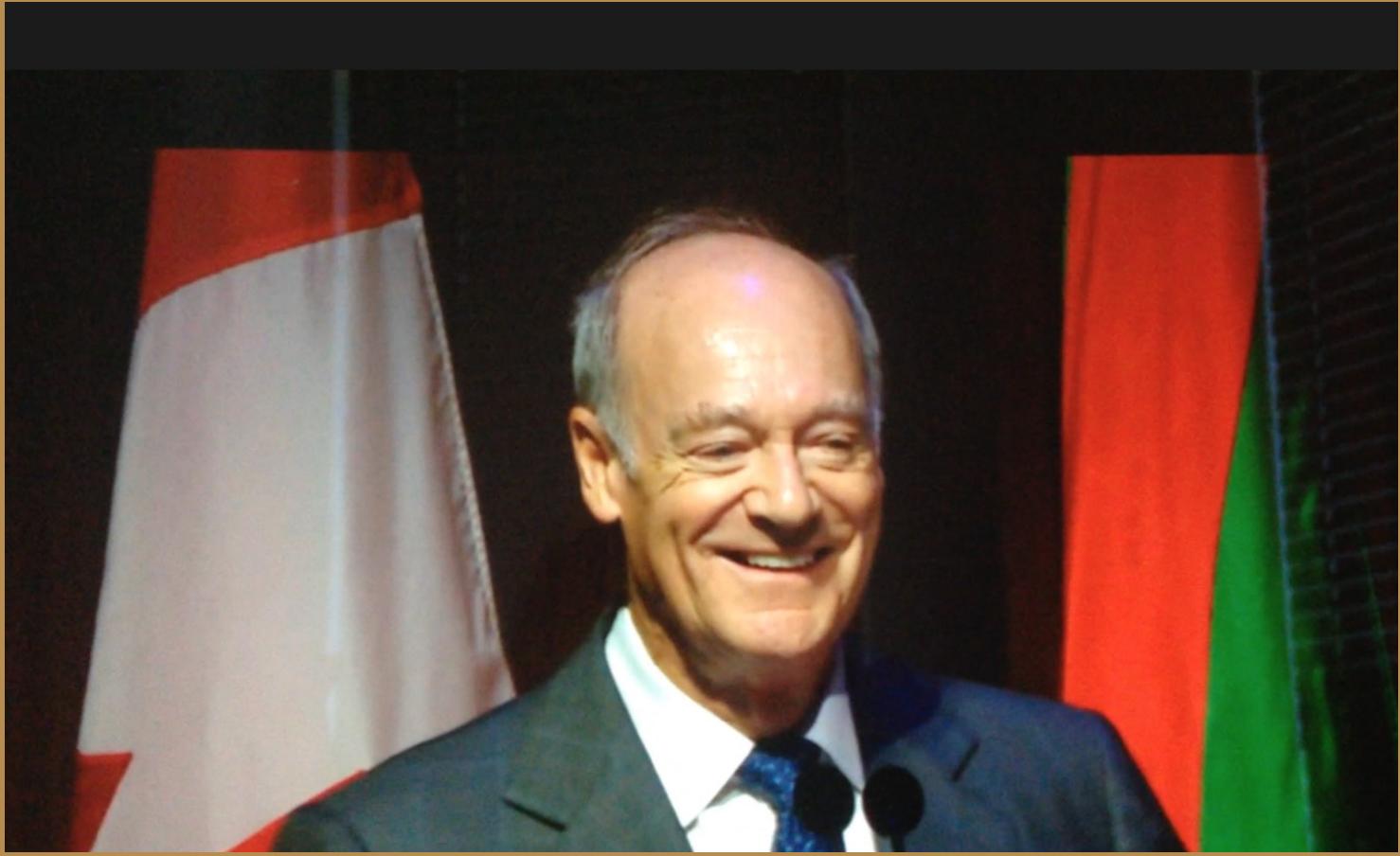


Nur Mawlana Shah Karim al-Husayni Hazir Imam is the living Qur'an and **Wa-kulla shay'in ahsaynahu fi imamim-mubin**, and We have encompassed everything in the manifest Imam, surah Ya-Sin 36:12. Ya-Sin, is the heart of the Qur'an "Indeed, everything has a heart and the heart of the Qur'an is Ya-Sin Tirmidhi, V, 162

## Reflections of Beauty

Art reflects all the senses. As Prince Amyn Aga Khan illustrates “usually one hears while one sees, just as instinct leads us to touch what we want to see more clearly. The interplay between the arts is as essential to me as the interrelationship of the senses”

He (i.e. the light of God) is the first, the last, the apparent and the hidden, and He knows everything. Surah Hadid 57:3



Light of God is the first, the last, the apparent and the hidden, and He

knows everything. Light of God is the first, the last, the apparent and the hidden, and He knows everything

“And, of course, it is *with deepest admiration that I thank the person whose guiding hand has been so important* at every stage of this project: a member of my family, my *brother, Prince Amyn Aga Khan*”.

