

## Countdown to Diamond Jubilee

Providing a few snapshots of the vast work of Mawlana Hazar Imam during his Imamatus to improve the quality of life of the marginalised in the poorest parts of the world through the agencies of the Aga Khan Development Network.

compiled by Nimira Dewji  
July 2016-July 2017

*“...my responsibilities as **spiritual leader and interpreter of the faith** are coupled with a deep commitment to improving the quality of life. These activities are not limited to the Ismaili community but extend to those who share their lives, whether on a local, national or international scale. Our duty is to try to free people from poverty. And to me, poverty means being without shelter, without protection, without access to healthcare, education, or credit, and without hope of ever controlling one’s own destiny. This means condemning one’s children and grandchildren to unacceptable living conditions.*

*A voluntarist and innovative strategy is needed in order to break this chain of despair and total imprisonment.”*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam  
at the State Banquet, Antananarivo, Madagascar  
November 27, 2007**

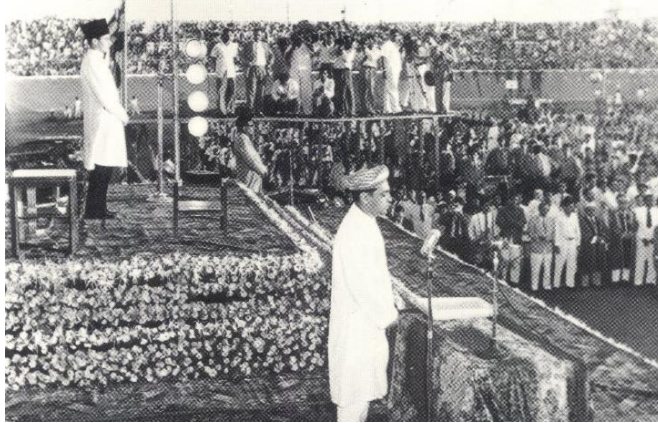
[Speech](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam speaking at the state banquet in his honour hosted by the Prime Minister Charles Rabemanjara. Photo: AKDN/Gary Otte

## 1. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee: Snapshots of Imamat – 1957 to 1962

Mawlana Hazar Imam became the forty-ninth hereditary Imam of the Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims on July 11, 1957 while still a student at Harvard University. He has led the community through political, economic, and social changes: from space exploration to end of colonial rule and the Cold War, the development of mass media communications, and advancements in medical technology.



Takht Nashini (Masnadrashini), Bombay, 1958. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures

Takhtnashini held in Dar es-Salaam (19 October 1957), Nairobi (22 October 1957), Kampala (25 October 1957), Karachi (22 January 1958), Dacca (12 February 1958), and Bombay (now Mumbai) (1958).

*“The huge new atomic power stations, the Sputniks and the vast throbbing machines of modern industrial life are symbols of a fresh chapter in material progress...I do not believe that we should fear material progress, nor should we condemn it. The danger is that it could become an obsession in our lives and that it could dominate our way of thinking. There is no reason why our traditions and our faith should stop us from moving with our times, nor in fact why we should not lead our fellowmen to new spheres of knowledge and learning....our traditions and our religion will always inspire the creations of our hands and minds.”*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam,  
Takhtnashini, Karachi, Pakistan, January 23, 1958**

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

- granted an audience to the representatives of the global Jamat at this residence in Villa Barkat, Switzerland (1957).
- attended the final resting ceremony of his grandfather in Aswan, Egypt (1959).
- presided over the first conference of the presidents of the world Ismailia Associations in Cannes, France (1961).
- established the Aga Khan Chair of Islamic Studies at the American University in Beirut (1962).
- approved *The Constitution of the Councils and Jamats of Shia Imami Ismaili Muslims of Pakistan* (1962).

## 1957 to 1962

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### inaugurated

- Aga Khan Platinum Jubilee Hospital in Nairobi, Kenya; Wandegaya Mosque in Kampala, Uganda; the Aga Khan Nursery School in Kisumu, Kenya; Aga Khan Schools in Kharadar, Karachi, Pakistan; Karimabad Jamatkhana in Dacca (1957-1962).

