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# ISMAILI MAIL BLOG NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2007



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## 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.



# The Enabling Environment Conference

## The Enabling Environment Conference

[Link](#)

## The Enabling Environment Conference - Speech by His Highness the Aga Khan

[Link](#)

## The Enabling Environment Conference - Speech by Prince Ayn Khan

[Link](#)

## The Enabling Environment Conference - Prime Minister Badawi of Malaysia

[Link](#)

## Conference to be held to boost Afghan private sector

The conference would be hosted by the Afghan government, the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), in partnership with the World Bank, the UN Development Program and the Asian Development Bank, said the statement, which was issued by the AKDN.

[Link](#)

## Developing countries urged to pool resources for growth

[Link](#)

## The Aga Khan Calls for a More Coordinated Effort to Help Afghanistan's Private Sector

[Link](#)

## The Enabling Environment Conference - AKDN Pictures

[Link](#)

## The Enabling Environment Conference - Video

[Link](#)



## Updated: The Enabling Environment Conference - Media Pictures

[Link](#)

## Working together to improve lives

[Link](#)



## **PM [of Pakistan] for multi-pronged strategy in Afghanistan**

[Link](#)

## **Shaukat Aziz, Hamid Karzai and His Highness The Aga Khan hold meeting**

[Link](#)

## **PM lauds Aga Khan's contribution in Pakistan's development**

[Link](#)

## **Aga Khan Meeting Told of Africa's Business Hurdles**

[Link](#)

## **Aga Khan urges patience in development**

[Link](#)

## **Dignitaries and Business Leaders Agree on a Road Map**

[Link](#)

## **The Enabling Environment Conference - Media Coverage at Globe and Mail**

[Link](#)

## **The Enabling Environment Conference - Media Coverage from Dawn Newspaper Pakistan**

[Link](#)

## **Enabling Environment Conference - Media Coverage: Malaysian Newspaper**

[Link](#)

## **Aga Khan calls for 'great alliance' in development**

Last week, a similar message was passed on to Kabul during a high-level conference believed to be the largest such gathering held in the Afghan capital in recent years. It was jointly organised by the Afghanistan government and the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) to help spur development in the war-weary country

[Link](#)

## **Roshan Telecom and the recent Enabling Environment conference**

LOOKING AT AFGHANISTAN  
- India is blind to the opportunities at its doorstep

[Link](#)





## Building better Civil Societies

### Roshan Announces Launch of Afghanistan's First Telemedicine Project

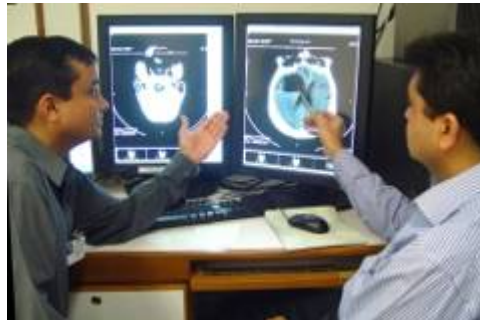
Roshan, Cisco, Aga Khan University Hospital and the French Medical Institute for Children Team up to Expand Healthcare Access by Linking Afghan Hospitals to International Medical Institutions

[Link](#)

### Telemedicine launched at AKUH

Karachi Hospital Provides Medical Expertise to Children's Hospital in Kabul

[Link](#)



### Article on Roshan Telecommunication

But for the first time, mobile phones are threatening to outnumber guns on the streets of Afghanistan.

Only 8 percent of Afghans own a mobile phone but the market is growing at around 100,000 new customers a month, says Roshan, which means "Light" in the local Dari language.

[Link](#)

### Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction Bulletin

Princess Zahra Aga Khan, Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), outlined AKDN's disaster risk reduction activities, including its actions following the 2005 Kashmir earthquake, and called for greater access to earth sciences skills and technology in developing countries.

[Link](#)

### Ottawa Walk to bring hope and renewal to communities in Africa and Asia

On Sunday, June 3rd, hundreds of residents of the National Capital Region will join in the 23rd annual World Partnership Walk to increase awareness and raise funds for programs that bring hope and renewal to vulnerable families and communities in

Africa and Asia.

[Link](#)

### Charity walk runs up dollar signs for Third World

About 1,000 people were in attendance for the 5-km

walk, which raises funds and awareness for programs that improve education, health care and rural livelihoods in Third World countries.

