



# ISMAILI MAIL BLOG NEWSLETTER

## MAY 2007



## Introduction & Scope

Ismailimail Blog began as an individual initiative to reverberate the good news of activities in the Ismaili Community across the globe and to help gather the news under one platform for easy search and reference.

The story materials are broader encompassing news about the Imam, as well as news and achievements of Imam Institutions and community members. In addition, there is material from a cultural perspective. Of particular focus has been Jamati engagement in civil society where ever the Jamat may be. The Blog mitigates risk by only posting vetted externally published materials, always providing references. Materials are vetted for risk to individuals, community, and by extension the Imam institutions and the Imam itself. The Blog allows for comments using a moderated feedback methodology, and does not allow debates or discussion forums. Being a Blog, it introduces the concept of tags, such that material can be viewed in a thematic way. The Blog intermixes with news items, existing materials from the IIS and the AKDN, such as the introduction to the community, the ethical framework, and other such articles.

Given the broad community of Blog on the Internet, Ismailimail materials have also been introduced to other Blogs, and have been picked up on occasion. Given the mix of Jamati, Imam, cultural and institutional news, it is able to introduce new target audiences to work of the institutions, and the ethics of the community.

With the multitude of events happening and news thereof, with regard to the Imam, the Imam Institutions and the community, Ismailimail is pleased to introduce a monthly Ismailimail newsletter which summarizes the stories of the month. The stories/articles of the month have been categorized by topic for easy reference and each article has been provided with appropriate links/URL so you can easily click on them to visit the site for complete story.

Thank You.



## Art & Culture

### Chahar Bagh - An Ismaili Art and Cultural Exhibition - Personal Observation

Visited my friends Azlim and Shahiroz, who'd invited me to see Chahar Bagh, an Ismaili art and cultural exhibition, at the Roundhouse Community Centre in Yaletown.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/28/chahar-bagh-an-ismaili-art-and-cultural-exhibition-personal-observation/>

### Splendori A Corte Exhibition in Parma - A Personal Observation by AlKarim M. Hirani

I visited the Splendori A Corte Exhibition in Parma. There is no better articulation of the diversity of the Faith of Islam! all the artifacts, manuscripts, coins are a wonder to see! The feeling of Pride in our history, seeing what Muslims have achieved in various endeavours of Life is quite humbling. Muslims can rightly take pride in Muslim Way of Life in any point in time, be it the 10th Ce or the 21st Ce.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/01/splendori-a-corte-exhibition-in-parma-a-personal-observation-by-alkarim-m-hirani/>

### Remembering Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan - Islamic Painting Art Collection

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/12/remembering-prince-sadruddin-aga-khan/>





## The Power of the Word: Word Into Art - An exploration of the work of contemporary Middle Eastern artists

On April 29, 2007, His Highness Prince Aga Khan Shia Imami Ismaili Council for the Western United States, the Ancient Art Council and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) hosted 'The Power of the Word: Word into Art,' an exploration of the work of contemporary Middle Eastern artists and the art of Arabic calligraphy.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/18/the-power-of-the-word-word-into-art-an-exploration-of-the-work-of-contemporary-middle-eastern-artists/>

## UNESCO seminar on Cultural Heritage

Two days seminar on mapping of cultural heritage concluded here in Chitral. Mr. Jorge Sequiera Director UNESCO was chief guest on the concluding ceremony while Miss Carrie La Port manager special project, Aga Khan Foundation Canada , Mrs. Farhat Gul National Program Officer (culture) of UNESCO District Nazim Chitral and other notables were also present on the occasion.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/22/unesco-seminar-on-cultural-heritage/>



## Building a Better Civil Society

### World Partnership Walk opens the TSX (Canadian Stock Exchange)

TORONTO—The World Partnership Walk, Canada's largest annual event to raise funds and awareness for international development, has joined with the TSX to encourage Canadian corporations and the general public to play an active role in the fight to end global poverty.

On Wednesday, May 23rd, the TSX will welcome members of the World Partnership Walk committee, as well as corporate and grassroots supporters, to open the market. This event will symbolize a powerful and growing partnership between the World Partnership Walk and leaders in the business community to promote Canadian action in the developing world.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/23/world-partnership-walk-opens-the-tsx-canadian-stock-exchange/>



### Various Partnership Walk Articles

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/27/various-partnership-walk-articles/>

### Partnership Walk Canada - Pictures

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/30/partnership-walk-canada-pictures/>

### Partnership Walk on track to deliver teachers

The Aga Khan Foundation is sending reinforcements to teachers on the frontlines of the fight against global poverty.