#### visited

- United States as Honorary Chairman of the Africa Research Foundation for its health and research projects in Africa (1959).
- Hunza the first Imam to do so in 1,400 years of Ismaili history (1960).
- Syria, South Africa, Congo (Zaire), London, and Portuguese East Africa, Pakistan, East Africa, laying the foundations of and opening Aga Khan schools, dispensaries, and fitness clubs. (1960-1961)

#### Other events

- Interviewed for the first time as Imam by BBC Television, London, UK (1958).
- Appointed Patron-in-Chief of the East African Muslim Welfare Society (1961).
- Addressed the Lions Club in Nairobi, Kenya (1961), Rotary Club Mombasa (1961) on education, and Rotary Club Bombay (1961).
- Won the Robert of Kandahar Cup at Davos, Switzerland for downhill skiing (1962).
- Announced plans to build a tourist resort in Sardinia over a period of 15 years (1962).

In September 1958, Mawlana Hazar Imam resumed his studies at Harvard University, graduating in 1959 with BA degree.

## Reflection



Mawlana Hazar Imam's Graduation from Harvard, 1959. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



Switzerland, 1962. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures

## Reflection



With Ismaili leaders, Villa Barakat, July 13, 1957. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures

### Selected World Events – 1957 to 1962

- Prince Sadruddin was appointed [Special Envoy](#) to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1959). He served as Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees from 1962-1965.
- Prince Alykhan was appointed [Permanent Representative](#) of Pakistan to the United Nations from February 1958 to May 1960.
- The Soviet Union launched [Sputnik I](#) (1957) – the world’s first artificial satellite, ushering a new political, military, technological, and scientific developments era as well as the US-USSR space race. It also led directly to the creation of [National Aeronautics and Space Administration](#) (NASA).
- First [satellite to transmit voice signals](#) launched by US government’s Project SCORE (Signal Communication by Orbiting Relay Equipment) from Cape Canaveral, Florida (1958).
- Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human to journey into outer space, when his spacecraft orbited the earth (1961).
- The first working [laser](#) (“Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation”) was built (1960). In 1917, Einstein had laid the foundation for the laser when he introduced the concept of stimulated emission.
- Echo IA, the first [communications satellite](#) was successfully launched, ushering an era of communications satellites (1960).
- Unimation’s industrial robot [Unimate](#), considered the world’s first industrial robot, worked on General Motors’ automobile assembly line (1961).
- The [Berlin Wall](#) was erected (1961).
- In South Africa, Nelson Mandela sentenced to life imprisonment at Robben Island prison (1962).
- First videogame *Spacewar* was written (1962).
- General Electric produced the light-emitting diode (LED) (1962).



## 2. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee: Snapshots of Imamat – 1963 to 1967

During Hazar Imam's early Imamat, the countries that were emerging from colonial rule began to revise their economic and education aspirations, developing new services to meet their needs. Consequently, many of the education and health institutions established by Imam Sultan Mahomed Shah needed to be strengthened and expanded, and new institutions were established.

*“There are those who enter the world in such poverty that they are deprived of both the means and the motivation to improve their lot. Unless they can be touched with the spark which ignites the spirit of individual enterprise and determination, they will only sink into apathy, degradation and despair. It is for us, who are more fortunate to provide that spark.”*

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**Aiglemont, France, January 24, 1967**

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

- founded East African [Industrial Promotion Services](#) (IPS) (1963), and IPS Pakistan (1966), IPS Congo (Zaire) (1966), and Aga Khan Foundation (1967).
- presided over the second conference of the presidents of the world Ismailia Associations (1964), and the third conference in Nairobi (1966).
- presided over the first World Ismaili Socio-Economic Conference in Karachi (1964) and the second conference in Geneva (1967), where he announced the establishment of Aga Khan Foundation.
- approved Constitution of the Councils and Jamats of Shia Imami Ismailis of Africa (1963).
- represented Iran in the IX Olympic Winter Games at Innsbruck, Austria (1964).
- announced the construction of a medical college in Karachi (1964).
- attended independence celebrations as a guest in Kenya (1966).



