

Mawlana Hazar Imam's Jubilee Initiatives

During Mawlana Hazar Imam's Imamatus, there were rapid political, economic, and technological changes in newly-emerging nations from colonial rule that required bold initiatives and new programmes to reflect the developing national aspirations. Mawlana Hazar Imam continued and expanded the work of his grandfather in the fields of health care, education, and poverty alleviation in the poorest parts of Africa and Asia through agencies of the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) that he established. Today, the [AKDN](#) works in over thirty countries.

Mawlana Hazar Imam commemorated the Jubilees of his Imamatus by further strengthening and launching new initiatives to improve the quality of life of the marginalised.

Silver Jubilee Initiatives

Silver Jubilee year - July 11, 1982 to July 10, 1983

"...my Silver Jubilee year should be dedicated to the social and economic improvement of the peoples of the Third World."

Mawlana Hazar Imam

New Delhi, India, January 12, 1983

- [Established](#) the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme (1982 in Northern Pakistan and 1983 in India).
- [Expanded](#) programmes and services at Aga Khan Hospital Dar-es Salaam, Tanzania.
- [Expanded](#) the Aga Khan Medical Centre, Kisumu, Kenya.
- Laid the [foundation stone](#) of the Ismaili Centre Burnaby, Canada the first purpose-built permanent Jamatkhana in North America.
- [Established](#) the Madrasa Early Childhood Programme.

During a visit made by Mawlana Hazar Imam to East Africa in 1982, Muslim leaders from the Coast Province of Kenya requested him to help them address their worries about their children falling behind in education – which therefore affected their future life opportunities. In 1986, after nearly 5 years of planning and consultation with a variety of stakeholders, the first Madrasa Pre-school opened its doors with 4 staff members and 4 children. Within 2 weeks, the enrolment increased to 30 students. This 1 centre has evolved into what is known today as the Madrasa Regional Early Childhood Programme (the Madrasa Programme). In 2008, 203 pre-schools owned and operated by communities in Kenya, Zanzibar and Uganda had a combined enrolment for the year of more than 10,000 children with equal numbers of girls and boys.

[AKDN](#)

- [Expanded](#) schools and medical centres in the Hunza region, one of the most remote parts of Northern Pakistan, including the Sherqilla School for girls (now Aga Khan Higher Secondary School), and Singal Medical School, Gilgit, Pakistan.
- [Opened](#) Aga Khan Baug a housing project in Bombay(now Mumbai).
- Received Charter of Aga Khan University.

Golden Jubilee Initiatives

Extended Golden Jubilee year – July 11, 2007 to December 13, 2008

“The Ismaili tradition looks upon a Jubilee anniversary as a good time to launch new projects.”

Mawlana Hazar Imam

Dhaka, Bangladesh, May 21, 2008

Economic Development Projects

- Announced the establishment of [a garment factory](#) and the [country’s first microfinance bank](#) in Mozambique.
- Laid the [foundation stone](#) of the Bujagali hydroelectric power plant in Jinja, Uganda.
- [Committed to](#) the construction of a new undersea high-speed fibre optic cable to link Southern and Eastern Africa with Mumbai, India and Marseille, France, to serve Kenya, Tanzania, Madagascar and Rwanda.
- [Launched](#) the Premiere Agence de Microfinance (PAMF) in Abidjan, Côte d’Ivoire.
- Agreements of international co-operation signed:
 - in [Lisbon](#), between the Ismaili Imam and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Portuguese Republic.
 - in [Damascus](#)
 - ❖ that launched the first MicroFinance institution in Syria.
 - ❖ to build a five-star hotel in Damascus that involved the restoration of 3 houses and an adjacent school in Old Damascus.
 - in [Paris](#) to build on a number of AKDN projects to which the French government and French companies contributed. Some of these projects include:
 - ❖ [Roshan Telecom](#)
 - ❖ [French Medical Institute for Children](#), in Kabul, Afghanistan
 - ❖ [Bujagali Hydroelectric Plant](#) in Jinja, Uganda
 - in [Aswan](#), Egypt, between the First Microfinance Foundation, a subsidiary of the Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance, and the United States Agency for International Development to increase microfinance support to low income families and small businesses in the Aswan Governorate.
- [Ismaili Economic Forum](#) in Dubai, UAE, opened by Prince Ameen.

Projects Inaugurated During the Golden Jubilee Year

- [Great Mosque of Mopti](#) in Mali restored by AKTC.
- [Monuments of Darb al-Ahmar](#) in Cairo, Egypt restored by AKTC.
- [Citadels](#) of Aleppo, Salah ad-Din and Masyaf, in Syria, restored by AKTC.
- [Dubai Park](#), a gift from Mawlana Hazar Imam to the City of Dubai, UAE, was developed by the AKTC.
- [Delegation of the Ismaili Imam](#) in Ottawa, Canada.