The not-for-profit development agency, holding its national nine-city World Partnership Walk this Sunday, is on pace to raise \$1.4 million in donations and corporate sponsorship from Lower Mainlanders through the event at Stanley Park.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/25/partnership-walk-on-track-to-deliver-teachers/>



## Walking in shoes of the poor

'Making Education Count' is theme of 2007 Aga Khan World Partnership hike

Every spring for 20 years, Aleem Visram has laced up his sneakers to take part in the annual Aga Khan World Partnership Walk. But only after spending a year working in Afghanistan did he truly understand its impact on the globe's poor.

"When you grow up in Canada, a materialistic society, you're spoiled," said Visram, 28, a marketing manager with Kraft in Toronto.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/24/walking-in-shoes-of-the-poor/>

## Canadians join World Partnership Walk to fight global poverty

OTTAWA, May 25 /CNW Telbec/ - On Sunday, May 27th tens of thousands of Canadians in cities across the country will join in the 23rd annual World Partnership Walk, to increase awareness and raise funds to help fight global poverty.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/25/canadians-join-world-partnership-walk-to-fight-global-poverty/>

## From The Weekly Voice - World Partnership Walk in Toronto

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/26/from-the-weekly-voice-world-partnership-walk-in-toronto/>

## Enjoy a fun filled family event in beautiful Stanley Park and help make a difference

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/26/enjoy-a-fun-filled-family-event-in-beautiful-stanley-park-and-help-make-a-difference/>

## Canucks defenceman Sopel to walk for poor

VANCOUVER - The World Partnership Walk to fight global poverty is set for Sunday in Stanley Park. More than 5,000 people are expected to attend. This year's theme is education.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/26/canucks-defenceman-sopel-to-walk-for-poor/>

## Media Advisory - World Partnership Walk - Sunday, May 27th, 2007 - Sunday, June 3rd, in Ottawa

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/26/media-advisory-world-partnership-walk-sunday-may-27th-2007-sunday-june-3rd-in-ottawa/>



## Dallas Partnership Golf Tournament

Golf tourney raises more than \$20,000. The Dallas Partnership Golf Tournament raised more than \$20,000 for the Aga Khan Foundation USA's Partnership Walk. About 65 golfers participated in the event, which was last Saturday at Castle Hills Golf Club in Lewisville.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/27/dallas-partnership-golf-tournament/>

## AKF Partnership Golf 2007 - CBS

Partnership Golf is an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) to raise funds and awareness to help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia create long-term solutions to poverty.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/28/akf-partnership-golf-2007-cbs/>

## What Walt Rostow, the Aga Khan and Hernando de Soto Teach us about Bringing People Everywhere out of Poverty

A) One of the things I like most about Ottawa is how everyone from all nations get along in peace here in this city.

B) When I was a boy I had the opportunity to meet Walt Rostow, the pioneering development economist of the 1950s and 1960s and the Aga Khan, the great philanthropist. Later on, as an adult, I had the privilege of meeting Hernando de Soto, perhaps the foremost living development economist.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/25/what-walt-rostow-the-aga-khan-and-hernando-de-soto-teach-us-about-bringing-people-everywhere-out-of-poverty/>

## Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. ranked second most efficient charity in the nation

The top five most efficient are spread across several different categories, and the majority receive a 3 or 4-star Charity Navigator rating.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/23/aga-khan-foundation-usa-ranked-second-most-efficient-charity-in-the-nation/>

## Canada's former deputy minister of foreign affairs praising His Highness The Aga Khan and his guidance

Recently, Canada's former deputy minister of foreign affairs Peter Harder talked about Canada's experience, and lauded His Highness, The Aga Khan, Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims and his guidance. He specifically referred to the convocation address His Highness made at the Columbia University last year.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/09/how-faith-and-community-dominate-foreign-policy-example-from-the-community-the-aga-khan-imam-of-the-shia-ismaili-muslims/>



## India: 46 monuments set for facelift - Aga Khan Trust will give a face-lift to Aga Khan tomb

MORE pages of history will get a scrub to smarten up the Capital before 2010 Commonwealth Games. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has now included as many as 46 monuments that will be spruced up for the event.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/28/india-46-monuments-set-for-facelift-aga-khan-trust-will-give-a-face-lift-to-aga-khan-tomb/>