With President Jomo Kenyatta, Nairobi, 1966.  
Photo: 25 Years in Pictures

### **inaugurated/opened**

- [Filtisac](#), a jute mill in Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire, the first IPS project (1967).
- IPS building in Nairobi (1967).

### **visited**

- Abidjan Jamat in Ivory Coast (1965), Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malagasy Republic (Madagascar) (1966).



Visiting first IPS project Abidjan, 1967.  
Photo: 25 Years in Pictures

**1963 to 1967**

**Mawlana Hazar Imam  
addressed**

- the [first anniversary celebration](#) of Mindanao State University as chief guest (1963).
- the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Hyderabad (1964).



Mawlana Hazar Imam watching the Cadets Parade at Mindanao State University's First Anniversary Celebration with (L to R) : Mr Lucman; Dr Antonio Isidro, President of Mindanao State University and Col. Commandant. Also in the rear row sitting (L to R) Inamullah Khan, Vazir Amirali H. Fancy, Vazir Capt. Amirali Currim and Mr Khan, Counsel at the Embassy of Pakistan. Photo: AKDN

For titles and honours bestowed upon Mawlana Hazar Imam, visit [AKDN](#) or view the [matrix](#).

#### **Selected World Events – 1963 to 1967**

- Prince Sadruddin served as [UN's High Commissioner for Refugees](#) from 1966 to 1977.
- Valentina Vladimirovna Tereshkova, a Russian cosmonaut, was the [first woman to fly in space](#) aboard the Soviet Vostok spacecraft (1963).
- In South Africa, [Nelson Mandela](#) sentenced to life imprisonment at Robben Island prison (1962).
- [First videogame](#) *Spacewar* was written (1962).
- General Electric produced the [light-emitting diode](#) (LED) (1962).
- At the Lincoln Memorial, in Washington, DC, civil rights activist Martin Luther King made his "I have a dream" [speech](#) (1963).
- The [electronic synthesizer](#) was developed (1964).
- Widespread use of [remotely piloted aircraft](#) began (1964).
- [Bar codes](#) (computer-scanned binary signal code) were introduced for retail and industrial use (1966).
- The first [Star Trek](#) episode, "The Man Trap," was broadcast (1966).
- Purchases of [colour television](#) sets began to accelerate after a slow start in 1954 when the first colour television set was sold.

Sources:

*Hikmat*, December 1986

*25 Years in Pictures*

*The Ismaili Canada*, various issues

## Countdown to Diamond Jubilee: Snapshots of Imamat – 1968 to 1972



*I hope....that the benefit of this hospital will spread far beyond the patients who enter its doors. It is, after all, to be a training institution, not only for doctors but also for nurses.*

*The Aga Khan Hospital in Karachi will naturally become the hub and focal point of the Ismaili health institutions. We plan to train not only doctors and nurses but health visitors for our own clinics throughout Pakistan....If, at a later date, we enter the field of medical research, the objectives of that research will be specifically directed to the needs of this country.”*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**February 3, 1971**

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

- donated the Aga Khan Palace at Yarawda, Poona to the Indian Government as a memorial to Mahatma Gandhi (1969).
- presided over the opening of the IPS Tanzania by President Nyerere (1970).
- presided over the foundation ceremony of Aga Khan Medical College and Hospital in Karachi by President Yahya Khan of Pakistan (1971).
- launched , with Prince Ayn, a tourist game lodge and hotel project in Nairobi, Kenya (1971).
- established IPS Uganda in Kampala (1972).
- visited Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Syria, France, India, Pakistan, addressing various institutions including Karachi Chamber of Commerce, Secretary of the Federal Minister of Tourism, members of Pakistan Tourism Development Corporation, and the youth in the Jamat (1968-1972).



Mawlana Hazar Imam laying the foundation of a Jamatkhana in Khulna, India (1971).