Light of God is the first, the last, the apparent and the hidden, and He

# Women Play Decisive Role

Princess Catherine, invited Hazir Imam to become the owner of Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan's remarkable Islamic art collection.

Prince Sadruddin is the founder of The Bellerive Foundation.

[http://earthfocusfoundation.org/?page\\_id=158](http://earthfocusfoundation.org/?page_id=158) <http://www.akdn.org/Content/176/>



above

Nur Mawlana Shah Karim al-Husayni Hazir Imam speaks at the luncheon marking the merger of the Bellerive Foundation and the Aga Khan Foundation as Princess Catherine looks on.

# Prince Amyn Aga Khan

“If I were looking for a **single word** to sum up my intention and hope for the Aga Khan Museum, it would be the word **enlightenment**. It is a word which has both cultural & **spiritual** significance”



# Connections!

I am sharing the following connection of a author specializing in Qur'anic Science, and has over 100 books, 70 of which are published, because I was inspired by the speech of Nur Mawlana Shah Karim al-Husayni Hazir Imam and Prince Amyn, as they used the word “**ENLIGHTENMENT**”, which has spiritual significance too.

I asked myself what does the word “**ENLIGHTENMENT**” mean to me as an artist and as an individual believing in the esoteric aspect of Islam?

My mind was making a constant connection with a great Spiritual Science book I had read and have illustrated, **WHAT IS SOUL**.

Thus, I wish to share with all the works of the great Ismaili Scholar Allamah Nasir al-Din Nasir Hunzai. His book **Recognition of the Imam**, not only gives proper vocabulary to articulate Imam and the Imamat, it also gives proofs from the Qur'an of the authority of Hazir Imam and how he is the living **Sirat-al Mustaqim** surah of fatihah 1:7 and **Wa-kulla shay'in ahsaynahu fi imamim-mubin** surah of Ya-Sin 36:12.

Allamah Hunzai writes in the light of his sublime spiritual experiences, after completing the course of Ism-i azam he received from our beloved 48th Imam Hazrat Mawlana Sultan Muhammad Shah al-Husayni, <sup>‘</sup>alayhi's-salam in 1948. The result of his personal resurrection in 1951 is expressed in Nur Mawlana Shah Karim al-Husayni Hazir Imam words. See [\\_\\_\\_\\_\\_](#) →



9th October, 1961'

My dear Spritual child,

I received your telegram, and I give you my best loving blessings for your devoted services. I am very happy to know that you have completed the Ginan Book in Hunza language.

Yours affectionatly,

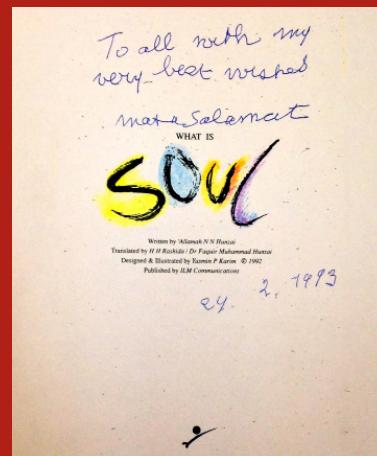
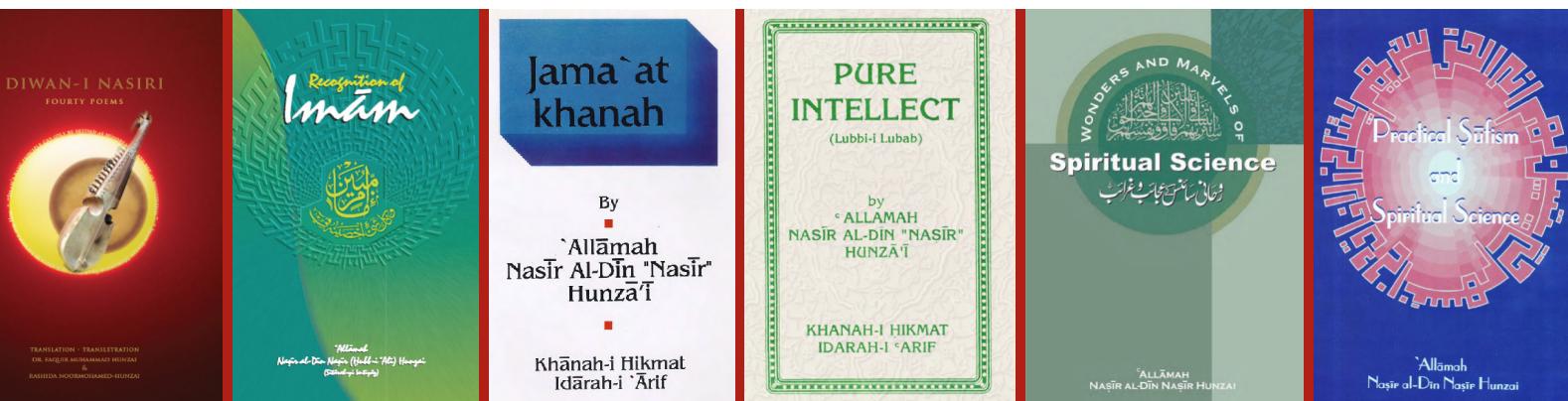
*Aga Khan.*