## Dr. Najam Abbas speaks on the impact of socio-economic transition on Pamiri youth

On 8th March, Dr. Najam Abbas, a Research Associate at The Institute of Ismaili Studies, gave a talk entitled "When Transition Visits Mountains: Education, Work and Careers in South eastern Tajikistan" at the Centre of Contemporary Central Asia and the Caucasus in the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS). Dr Abbas had been invited by the Centre's Chair, Dr. Bhavna Dave, as part of the Centre's regular Seminar Programme.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/01/dr-najam-abbas-speaks-on-the-impact-of-socio-economic-transition-on-pamiri-youth/>

## Taking a Swing at Ending Global Poverty - Partnership Golf - an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation Canada

World Partnership Golf is an opportunity to join in a unique day of great golf that makes a world of difference. Whether you are looking for a business networking opportunity, or just want to get out and golf for a good cause, World Partnership Golf makes the link!

Golfers from all skill levels are welcome to participate. Be a tournament sponsor or gather some friends and colleagues to make a foursome. Net proceeds from World Partnership Golf help Aga Khan Foundation Canada support programs in health, education, rural development, as well as community-led initiatives in some of the poorest parts of Asia and Africa.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/02/taking-a-swing-at-ending-global-poverty-partnership-golf-an-initiative-of-aga-khan-foundation-canada/>

## Taking a Swing at Ending Global Poverty - Partnership Golf - an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A.

Partnership Golf is an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. (AKF USA) and its volunteers in communities across America to raise funds and awareness to help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia create long-term solutions to poverty.

The Partnership Golf tournaments will offer Americans a unique and engaging opportunity to contribute towards ending global poverty. Individuals and businesses with a willingness to help make the world a better place can participate in Partnership Golf in a variety of ways, from putting together foursomes to sponsoring and promoting tournaments across the country.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/02/taking-a-swing-at-ending-global-poverty-partnership-golf-an-initiative-of-aga-khan-foundation-usa/>



## Serena Hotel to promote green environment

The Serena Environmental Society is organising a walk on Sunday morning to urge citizens and the corporate sector to promote a clean, green environment. Islamabad Serena Hotel General Manager Khaled Helmy announced this at a press conference on Friday. "The objective of the walk is also to promote tourism in the country," he said.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/03/serena-hotel-to-promote-green-environment/>

## Uganda's Bujagali Power Project Build To Start End May - Official

Construction work at Uganda's 250 megawatt Bujagali hydro power project is expected to start by the end of this month following the approval of the project by the World Bank, a company official told Dow Jones Newswires Wednesday. Bujagali Energy Ltd. is a joint venture between IPS and the U.S.-based international development company Sithe Global Power, LLC, which has established Bujagali Energy Ltd. to implement the project.

IPS is the industrial development arm of the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development - a member of the Aga Khan Development Network.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/03/ugandas-bujagali-power-project-build-to-start-end-may-official/>

## Aga Khan Trust for Culture will restore protected monuments in Sunder Nursery

Some beautification is also in store for the beleaguered Sunder Nursery. "The Aga Khan Trust will fund the restoration of protected monuments in Sunder Nursery, which frame the main Humayun's Tomb. The same trust will also help the Baoli and Aga Khan tomb in the Nizamuddin Dargah complex. All this will be done by 2010,"

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/04/aga-khan-trust-for-culture-will-restore-protected-monuments-in-sunder-nursery/>

## Aga Khan Foundation Canada Annual World Partnership Walk: Join CanBiotech to be Part of the Solution to Global Poverty

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/04/aga-khan-foundation-canada-annual-world-partnership-walk-join-canbiotech-to-be-part-of-the-solution-to-global-poverty/>



## AKUH holds session on health

The Community Health Sciences (CHS) Department of the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) held a brainstorming session with representatives of the city government and certain other private organisations to review the CHS's standing involvement in the provision of health facilities to the city's most neglected communities.