Photo: via Pinterest



## Mawlana Hazar Imam with world leaders



With Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, India, 1958. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With Philibert Tsiranana, President of the Malagasy Republic, and his wife, 1960. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



In Burma, 1960. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



In South Africa, 1958. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With President Julius Nyerere, Tanzania, 1961. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



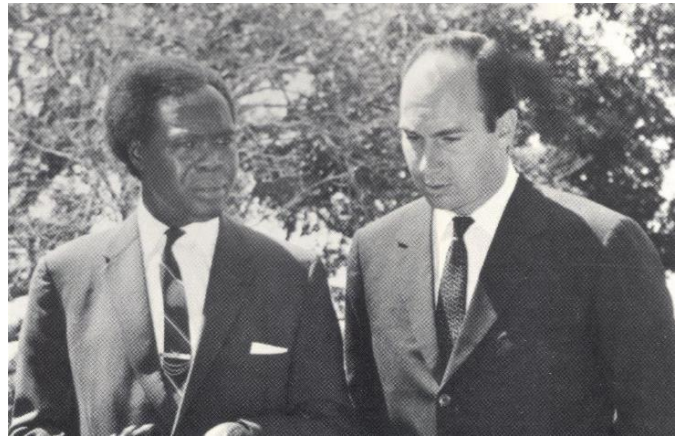
With Mir of Hunza, 1960. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



## Mawlana Hazar Imam with world leaders



With President John F. Kennedy, Washington, DC, 1961. Photo: Vanity Fair



With President Milton Obote, Uganda, 1966. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



In the Comoro Islands, 1966. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With Prince Ayn and Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, India, 1969. Photo: via Pinterest

## Selected World Events – 1968 to 1972

- The [Tupolev Tu-144](#), the world's first commercial supersonic transport aircraft was flown for the first time at a speed of 2,000 km per (1968).
- [Apollo 11](#) landed on the moon on July 20, 1969.
- The Soviet Union's Soyuz 4 and Soyuz 5 rendezvous and dock and perform the first [in-orbit crew transfer](#) (1969).
- The first Internet message was sent at University of California on the [ARPANET](#) precursor to the modern Internet (1969).
- IBM introduced the [floppy disk](#) (1971).
- ARP ([Autoradiopuhelin](#), “car radio phone”) was the first commercially operated public mobile phone network in Finland (1971).
- Motorola produced a handheld [mobile phone](#) (1973).
- The first operational LCD ([liquid crystal display](#)) panel was introduced.
- Idi Amin seized power in [Uganda](#) (1971) expelling all Asians in 1972.
- Intel introduced the [microprocessor](#) (1972).
- The first commercial arcade video game, [Computer Space](#), Nutting Associates, was introduced in 1971. In the same year, Atari introduced the arcade version of *Pong*, the first video game. The home version came out in 1974.
- [Pioneer 10](#) was the first spacecraft to leave the solar system (1972).



Apollo 11 astronaut Buzz Aldrin walks on the surface of the moon on July 20, 1969. Photo: NASA



U.S astronaut Thomas P. Stafford and cosmonaut Aleksei A. Leonov seen at the hatchway leading from the Apollo Docking Module to the Soyuz Orbital Module during the Apollo-Soyuz Test Program mission. Photo: NASA

### 3. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee - Snapshots of Imamat - 1973 to 1977

"The nature of the religious office which I hold neither requires nor is expected by the members of my community, to be an institution whose existence is restricted to spiritual leadership. On the contrary, history and the correct interpretation of the Imamat require that the Imam, while caring first of all for the spiritual well-being of his people, should also be continuously concerned with their safety and their material progress."

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce in Zurich, Switzerland**

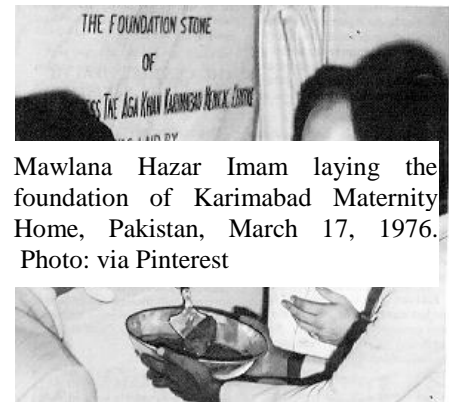
**January 14, 1976**

[Speech](#)



**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

- presided over the fourth conference of world presidents of Ismailia Associations in Paris (1975) that led to the establishment of The IIS.
- presided over the opening of Nairobi Serena Hotel by President Kenyatta (1976).
- laid the foundation of Karimabad Maternity Home, Pakistan (1976).
- the first World Ismaili Leaders Forum with Sir Eboo Pirbhai as Chairman (1977).
- established [Aga Khan Award for Architecture](#) (1977).
- inaugurated [The Institute of Ismaili Studies](#) (1977).