Education and Health Projects

- [Inaugurated](#) the Faculty of Health Sciences of the Aga Khan University in Nairobi, Kenya, comprising a Medical College and a School of Nursing.
- Laid the foundation stone of
 - [Aga Khan Academy in Munyonyo, Kampala](#), Uganda.
 - a [residential campus](#) at the Aga Khan Academy Mombasa, Kenya.
 - [Aga Khan Academy in Dhaka](#), Bangladesh.
- [Announced](#) the construction of Aga Khan University campus in Arusha, Tanzania, which will include the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, and graduate professional schools.
- Memorandum was signed between Aga Khan University and
 - [Catholic University of Portugal](#), in Lisbon, for collaboration in culture, law, religion, ethics, health sciences, education and human development through joint research, training initiatives, and exchange programmes for faculty and students.
 - [University of Texas](#) in Austin, for an expansion of the two Universities' existing programs relating to education and teaching about Muslim Histories and Cultures as well as a number of other areas, including architecture and human settlement; government, public policy and civil society; education, science and technology; health sciences including joint research and training; and human development.
 - [Ministries of Health and Higher Education](#) of the Government of Syria to enhance capacity in the healthcare, microfinance, and cultural tourism.
 - [McMaster University](#) in Hamilton, Canada, to address commonly shared objectives in the health sciences, the social sciences, humanities and business.

Jamatkhanas and Centres

- [Opened](#) the Ismaili Centre Dubai, UAE.
The site of the Ismaili Centre was a gift of the ruling family of Dubai, presented by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates and Ruler of Dubai, to Mawlana Hazar Imam on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of his accession to the Imamate in 1982.



Ismaili Centre Dubai. Photo: Archnet

- Laid the foundation stone of
 - [Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre in Dhaka](#), Bangladesh.
 - [Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre in Khorog](#), Tajikistan.
- Announced the establishment of new Centres in
 - [Houston](#), Texas, USA (which was [confirmed](#) during the Diamond Jubilee visit).
 - Paris, France.

Parks Announced to be Developed by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture

- [Bamako Park](#), Mali, West Africa
- [Park at Bab Qinnestrine](#), Aleppo, Syria
- Burnaby, Canada - the Mayor of Burnaby gifted a 15-acre piece of land to Mawlana Hazar Imam on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee. A public park is to be developed on this land in partnership between the Aga Khan Development Network and the City of Burnaby.

Other Programmes

- [Jubilee Games](#)
The Jubilee Games initiative is a permanent extension of the Golden Jubilee Games, developed as a Golden Jubilee International Programme commemorating 50 years of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Imamatus. The inaugural games were held in June 2008 in Nairobi, Kenya.

Diamond Jubilee Initiatives

Diamond Jubilee year – July 11, 2017 to July 11, 2018

“Establishing a Seat in Portugal will also provide a platform for enhancing international relationships and taking them in new directions.”

Mawlana Hazar Imam

July 11, 2018, Lisbon, Portugal

Established

- [Global Pluralism Award](#)
The award was launched during the year that Hazar Imam marked his Diamond Jubilee and Canada's 150th year of Confederation. Through their remarkable and sustained achievements, awardees contribute to building more inclusive societies in which human diversity is protected.
- [Aga Khan Music Awards](#)
The Award is created to recognise and further develop exceptional creativity and enterprise in music and music education in societies in which Muslims have a significant presence..
- [Seat of Imamatus](#)
Mawlana Hazar Imam officially designated the premises located at Rua Marquês de Fronteira in Lisbon — the Henrique de Mendonça Palace — as the Seat of the Ismaili Imamatus, and declared that it be known as the “Diwan of the Ismaili Imamatus.”



Photo: The Ismaili Imamatus

Inaugurated

- Aga Khan University's [Centre for Innovation in Medical Education](#) (CIME), Karachi, Pakistan. The CIME will become a strategic resource for the University, AKDN, the nation, and the region.
- [Sunder Nursery](#), New Delhi, India
The new leisure green spaces and meeting places are expected to become an attraction for all area residents as well as visitors, becoming a cultural space that will contribute to economic and social development.
- [Aga Khan Centre](#), London, UK
The Aga Khan Centre, located in London's 'Knowledge Quarter,' houses the Institute of Ismaili Studies, the Aga Khan University Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations, and the Aga Khan Foundation UK.



Evening view of Aga Khan Centre. Photo: AKDN

Other Programmes

- [Jubilee Arts](#)
The Jubilee Arts International Arts Festival established in the Diamond Jubilee year to celebrate the global Jamat's artistic skills and cultural traditions, and aims to encourage a deeper appreciation for the arts within the Jamat. The inaugural festival was held in July 2018 in Lisbon, Portugal.
- [Aga Khan Garden](#) in Edmonton, Canada was opened to the public during the Diamond Jubilee year.
- [A second grant towards scientific and technical research](#)
The € 2.5 million grant is for research that will improve the quality of life mainly in Portuguese-speaking countries in Africa. The announcement was made by the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) and the Portuguese Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT), as part of its Initiative on Knowledge for Development.
[the.Ismaili](#)

The first grant of € 2.3 million from the AKDN – which was matched by a further € 2.3 million from the FCT – included medical research (tuberculosis, malaria, HIV and sickle cell anaemia); biodiversity and climate change; habitat; agriculture and food security; and cultural identity, pluralism, and the integrity of elections.

[AKDN Press Release](#)

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