<http://ismailmail.wordpress.com/2007/05/05/akuh-holds-session-on-health/>

## Video - Revitalizing Darb al-Ahmar, Cairo - Aga Khan Trust for Culture stepped in

Aga Khan Trust for Culture pays 70% for the cost of restoration, the tenant pays 30%

<http://ismailmail.wordpress.com/2007/05/05/revitalizing-darb-al-ahmar-cairo-aga-khan-trust-for-culture-stepped-in/>

## Aga Khan Trust for Culture - Historic Cities Support Programme

Aga Khan Trust for Culture - Afghanistan - Newsletter - September/October 2006

[http://www.akdn.org/hcsp/afghanistan/hcspafghanistan\\_1006.pdf](http://www.akdn.org/hcsp/afghanistan/hcspafghanistan_1006.pdf)

## Best of Asia Award for Restoration of Babur's Gardens in Kabul

Best Historic Restoration

By Bagh-e Babur. Kabul, Afghanistan

<http://ismailmail.wordpress.com/2007/05/07/best-of-asia-award-for-restoration-of-baburs-gardens-in-kabul/>

## Marginalized Coastal Communities in Pakistan Reap IDA Benefits - AKPBS

The town's public services are in poor condition. It has only a half-functional Rural Health Center, and there are no doctors or lady health visitors.

To remedy this situation, the IDA-funded Pakistan Poverty Alleviation Fund's (PPAF) has joined forces with the Aga Khan Planning and Building Services and local communities to improve access to basic services such as health, education, drinking water supply, and sanitation.

<http://ismailmail.wordpress.com/2007/05/12/marginalized-coastal-communities-in-pakistan-reap-ida-benefits-akpbs/>



## A city of renewal and ruins - Developers are squandering Kabul's rich architectural history and flavor - But all is not yet lost - AKTC

Individuals and organizations devoted to saving Kabul's historic neighborhoods and designs have redoubled their preservation efforts.

The Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) is one such group. Fearing that the ancient area in the center of Kabul — known as the Old City — may be gone for good, the trust has begun restoring the old neighborhood of Asheqan wa Arefan, just south of the Kabul River. With its narrow paths, Sufi shrines and historic mosques, walking through Asheqan wa Arefan is like taking a trip among the great jewels of Kabul. This 200-year-old neighborhood is one of the few places where you can really feel the city's serenity and charm. At one Sufi shrine, for example, a turbaned guard sits sentry near the entrance, where wooden pillars and intricate wood paneling lead the way to a place for quiet meditation.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/13/a-city-of-renewal-and-ruins-developers-are-squandering-kabuls-rich-architectural-history-and-flavor-but-all-is-not-yet-lost-aktc/>

## ADB, AKF reps briefed about trade potential

Members Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) Chitral briefed representative of Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) during a need assessment meeting here on Friday.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/13/adb-akf-reps-briefed-about-trade-potential/>

## Bangladesh: Aga Khan council calls on Chief Advisor

The delegation informed that the 50th anniversary of Aga Khan's leadership would be celebrated from June 2007-June 2008 and they hoped the spiritual leader of Aga Khan Community would visit Bangladesh on the occasion.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/17/bangladesh-aga-khan-council-calls-on-chief-advisor/>

## Partnership golf tourney set for Saturday - Dallas

The Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A. will hold a Dallas Partnership Golf Tournament at 7 a.m. Saturday at the Golf Club at Castle Hills in Lewisville. Following the tournament, there will be an awards ceremony and luncheon featuring keynote speaker Tom Greco, president of sales of PepsiCo. Angelique Tégé of WFAA-TV will serve as host

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/17/partnership-golf-tourney-set-for-saturday-dallas/>



## Federal Foreign Office promotes alternatives to drug cultivation in Afghanistan - together with Aga Khan Foundation

The Federal Foreign Office is stepping up its commitment to the efforts to create alternative sources of income for drug farmers in Afghanistan and, together with the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF), is carrying out a multiannual project aimed at the regeneration of pistachio forests in the northern province of Takhar.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/23/federal-foreign-office-promotes-alternatives-to-drug-cultivation-in-afghanistan-together-with-aga-khan-foundation/>

## Huguette-Labelle Award for Excellence in Youth Programming, partners:

Aga Khan Foundation Canada and the Association of Canadian Community Colleges: YMCA of Greater Vancouver for the Youth Peace Network Project

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/24/huguette-labelle-award-for-excellence-in-youth-programming/>

## Rwanda: Kagame, Aga Khan Leaders Discuss Investment

In Rwanda, Aga Khan Cooperation will be active in health, education, agriculture, rural development, basic infrastructure, banking and micro-finance, tourism, aviation, insurance and other vital sectors.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/28/rwanda-kagame-aga-khan-leaders-discuss-investment/>

## Human Rights awareness workshop - organized by Aga Khan Rural Support Program

One day awareness raising workshop on Human rights organized by Aga Khan Rural Support program (AKRSP) with collaboration of Hindukush Area Rural Support Organization (HARSO) and Legal Aid Forum for Human Rights (LAFH).supported by CIDA funded Institutional Development for Poverty Reduction (IDPR) was conducted at Kosht tehsil Mulkhov, Chitral.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/29/human-rights-awareness-workshop-organized-by-aga-khan-rural-support-program/>