Mawlana Hazar Imam laying the foundation of Karimabad Maternity Home, Pakistan, March 17, 1976. Photo: via Pinterest

**addressed**

- the Swiss-American Chamber of Commerce in Zurich on the *Role of Private Initiative in Developing Countries* (1976). [Speech](#)
- the Seerat Conference in Pakistan (1976). [Speech](#)

**visited**

- Jamats in Kenya (1976), Pakistan (1976).



Mawlana Hazar Imam met with leaders of the Jamat and Ismaili scholars at a conference in Paris, France. Photo: The.Ismaili



With Ismaili leaders in Nairobi, Kenya, 1976



## 1973 to 1977

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

- attended Kenya's tenth independence anniversary celebration as a guest of the government (1973).
- made a ten-day state visit to Bangladesh (1977).

For titles and honours bestowed upon Mawlana Hazar Imam, visit [AKDN](#) or view the [matrix](#).

### Selected World Events – 1973 to 1977

- The [Concorde](#), the first supersonic passenger-carrying commercial airplane (SST), made its first transatlantic crossing (1973).
- Motorola introduced the first hand held cellular phone (1973).
- Home videotape systems (VCRs) are developed in Japan by [Sony \(Betamax\)](#) (1975) and Matsushita (VHS) (1976).
- The first [cooperative human space flight](#) project between the United States and the Soviet Union (1975).
- The [personal computer](#) - MITS Altair 8800 - was introduced (1975).
- The [Steadicam](#), a brand of camera stabilizer, was invented (1975).
- Israeli commandos attack [Uganda's Entebbe Airport](#) and freed 103 hostages held by pro-Palestinian hijackers of an Air France aircraft (1976).
- Cosmic string theory first postulated by [Thomas Kibble](#) (1976).
- First *Star Wars* movie in theatres (1977).
- Prince Sadruddin established the [The Bellerive Foundation](#) in Switzerland (1977).



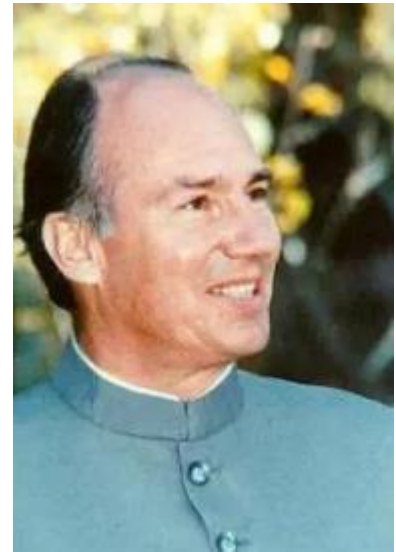
HRH Prince Charles (left) receiving the record "Golden Soul" by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees Prince Sadruddin (right) during a ceremony (1977). (Photo: AM/Ismailimail/ UNHCR)



## 5.Countdown to Diamond Jubilee – Snapshots of Imamat – 1978 to 1982

### Mawlana Hazar Imam established

- the joint Aga Khan Programme for Islamic Architecture at [Harvard](#) and [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](#) (MIT) (1979).
- [Aga Khan Planning and Building Services](#), Pakistan (1980).
- [Aga Khan Foundation Bangladesh](#) (1980).
- [Aga Khan Foundation Canada](#) (1980).
- [Industrial Promotion and Development Company Ltd of Bangladesh](#) (IPDC) (1981)
- the IPS project, *Societe Ivoirienne de Prefabriques et D'accessories Industriels* (SIPACCA) in Abidjan, Cote D'Ivoire (1982).
- [Aga Khan Rural Support Programme](#) in Northern Pakistan (1982).