[Link](#)

### More World Partnership Walk Pictures

[Link](#)

### Canadians Raise Record Amount to Fight Global Poverty

[Link](#)



## Pluralism is Strength - talk at Booni Chitral

The target groups of the workshop were Imam Sahiban of Masajids, Mukhi Sahiban of Jamat Khanas, other religious and village leaders, lady councilors, lady teachers, and youth. About 300 people participated in three sittings of workshops.

[Link](#)



## AKRSP - Small savings open up world of credit for these village women

Things, however, changed for good with the formation of myriad Self Help Groups (SHGs) across the taluka by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (AKRSP) and today, these women are not only self-reliant, but have also formed a taluka-level federation of the SHGs to address the issue at macro level.

[Link](#)

## Cetel founder highlights African bottlenecks

The Aga Khan called for a “great alliance” between governments, civil society and business to help improve lives in the developing world. Dr Ibrahim said while it was understood that most developing countries did not have the best infrastructure among other things that facilitated business, what scared away investors more was a country’s inability to apply its own laws consistently.

[Link](#)

## IIS Director speaks at Parma Symposium

Professor Azim Nanji, Director of the IIS, gave a paper to the Parma Symposium (15-17 May, 2007), tracing the historical framework of exchange and dialogue among institutions of learning during the medieval period. This Symposium, entitled “Islam e Occidente: Dialogo Tra Culture” (Islam and the West: An Intercultural Dialogue), included presentations from representatives of many distinguished institutions.

[Link](#)

## Candian Government’s Pakistan development assessment

SIDP is considered a leading-edge approach for strengthening civil society organizations within the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN). The model is being promoted in Pakistan and the 36 countries where AKDN works, including Afghanistan.

[Link](#)

## WHO’S WHO IN MICROFINANCE: Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN), Switzerland

[Link](#)

## Chakhma Valley Revitalization Initiative - Aga Khan Foundation Canada

[Link](#)

## Video Interview Karim Khoja - CEO Roshan Telecom

Karim Khoja discusses his business and the future of Afghanistan.

Karim Khoja is the C.E.O. of Roshan, the largest cellphone provider in Afghanistan

[Link](#)



## **Aga Khan University screening Al Gore's An Inconvenient Truth**

Aga Khan University & Subh-e-Nau are screening Al Gore's Oscar winning movie 'An Inconvenient Truth'

[Link](#)

## **Madagascans rush to booming microfinance market**

In Madagascar's impoverished capital, the establishment of three new microcredit banks this year alone confirms the huge interest for such lending programmes from small bank-shy entrepreneurs.

[Link](#)

## **Corporate Social Responsibility - Going Beyond Business**

The conference was jointly organised by Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan and Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST)

[Link](#)

## **Humayun's Tomb - A Model In Historic Preservation**

The Future of History: Humayun's Tomb-a model in historic preservation.

[Link](#)



## **The Economics of Opium: A Public Dialogue on the Narcotics Economy in Afghanistan**

Lucy van Oldenbarneveld of CBC News at Six will moderate the dialogue, which is organized by Aga Khan Foundation Canada and the

International Development Research Centre. For more information, visit: [www.idrc.ca/events-opium](http://www.idrc.ca/events-opium)

[Link](#)

## **Sisters are doing it for themselves**

Highly recommend you read the full article, excellent example of influence, help and training provided by Aga Khan Rural Support Programme.

[Link](#)

## **Global Cities Exhibition Exclusive - Cairo - Al-Azhar Park**

Designed to rehabilitate one of Cairo's poorest and most populous areas, the park was created by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture on a 30-hectare site used as a dump for over 500 years. Mosques, palaces and historic houses are being restored alongside initiatives to provide residents with apprenticeships, employment, health centres and women's associations.

[Link](#)

## **Joseph A de Mora**

He served as Director General and CEO of the Aga Khan University Hospital in Karachi, Pakistan; CEO of the Aga Khan Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya and as East African Regional Health Services Coordinator.

[Link](#)



## **Aga Khan Foundation - one of the most organized.**

For example, one of the most organized and, for matters of bringing about some cohesiveness to faith-based influence, is the Aga Khan Foundation. Among other things, the AKF is developing a partnership with the federal government, to turn the former war museum, located almost within eyesight of my press gallery perch in the Parliament Buildings, into a centre for the advancement and understanding of religious pluralism.