## Grameen Foundation Supports Landmark deal for Kashf Foundation in Pakistan - HBL to provide PKR 152.5 million

This Commercial Loan Facility is a 3-year facility in which Grameen Foundation, through its Growth Guarantee Program, provides partial risk coverage by way of a US\$ 2 million Citibank Standby Letter of Credit in favour of the participating banks. Beside the US\$8 million Commercial Loan Facility arranged by Habib Bank Ltd (HBL),

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/31/grameen-foundation-supports-landmark-deal-for-kashf-foundation-in-pakistan-hbl-to-provide-pkr-1525-million/>



## Ismailis in the News

### Queen gives poetry praise to Moeze Lalji

A disabled man in West Ewell who uses poetry as therapy has won a new fan with his verse - Her Majesty the Queen.

Moeze Lalji, 48, sent the monarch a personal message when the Brickfield Centre mental health team encouraged him to release his positive feelings through poetry. Shortly afterwards he received a thank you letter, signed by the lady-in-waiting, saying the Queen had appreciated his "kind" words. Mr Lalji said: "The Queen has made me very happy and I want to express gratitude. She has boosted my self-confidence and made other disabled people feel that society cares for, and appreciates, their feelings."

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/02/queen-gives-poetry-praise-to-moeze-lalji/>



### Aaria Rahim, Inspired by the Aga Khan, wins MAJOR scholarship

It's with a mixture of excitement and sadness that Port Moody secondary school student Aaria Rahim will accept a scholarship worth \$60,000 from TD Canada Trust. She's excited because she never dreamed she'd win such a prestigious award and sad because it means she'll soon be leaving her close-knit family — mom, Shahinoor, dad, Hanif and brother Aarman — to go to school at the University of Toronto.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/23/aaria-rahim-inspired-by-the-aga-khan-wins-major-scholarship/>

### Order of Canada investiture for Zaheer M. Lakhani

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, Governor General of Canada, will preside an Order of Canada investiture ceremony at Rideau Hall on Friday, May 4, 2007, at 10:30 a.m.

Zaheer Lakhani is a distinguished cardiologist who has demonstrated a deep commitment to multiculturalism and international development. Soon after his arrival in Canada, he became a representative of the local Ismaili Muslim community and advocated for programs to assist in the settlement and integration of these new Canadians. He then promoted a proactive model of community policing as chair of the Edmonton Police Commission and founding president of the Canadian Association of Police Boards. A former director of Aga Khan Foundation Canada, he



has also helped to establish a non-invasive cardiac program in Tanzania and continues to volunteer his professional expertise to countries in East Africa.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/03/order-of-canada-investiture-to-zaheer-m-lakhani/>

## Areebah Ajani educates others about her faith

Senior promotes cultural awareness, wins award - Areebah Ajani educates others about her faith

Areebah Ajani said she's been interested in learning about other cultures for as long as she could remember. Her goal is to see others share her enthusiasm.

The 17-year-old St. Agnes Academy senior regularly gives her time to the school's Diversity Club, and last year she established the school's Students for Islam Awareness organization.

Now Ajani is receiving citywide recognition for her efforts. The Sugar Land resident is one of the 2007 winners of the Princeton Prize in Race Relations for Houston.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/08/areebah-ajani-educates-others-about-her-faith/>

## Canada Revenue Agency Award of Excellence - HAKAM BHALOO

Hakam Bhaloo has taken initiative in serving as a lifelong volunteer, and demonstrated leadership qualities since his early days by joining the Scouting movement.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/31/canada-revenue-agency-award-of-excellence-hakam-bhaloo/>

## Sada Cumber - Chairman & CEO - SozoTek Inc

Sada is a successful and well-known Austin entrepreneur who has founded six companies in the past 25 years.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/18/sada-cumber-chairman-ceo-sozotek-inc/>

## Dr Nizar Verjee - Former Chairman of the Aga Khan Health Services, Kenya

British/Kenyan, Dental Surgeon. Former Chairman of the Aga Khan Health Services, Kenya and Head of the Aga Khan Community, Kenya.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/18/dr-nizar-verjee-former-chairman-of-the-aga-khan-health-services-kenya/>