### presided over

- the first seminar of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture at Aiglemont (1978).
- the foundation stone ceremony of the [Ismaili Centre, London](#) performed by Lord Soames (1979).
- the first M.I.S. meeting held in Aiglemont (1979).
- the presentation of the [first awards of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture](#) at Shalimar Gardens, Lahore, Pakistan (1980). [Speech](#)
- fifth international seminar of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Amman, Jordan (1980), the sixth seminar in Beijing, China (1981), and the seventh seminar in Dakar, Senegal (1982).
- the inauguration of the Aga Khan School of Nursing in Karachi by President Zia ul-Haq (1981).
- the unveiling of the plaque to launch the expansion of the programmes and services at Aga Khan Hospital Dar-es Salaam – a Silver Jubilee project (1982). [Speech](#)
- the [foundation ceremony](#) of the [Ismaili Centre Burnaby](#), Canada (1982), the first purpose-built, permanent Jamatkhana in North America, a Silver Jubilee project.
- foundation ceremony for the extension of the Aga Khan Medical Centre, Kisumu, Kenya (1982), a Silver Jubilee Project.



Mawlana Hazar Imam and Minister of Natural Resources, the Honorable Ali Mwinyi unveil the plaque marking the extension of the Aga Khan Hospital, Dar es Salaam, one of Tanzania's Silver Jubilee projects. Photo: AKDN/ Christopher Little

## **1978 to 1982**

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

#### **addressed**

- the Asia Society in New York on *The Physical Structure of Islam* (1979). [Speech](#)
- delegates at the United Nations Development Programme in New York on a special presentation of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture (1980).
- the 30<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the International Press Institute in Nairobi (1981). [Speech](#)
- the opening session (keynote address) of the AKF/WHO conference in Islamabad, Pakistan on *The Role of Hospitals in Primary Health Care* (1981). [Speech](#)
- the inaugural session of the Enabling Environment Conference, Nairobi, Kenya (1982). [Speech](#)
- Kenyan social institutions in national development. [Speech](#).
- guests at several events organised to commemorate Imam's Silver Jubilee in Kenya, Tanzania, India, and Pakistan.

#### **signed**

- an agreement between Aga Khan University and McMaster University in Hamilton, Canada, establishing a four-year programme for nurses to teach at the Aga Khan School of Nursing, Karachi (1979).
- a contract for the construction of the main complex of the Aga Khan Hospital and Medical University, Karachi (1980).
- a contract with Allied Medical Group of the United Kingdom for equipment for the Aga Khan Hospital and Medical College, Karachi (1981).
- a Memorandum of Agreement between the Aga Khan Foundation and Harvard University to mutually co-operate in the health and medical education initiatives of the developing countries (1981).
- an agreement in Aiglemont between [Diamond Trust of Kenya Ltd](#), the International Finance Corporation (an affiliate of the World Bank), and Samuel Montagu – a leading merchant bank in London, UK – for the expansion of activities of the Diamond Trust of Kenya Ltd (1982).

#### **visited**

- India, stopping at various academic institutions (1978).
- China, with Prince Ayn, for a ten-day tour (1981).
- Pakistan to review the construction of the Aga Khan Hospital and Medical College (1981).
- Bangladesh, meeting with several government officials (1983).

#### **visited Jamat in**

- Canada (1978), Australia and New Zealand (1979) for the first time.
- Bangladesh (1979), Ivory Coast (1979).
- Pakistan (1981).

For titles and honours bestowed upon Mawlana Hazar Imam, visit [AKDN](#) or view the [matrix](#).

**Global leaders of Ismaili institutions paid homage at Aiglemont on the Silver Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam’s ascension to the Imamat.**



Mawlana Hazar Imam with Ismaili leaders at Aiglemont, 1982. First row, L to R: Vazir Badruddin Morani (India), Count Sir Eboo Pirbhai (Africa), Mawlana Hazar Imam, Vazir Ramzan Merchant (Pakistan), Mr Tamer Tamer (Syria). Standing behind from L to R: Vazir Ameer Ali Rahimtoola (India), Mr. Shams Bhaloo (USA), Vazir Abdulmohamed Furniturewala (India), Vazir Mohammad Bhai (Bangladesh), General Moustapha Sharba (Syria), Mr Salim Issa (Portugal), Aitmadi Akbar Karmali (Pakistan), Mr Zulfikar Lalji (Canada), Mr Zulfikar Jiwa (Europe), Mr Jaffer Ali Tejpar (Tanzania), Mr Kurban Bhaloo (Kenya), Rai Amir Bhatia (UK). Photo: 25 Years in Pictures