Al-vaez Nasiruddin Nasir Hunzai,  
c/o H. H. Aga Khan's Ismailia Council,  
RAWALPINDI  
W. PAKISTAN

# Spiritual Significance of Enlightenment

Spiritual Scientist Prof. Dr. Allamah Nasir al-Din Nasir Hunzai illustrates in the light of holy Qur'an, Surah of Anfal 8:24 which is revolutionary, extremely beautiful, and full of enlightenment. There is no valley between man and his heart, there is God's remembrance, and it is this Divine Light that enlightens the heart of the believers.

*A sacred hadith says: “I am contained neither by My heaven nor by My earth, but I am contained by the heart of My believing servant.”*  
al-Mu<sup>c</sup>jam, p.1265



Al-hamdu li'lla!

Wa ashraqati'l-arzu bi-nuri rabbihā surah NUR 24:35  
Wa ashraqati'l-arzu bi-nuri rabbihā surah NUR 24:35  
Wa ashraqati'l-arzu bi-nuri rabbihā surah NUR 24:35

# ENLIGHTENING humanity

with pluralist ideas  
towards MONOREALITY

Changing perceptions of people to have  
“cosmopolitan ethic” and understanding that  
“A pluralist commitment is rooted in the  
essential unity of the human race.

Does the Holy Qur'an not say that mankind is  
descended from “a single soul?”

## cosmopolitan ethic

“A PLURALIST COMMITMENT IS ROOTED IN THE ESSENTIAL UNITY OF THE HUMAN RACE.

DOES THE HOLY QURAN NOT SAY THAT MANKIND IS DESCENDED FROM “A SINGLE SOUL?” IN AN INCREASINGLY COSMOPOLITAN WORLD,  
IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE LIVE BY A “COSMOPOLITAN ETHIC,” ONE THAT ADDRESSES THE AGE-OLD NEED TO BALANCE THE PARTICULAR AND THE UNIVERSAL,  
TO HONOUR BOTH HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL DUTIES, TO ADVANCE PERSONAL FREEDOM AND TO ACCEPT HUMAN RESPONSIBILITY.

NUR MAWLANA SHAH KARIM AL-HUSAYNI HAZIR IMAM, MARCH 10 2014, AT THE 88TH STEPHEN OGDEN, LECTURE DELIVERED AT BROWN UNIVERSITY

# THE IMAM OF THE TIME

## “The Book of God which speaks [and] The ocean of ta’wil is the Imam of the time”

### Sources

#### Photos

[Opening Ceremony Video](http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/toronto/gallery-opening-toronto) <http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/toronto/gallery-opening-toronto>

#### Speeches

[Mawlana Hazar Imam at the Ismaili Centre, Toronto,](http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/centres/speech-mawlana-hazar-imam-opening-ceremony-toronto)

<http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/centres/speech-mawlana-hazar-imam-opening-ceremony-toronto>

[Prince Amyn at the Aga Khan Museum](http://www.theismaili.org/speech-prince-amyn-aga-khan-opening-ceremony-aga-khan-museum-toronto)

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#### Press Release

<http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/toronto/press-release-prime-minister-and-his-highness-aga-khan-open-toronto-and-aga>

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[Dr. Faquir Muhammad Hunzai. \*The Shimmering Light – an Anthology of Ismaili Poetry\*. London UK 1996](http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/toronto/press-release-prime-minister-and-his-highness-aga-khan-open-toronto-and-aga)

[The Constitution of the Shai Imami Ismaili Muslims. \*Preamble B\*. Geneva, 1986](http://www.theismaili.org/ismailicentres/toronto/press-release-prime-minister-and-his-highness-aga-khan-open-toronto-and-aga)