## Award of Excellence for outstanding Leadership - Shamsh Kara

Shamsh Kara was selected to receive the above award at the beautiful premises of the Civic Centre of Town of Markham.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/22/award-of-excellence-for-outstanding-leadership-shamsh-kara/>



## TELUS and its team members launch TELUS Victoria Community Board - Member Naz Rayani

Board to donate \$250,000 each year to local grassroots charities

-Naz Rayani, respected leader in the Ismaili Muslim community, Order of Canada recipient, Victoria Business Person of the Year, and key organizer of the Annual Partnership Walk in support of the Aga Khan Foundation.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/08/telus-and-its-team-members-launch-telus-victoria-community-board-member-naz-rayani/>

## Roundtable: Canada's Role in Afghanistan - Dr. Karim-Aly Kassam

Roundtable discussion with Dr. Karim Aly-Kassam of the University of Calgary who will share his views on Canada's role in Afghanistan.

Dr. Karim-Aly Kassam is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Communication and Culture at the University of Calgary.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/09/ottawa-and-toronto-cultural-listings/>

## Ismaili Pipe Band

When South Asia was under British rule, some local troops in Scottish-style uniforms and set up regimental bagpipe bands, many of which survive in Pakistan's modern army. The local Ismaili community has carried on this tradition by forming a traditional pipe band and performing at various Asian community events over the past few years.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/05/ismaili-pipe-band/>

## Awards honour community leaders

Shamsh Kara, community leader

"Excellence is superiority ... It is a value, a goal to be pursued if you want to make a mark in society," says the chairperson of the Social Services Network, an organization that connects people of South Asian backgrounds with needed services. "It is going far beyond the call of duty. They have made up their mind to improve the quality of life of others."

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/22/awards-honour-community-leaders/>



## Religious

### A Ginan on Love

The ginans are the devotional poetry/music of the Ismaili community of South Asia, written in a variety of Indic languages. I purchased a copy of Ali S. Asani's Ecstasy and Enlightenment recently and wanted to share a particularly nice example with you all. So, enjoy...

Ma'as salama,  
Abdur Rahman

<http://thecorner.wordpress.com/2007/05/03/a-ginan-on-love/>



### The Ismailis in the Middle Ages: A History of Survival, a Search for Salvation

The Ismailis in the Middle Ages: A History of Survival, a Search for Salvation (Hardcover) by Shafique N. Virani (Author)

"The book offers a discerning and sensitive portrayal of the struggle for survival and the spiritual life of a religious community that endured severe persecution and extreme defamation during much of its history. The author in particular succeeds in bringing to light the esoteric spirituality and profound devotion to the living Imam prevalent in the centuries of concealment following the catastrophic Mongol attempt to annihilate Nizari Ismailism, relying on the evidence of fragmentary source material that has only recently been recovered." — Wilferd Madelung, author of The Succession to Muhammad

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/04/the-ismailis-in-the-middle-ages-a-history-of-survival-a-search-for-salvation/>

### Institute of Ismaili Studies Director - Azim Nanji - Speaks on Combating Religious Intolerance

Professor Azim Nanji, Director of the IIS, delivered a talk, entitled Combating Religious Intolerance: A Perspective From Muslim Contexts, to the World Affairs Group of the Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution (BRLSI) on 19th March 2007. He cited examples of tolerance and intolerance from different religious traditions, both historical and in the present-day context.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/24/institute-of-ismaili-studies-director-azim-nanji-speaks-on-combating-religious-intolerance/>



## Education

### Rakaposhi mountain range - Internship research with AKDN in Gilgit Pakistan

A geography major, McKenna has focus much of his academic career at the College on issues pertaining to global development.

Now, due to the generous Deagle Family Fund, a foundation that offers grants to Middlebury students who secure unpaid internships dealing with development, McKenna's inner adventurer is about to be unleashed.

McKenna will be interning with the Aga Khan Development Network in Gilgit, Pakistan. "I'm going to be conducting impact and access research of the school's programs that they have in the area, and I have some romantic images of myself bouncing on my motorcycle from village to village doing research," he says.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/09/rakaposhi-mountain-range-internship-research-with-akdn-in-gilgit-pakistan/>

### Uganda: Agha Khan Enrolls for Cambridge Examinations

Aga Khan Primary School is one of the lucky schools going to start offering Cambridge examinations. The school is now attached to Cambridge primary programme. The certificate from the University was signed by the chief executive Ms Ann Puntis in charge of international exams.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/28/uganda-gha-khan-enrolls-for-cambridge-examinations/>