[Link](#)

## **Crafted grandeur in sandstone and marble**

Humayun's tomb was declared as a world heritage site in 1993. The Aga Khan trust, in 2003, funded to the tune of US \$650,000 and helped restore the beautiful gardens of the tomb.

[Link](#)



## **In Tajikistan, U.S. Runs a Distant Fifth in the Race for Hearts and Minds**

By far the deepest assistance footprints belong to the Aga Khan Foundation. If a building postdates the Soviet era, odds are it was financed by the Aga Khan, the Swiss-born billionaire and spiritual leader of the Ismaeli sect of Islam. Schools, medical clinics, bridges — there isn't a village in the GBAO that hasn't benefited from his largesse.

[Link](#)

## **Health**

### **Seminar on World No-Tobacco Day - organized by Aga Khan University Hospital**

Speakers at a seminar on World No-Tobacco Day Thursday, organised by the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) unanimously demanded the strict enforcement of the prohibition of smoking and protection of non-smoker ordinance of 2002.

[Link](#)

### **Healthy work environment stressed for nurses**

Dr Saeeda Malik, Sindh Minister for Women Development defined a healthy work environment as the one

that maximised the health and well-being of nurses as well as ensured quality patient outcomes and organisational performance, and said that such an environment was 'the key to effective delivery of nursing services.' Dr Malik was the chief guest at the International Nurses Day Symposium.

[Link](#)

### **There is more to Epilepsy than you know**

Researchers from the Aga Khan University (AKU) have found that considerable gaps exist in the community's knowledge about Epilepsy, which is why Epileptics, people who suffer from this disease, go through considerable stigmatization in the society.

[Link](#)



## **Aga Khan University supporting 'green' initiative - 'An Inconvenient Truth'**

Subah-e-nau (SN) ([www.greenpakistan.org](http://www.greenpakistan.org)) and The Monthly Subh-e-Nau have been working on raising awareness, advising policy and conducting practical programmes for improving the environment and public health in the country for more than a decade now.

[Link](#)



## **Aga Khan University Newsletter - May 2007**

[Link](#)

## **Meningitis vaccination could save thousands of children**

Routine vaccination of infants in Pakistan and other South Asian countries against the Hib bacteria could save thousands of children's lives, according to a study published in The Pediatric Infectious Disease Journal.

[Link](#)

## **Keeping doctors at home - Ali Hashmi**

A successful model already exists in the

form of the Aga Khan University Hospital, an institution that has an enviable record of attracting their top alumni back from the West after training by offering them attractive salaries, a collegial and stimulating working environment and reasonable chances for career advancement.

[Link](#)

## **Art & Culture**

### **Golden Melodies: A Musical Journey from Central Asia**

A musical journey from Central Asia, Golden Melodies Vol.1 is a private initiative to commemorate the Aga Khan's Golden Jubilee. It is a blend of new and classical poetry, traditional yet innovative.

[Link](#)

### **Cultural Celebration in the inauguration of Islamic Art Museum at Bab El-Khaleq**

Hawas added that the restoration process of the monumental fountain was carried out in collaboration with Agha Khan Foundation, as the fountain was transported to its new site at the Islamic Art museum according to the new design.

[Link](#)





## Unseen Masterpieces of Islamic Art Revealed

Spirit & Life, an exhibition of rare Islamic art and manuscripts never before displayed in the UK, will run this summer at The Ismaili Centre, South Kensington, London.

[Link](#)

## Spirit and Life - Masterpieces of Islamic Art from the Aga Khan Museum Collection - Pictures

Spirit & Life, an exhibition of rare Islamic art and manuscripts never before displayed in the UK, will run from 14 July to 31 August at the The Ismaili Centre, South Kensington, London

[Link](#)

## Spirit & Life - Masterpieces of Islamic Art from the Aga Khan Museum Collection

<http://www.akdn.org/museums/>

[Link](#)

## A Spicy Touch Volume III

From Noorbanu Nimji's Blog: I am very excited to announce the Release of A Spicy Touch Volume III. The books have finally arrived, and I must say, I am very happy with the outcome. However having said this, I leave the final opinion to my readers.

[Link](#)

## Education

### Value-based education is must - Princess Zahra Aga Khan

On the eve of the inauguration ceremony of the New Diamond Jubilee High School, head of the social welfare department at the Aga Khan's secretariat in France, princess Zahra Aga Khan stressed on the need to imbibe the students with value- based education.