### International Academic Partnership of the Aga Khan Education Service - Newsletter - 2007

[http://www.andover.edu/iap/pdf/IAP\\_Newsletter\\_Spring2007.pdf](http://www.andover.edu/iap/pdf/IAP_Newsletter_Spring2007.pdf)

### Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations, The Aga Khan University - MA in Muslim Cultures

MA in Muslim Cultures - This course offers a distinctive way of understanding the cultures of Muslims as they have evolved over time.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/14/institute-for-the-study-of-muslim-civilisations-the-aga-khan-university-ma-in-muslim-cultures/>



## Pakistani students at science fair

Three students from Pakistan, including two girls, will participate in the International Science and Engineering Fair.

Students representing Pakistan at the international event are: Mufadil Mansoor of the Aga Khan High School, Karachi; Kulsoom Bilal of the Government Kinnard High School, Lahore; and Fatima Shami of Headstart School, Islamabad.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/16/pakistani-students-at-science-fair/>

## When girls resolved to win

In 1995, on completion of her primary education at Aga Khan Primary School in Mombasa, she managed to score 567 out of 700, an achievement that earned her a scholarship to Aga Khan High School, where she got a plain A in the Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) examination.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/16/when-girls-resolved-to-win/>

## Maclean's family - teaching at Aga Khan Academy Mombasa

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/18/macleans-family-teaching-at-aga-khan-academy-mombasa/>

## Aga Khan Academy Teachers Initiate Traditional Coffee House Project

"His Highness' (The Aga Khan) vision is that we give back to the community as teachers and students, we get involved with the community, we share our expertise, and we share our resources with the community and to help those less fortunate and less privileged."

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/18/aga-khan-academy-teachers-initiate-traditional-coffee-house-project/>

## IIS Update - March 2007

Beginning in the year 2000, The Institute of Ismaili Studies began to publish the annual IIS Update to inform its supporters, affiliates and well-wishers of its programmes and activities over the previous year. Also included in the Update is information about the Institute's recent and forthcoming publications as well as news about its faculty and staff.

[http://www.iis.ac.uk/SiteAssets/pdf/iis\\_news10.pdf](http://www.iis.ac.uk/SiteAssets/pdf/iis_news10.pdf)

## Aga Khan Academy to be set up in Dhaka

Aga Khan Academy, an educational institute, will be established soon in Dhaka to offer quality education to young learners.

The academy, to be set up in an area of about 20 acres of land, will provide education from the play-group to 12 standard.

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed was apprised of the academy when a delegation of Prince Aga Khan Shia Imami Ismaili Council for Bangladesh called on him at his office in Dhaka recently.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/20/aga-khan-academy-to-be-set-up-in-dhaka/>



## Health

### AKUH Wins Award for Best Practices on Occupational Safety and Health

High standards in occupational safety and health have earned Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) the highest award at the national level annual competition organised by Employers' Federation of Pakistan (EFP).

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/22/akuh-wins-award-for-best-practices-on-occupational-safety-and-health/>

### Alarming situation in govt maternity homes - Karachi, Pakistan

There are 40 government maternity homes in the sprawling metropolis of Karachi, which are supposed to cater to the needs of the poorest segments of the society. However, barring four or five, doctors are not available in these hospitals in the second half of the day, Dr Shershah Syed, a leading gynaecologist, told the News.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/10/alarming-situation-in-govt-maternity-homes-karachi-pakistan/>

### International Nursing Symposium at Aga Khan University

The theme for this year is 'Positive Practice Environments: Quality Work-places Enhance Quality Patient Care'. The Day is to commemorate the birth anniversary of Florence Nightingale, the pioneer of modern nursing. The Nursing College of Aga Khan University (AKU) has chalked out a day-long programme at AKU auditorium. The events of the day will include seminars, symposia, talk shows and skits highlighting importance of the day as well as the importance of nursing profession in context of Pakistan.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/11/international-nursing-symposium-at-aga-khan-university/>

### Midwives of rural Afghanistan

Dr Santanu Sanyal is with the the Aga Khan Health Service, which implements the programme along with help from the UN Children's Fund and the World Health Organization. Yes, the programme has increased the number of trained midwives from 50,000 to 150,000 nationally, but he cautions that the battle against maternal mortality will take at least a decade. "We need to educate girls so they marry later and have less children," says Dr Sanyal. We also need to make sure women and children are better nourished \_ and that means improving Afghanistan's rural economy.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/13/midwives-of-rural-afghanistan/>