[Link](#)

### Seminar on English Language and Empowerment in Developing World at AKU

Aga Khan University (AKU) will host a two-day seminar on 'English and Empowerment in the Developing World' on June 9 and 10, 2007. Dr Atta-ur-Rahman, Advisor to the Prime Minister on Science and Technology and Chairman Higher Education Commission, will be the chief guest on the occasion.

[Link](#)

### Correlation between empowerment and English

Firoz Rasul, President Aga Khan University said that the theme was highly relevant in the multilingual and multicultural societies where the learning and teaching of an international language such as English, was essential for various reasons.

[Link](#)





## **Agha Khan Primary Introduces Cambridge Programme**

AGHA Khan School has started offering a double curriculum syllabus, the chief executive officer, Margaret Bell, has said. Agha Khan is the first primary school in the country to register for the Cambridge international programme. We want to assure parents that we offer one of the best teaching standards in the country,"

[Link](#)

## **A Disabled Child Thrives in a Village's New Preschool**

Inbal Alon was an Aga Khan Foundation Canada intern placed with the Zanzibar Madrasa Resource Centre, Zanzibar, through CIDA's International Youth Internship Program.

[Link](#)

## **Video: Question and Answer with Professor Asani - The Islamic Landscape**

Harvard Professor Ali Asani discusses the tradition of pluralism within Islam and the diverse ways in which Muslims understand their faith. Professor Asani also works toward a basic understanding of how Muslims see the world and their place in it.

[Link](#)

## **Harvard Graduate Research Workshops: Understanding Islam in the West**

[Link](#)

## **Professor Wilferd Madelung Awarded Prestigious Giorgio Levi Della Vida Prize**

[Link](#)

## **Consider Nursery Education, Govt Told - Aga Khan Foundation**

The government of Uganda has been urged to interest itself with nursery and pre-primary school education. The call was made on Thursday by Minaz Khariman, the chairman of Madrasa Resource Centre, which is a project under the Aga Khan Foundation.

"Early child development is very key to our children's human and psychological development yet it's a component that has always not been adequately attended to. Whereas UPE is a commendable effort, it doesn't adequately address the issue of Early Child Development," said Mr. Minaz, calling on the government and donor agencies to commit more funding to Early child development programmes.

He also urged the Uganda Muslim Supreme Council to liaise with Madrasa Resource centre (MRC) to ensure that the over one million Muslim children aged between 2-8 years are mobilised to enrol into nursery schools.

[Link](#)

## **First IB Students at Aga Khan Academy Mombasa**

In a mark of the importance of the occasion, His Highness the Aga Khan has conveyed a message to the first graduating class of International Baccalaureate diploma students of the Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa.

[Link](#)

## **What is the International Baccalaureate?**

The IB offers a continuum of high-quality education that encourages international-mindedness and a positive attitude to



learning. Our programmes are accessible to students in 125 countries through our close cooperation with the worldwide community of IB World Schools.

[Link](#)

## **Karachi University Complex well-proportioned, climatically suitable, student-friendly**

Ecochard's archives and all his drawings and thinking that went into the buildings of this complex are currently with the Aga Khan Award for Architecture (AKAA) in Geneva. On Ecochard's death, his wife gave these archives to the AKAA. "I have looked at them and they are really exceptional," Hasan says.

He suggests that the Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP) can hold the national competition in association with the Institute of Architects (IAP) and perhaps with the involvement of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.

[Link](#)

## **IIS Receives the Hamdani Collection of Rare Manuscripts**

Professor Abbas Hamdani of Milwaukee (USA) gifted a collection of rare and important manuscripts to The Institute of Ismaili Studies. The Sayyidi Muhammad 'Ali Hamdani Collection of Ismaili and other manuscripts, in the Hamdani family for several generations, is well-known among scholars in the field of Shi'i and Ismaili studies.

[Link](#)

## **AKES organizes six day Participatory Project Planning and Management training workshop**

The Aga Khan Education Service Pakistan,

Chitral under its Capacity Development & Linkages with Government (CDLG) component organized six day training workshop on Participatory Project Planning & Management in Pakistan Academy for Rural Development, Academy town, Peshawar for Union Council Nazims from Chitral

[Link](#)

## **Mombasa Madrasa Programmes Impress Visiting India Minister**

At the invitation of the Aga Khan Development Network, Her Excellency Mrs. D. Purandeswari, Minister of State, Human Resource Development, Government of India, visited Mombasa and Zanzibar

[Link](#)

## **Aga Khan Academy Celebrate with Music, Art and Drama**

Proceeds of the event went to Kenya Red Cross in an effort to help build housing for displaced families in Likoni area

[Link](#)

## **Prominent Personalities from Ismaili History**

Ismaili Heroes From Ahmed An-Nasafi to Ja'far bin Mansur al-Yaman. From Nasir Khusraw to Pir Shahabu'd-din Shah .... collection of short history from all the major personalities of Ismaili Muslim history.

[Link](#)





## **An Educational and Informative Crossword Puzzle for Ismaili Muslims**

Switching gears at this blog for a quick post on fun and educational activity, which is everyone's favorite: Crossword Puzzle. This one carries a religious flavor and is from Nina Jaffer of amaana.org. Hoping that the general knowledge contained in this activity will be of helpful nature to all audience alike [Link](#).

## **VP calls on western province residence to pool their resources**

Awori commended the Aga Khan Education Foundation for supplementing government's efforts in providing quality education through establishments of model schools. [Link](#)

## **The Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims: A Short Introduction - Second Edition**

An introduction to the ideas and practices of this little known Shia religious community. By Jim Davis [Link](#)

## **Strengthening Teachers Education Program**

The project will strengthen training and professional development for public primary school teachers and education managers. Implementation: Contribution Agreement – The Aga Khan Foundation Canada [Link](#)

## **Ismailis In the News**

### **Proud to be Canadian campaign kicks off - Order of Canada recipient Sultan Jessa**

Order of Canada recipient Sultan Jessa, a retired journalist now living in Montreal, is once again co-chairing the second annual "Proud to be a Canadian" campaign. [Link](#)



### **World Partnership Walk helps end proverty! - by Sultan Jessa**

Seaway News, Friday, June 1, 2007, pp 13 [Link](#)

### **Nizar J. Somji becomes president & CEO of Matrikon Inc**

Matrikon (TSX:MTK) announced today that Amin Rawji has stepped down as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and has resigned as a member of Matrikon's board of directors effective immediately. [Link](#)



## OMA Glenn Sawyer Award for Dr. Zul Juma

The event, which is expected to have 120 people participate, will also honour Dr. Zul Juma and Dr. Albert Melanson who will both receive the OMA Glenn Sawyer Award for their outstanding contribution to the medical community.

[Link](#)

## Eyes have it for Lalani

Sehar Lalani saw it all growing up in Kenya. Eventually, she wants to help Kenyans see.

Since moving to Burnaby just 18 months ago, Lalani has made an impact. She's made those at Moscrop secondary take notice.

[Link](#)



unlocks the meaning of life's most baffling questions and offers brilliant insights based on ancient spiritual wisdom. The reader embarks on a mystical journey of self-discovery as one by one the meaning of the seven jewels are revealed. A satisfied reader explained, "What a fabulous book...It touched me in a profound way."

[Link](#)

## Dr. Alkarim Jina to ride bicycle over 800 miles across Rockies in support of Charity

On June 22, 2007, Dr. Alkarim Jina will ride his bicycle across the Rockies, from Vancouver to Calgary, in support of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

[Link](#)

## Aly Sunderji at World Poetry celebration of Asian Heritage

A Powerful young Canadian devotional poet and photographer who is currently studying culinary arts.

[Link](#)

## Canadian Ismaili Student Wins Two Prestigious Scholarships

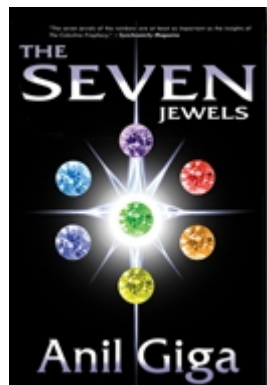
Local student awarded prestigious scholarship  
BRAMPTON - Teenager Salina Kanji has been helping out in her community since she was in Grade 2 and that passion for volunteering has been recognized by one of the country's most prestigious scholarship foundations.

[Link](#)

## Recognition for young Ismaili Artist - Nurin Merchant

Nurin Merchant's entry "Wapusk National Park in the annual Parks Canada "Ecological Integrity Poster Contest" won her 12th overall place in the academic category out of 942 posters that were submitted by 1129 Grade 9 Students from across Ontario.