## Aga Khan University: Organised referral system for road accident victims sought

A study presented at the Aga Khan University's (AKU) annual session shows that many road traffic victims are rushed to distant hospitals by attendants instead of the nearest facility resulting in preventable trauma and deaths.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/20/aga-khan-university-organised-referral-system-for-road-accident-victims-sought/>

## All British-Pakistan Physicians Association launched

Speaking at the launch of All British-Pakistani Physicians Association (ABPPA) at the Ismaili Centre, she said thousands of British Pakistani physicians are an asset for their country of origin as well as the land of their adoption.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/20/all-british-pakistan-physicians-association-launched/>

## 50 percent people in Sindh suffering from Iodine deficiency

"More than half the population of Sindh suffers from Iodine deficiency, causing major mental and physical disorders," said experts at the 'Provincial Launching Ceremony of Prevention and Elimination of Iodine Deficiency and Disorder/ Universal Salt Ionisation Programme' on Saturday.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/20/50-percent-people-in-sindh-suffering-from-iodine-deficiency/>

## Three-day polio vaccination drive begins in Chitral - Aga Khan Rural Support Programme

CHITRAL: A three-day polio vaccination called the Special National Immunisation Days (SNID) campaign started on Tuesday to administer polio drops in parts of upper Chitral which were previously inaccessible. A walk and opening ceremony was held at Booni, Shoghoor and Lutkoh on Monday in this regard. Community leaders, nazims, police officers, government officials, shopkeepers, students, teachers and the general public participated in the SNID walk.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/24/three-day-polio-vaccination-drive-begins-in-chitral-aga-khan-rural-support-programme/>



## Miscellaneous

### How Faith and Community Dominate Foreign Policy - example from the Community, the Aga Khan - Imam of the Shia Ismaili Muslims

By Peter Harder

Canada's Former deputy minister of foreign affairs at Ottawa's Southminster United Church

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/09/how-faith-and-community-dominate-foreign-policy-example-from-the-community-the-aga-khan-imam-of-the-shia-ismaili-muslims/>

### Golden Jubilee Time line - Slideshow

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/27/golden-jubilee-time-line-slideshow/>

### Golden Jubilee Coin 1885 - 1935

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/31/golden-jubilee-coin-1885-1935/>

### Speeches of His Highness the Aga Khan IV - collection at Institute of Ismaili Studies

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/17/speeches-of-his-highness-the-aga-khan-iv-collection-at-institute-of-ismaili-studies/>

### Khoja Shia Imami Ismaili Jamatkhana - Mumbai, India

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/18/khoja-shia-imami-ismaili-jamatkhana-mumbai-india/>

### Aga Khan's Birthday in the Pamirs Tajikistan - 2005

This is the celebration of Aga Khan's birthday by Ismaili's in the Pamirs, Tajikistan.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=igMWk8NIYa8>

### Trip report talks about people's view of the Aga Khan in Northern Pakistan

The drive was through the mountains reminded me of the route through the Austrian Alps to Salzburg: pretty but not imposing. Along side the rail-less single lane road ran the newly assertive Gilgit River.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/30/trip-report-talks-about-peoples-view-of-the-aga-khan-in-northern-pakistan/>



## Aga Khan Foundation at idealist.org

Seems like a good and helpful website for volunteer activities and social networking. Aga Khan Foundation is registered and listed there.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/30/aga-khan-foundation-at-idealistorg/>

## International Sailing Federation Centenary - 1907-2007

As well as being ISAF's Centenary year, 2007 also marks a landmark anniversary for many of sailing clubs, regattas and programmes around the world. The glamorous Yacht Club Costa Smeralda (YCCS) in Porto Cervo, Italy is celebrated its 40th year on 12 May and ISAF President Göran PETERSSON was there to help mark the occasion.

<http://ismailimail.wordpress.com/2007/05/21/international-sailing-federation-centenary-1907-2007/>

## Pictures

### Ismaili Center Dubai - Construction Photograph

<http://ismailimail.files.wordpress.com/2007/05/jkpanorama-29-03-07.jpg>

### Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centres

Images collected either from publications, personal travels, or contributed by individuals such as Ahwaz Chagani, Alkarim Devani, Adam Jiwani, Hussein Hasham, Adil Walji, Abdul Hadi, and Irfan Shariff.

[http://archnet.org/shared/image-collections/collection.tcl?collection\\_id=10312](http://archnet.org/shared/image-collections/collection.tcl?collection_id=10312)