[Link](#)



## Nazneen Molu procured a 50% scholarship to Cambridge University. This is her story

[Link](#)

## The Seven Jewels by Anil Giga

In his book, The Seven Jewels, Anil Giga



## **Ottawa Siblings: Danyal and Saba Rawjani - students of Classical Music**

The Ottawa siblings, Danyal and Saba Rawjani. Both the siblings are under the training for vocal and instrumental training by local ustad of Indian classical music. At present they are learning classical ragaas, like Bhopali, Bherave and other Raags.

[Link](#)

## **The 2007 UBC-Laurier Institution lecture - Dr. Karim H. Karim**

The 2007 UBC-Laurier Institution lecture will be delivered by Dr. Karim H. Karim, Director of the School of Journalism and Communication at Carleton University.

[Link](#)



## **Learning... By Heart - Ismaili Muslims in Canada**

A short documentary about volunteer-run centers set up by the Ismaili Muslim community in Edmonton, Canada to help young refugees from Afghanistan and Central Asia to improve their English and math skills.

[Link](#)

## **The province pays homage to volunteers of the area of Toronto - Zul Kassamali**

Zul Kassamali was honoured for its 40 years with voluntary help in favour of His Highness Prince Aga Khan Shia Imami Council for Ontario - Arts and culture.

[Link](#)

## **Zain Hami receives \$75,000 scholarship - The Loran Award**

Zain is a member of the Mayor's Youth Council in Calgary and was the school's yearbook editor. He is also active in Junior Achievement and is on the Junior Volunteer Corps of his community mosque where he mentors young children. Zain plans to study engineering.

[Link](#)

## **Free pancake breakfast hosted by Ismaili Muslim Community for Canada's 140th birthday**

As Canadians toast the nation's 140th birthday this year, Edmontonians can get downright celebratory in their hometown as they hop around Alberta's capital wearing red and white, and indulging in good old patriotic, flag-waving fun.

[Link](#)

## **Ismaili Author - Jules S Damji**

In his stunning debut of stories, Jules S. Damji explores the social ethos of an immigrant Asian community set in the early 1960s through to the 1970s, a decade of immense political changes that marked many people's lives in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

[Link](#)

## **Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation**

In his memoir, Acts of Faith, Eboo Patel chronicles the life journey that led him to found the Chicago-based Interfaith Youth Core in 1998, which brings together thousands of youth in a spirit of pluralism.

[Link](#)



## Miscellaneous

### **Speech by His Highness the Aga Khan - 15 June 2007**

Speech by His Highness the Aga Khan at Graduation Ceremony of the Masters of Public Affairs (MPA) Programme at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)

[Link](#)

### **Pictures: His Highness the Aga Khan at Graduation Ceremony at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po)**

[Link](#)



### **Al-Fatiha - The Opening - From Jalaledin Ebrahim**

From the author of What Really Went Wrong? – A Shi'i Response to Bernard Lewis. Jalaledin Ebrahim's Blog.

[Link](#)

### **Roof-top Courtyard of the London Ismaili Centre**

One I had long wanted to see, and which only opens twice a year, is the roof-top courtyard of the London Ismaili Centre, just off busy Cromwell Road. With the air heavy with the scent of jasmine and roses, and the sound of trickling water masking the traffic, I felt thousands of miles, and years, from modern London.

[Link](#)

### **Journey to Pakistan**

The next day in Karachi and we are showered with hospitality, cordiality and a most generous welcome by a happy openhearted modern and intelligent staff at Institute of Education Aga Khan University.

[Link](#)

### **Tajiks Seek Permanent Gateway to China**

Many traders fund their business activities by taking out loans, for example from a microfinance bank branch which the Aga Khan Fund, AKF, has set up in Khorog. The AKF, founded by the Aga Khan, the spiritual leader of the Ismaili branch of Islam, has been a major donor and development agency in Badakhshan, where local people are traditionally Ismaili rather than Sunni as in the rest of Tajikistan.

[Link](#)

### **Finance Minister Ghulam Muhammed with Prince Aga Khan in 1949**

[Link](#)

### **The beauty of Hunza valley is unmatched in the region**

[Link](#)



## **Climbers United, a group of young Afghans come to the Aosta Valley to train as alpinists**

The six young mountaineers (a seventh will join them from the Aga Khan's Foundation in Kabul) will attend a course on high altitude alpinism in the Mont Blanc Massif run by instructors from CAI (Italian Alpine Club).

[Link](#)

## **Chitral and tourism year challenges**

[Link](#)