**Silver Jubilee Emblem**

At the centre of the emblem is Hazar Imam’s crest surrounded by 25 crescents representing 25 years of leadership. The outer ring embodies verse 3:103 of the Quran in Thuluth calligraphy script:

*And hold firmly to the rope of Allah all together and do not become divided. And remember the favour of Allah upon you – when you were enemies and He brought your hearts together and you became, by His favour, brothers. And you were on the edge of a pit of the Fire, and He saved you from it. Thus does Allah make clear to you His verses that you may be guided.*

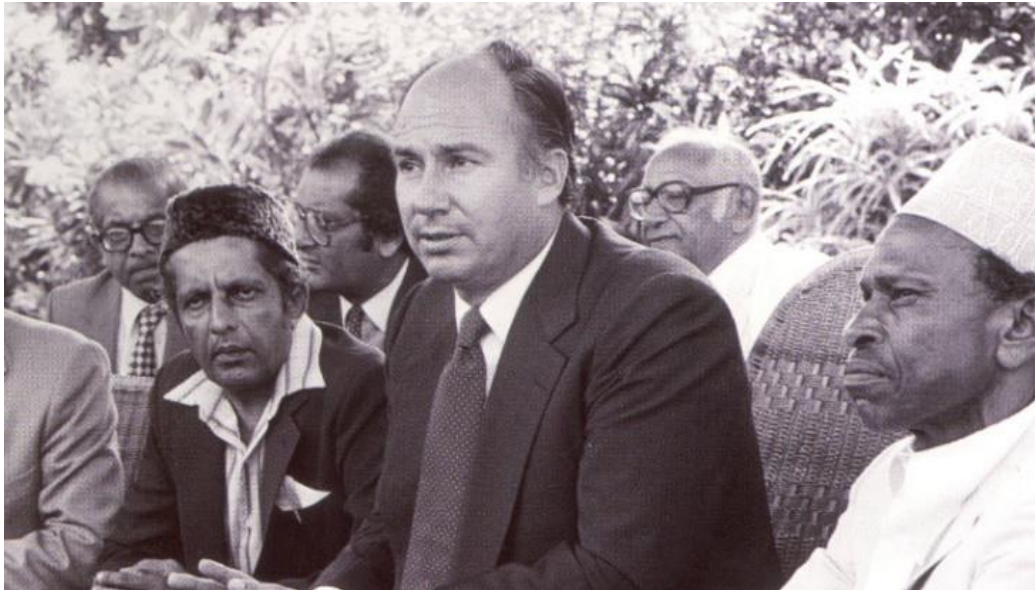


The Thuluth script derives its name from the Arabic *tuluth*, meaning ‘one-third,’ because one-third of each letter slopes. Another theory to the meaning is that the smallest width of the letter is one-third of the widest part.

## 1978 to 1982

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

- was interviewed by the Globe & Mail and CTV network in Toronto, Canada (1978).
- pledged \$1 million to the Institute of Islamic Studies, McGill University, Montreal, Canada (1980).
- met with President Milton Obote in Kampala to discuss the Expropriated Properties Bill, which provided the legal framework for the return of properties expropriated in 1972 when Asians were expelled by Idi Amin (1982). [UPI](#)
- met with Muslim leaders in Mombasa, Kenya, to discuss their request for Imam's assistance with their children's education (1982).



Muslim leaders meet with Mawlana Hazar Imam in Mombasa, Kenya, to request his assistance in improving their children's education. This meeting led to the establishment of the Madrasa pre-School Education Program. Photo: The Ismaili Canada, Golden Jubilee Issue

For titles and honours bestowed upon Mawlana Hazar Imam, visit [AKDN](#) or view the [matrix](#).

#### Sources:

The Ismaili Canada, *various issues*

Ilm, *Vol. 6, No. 3*

Hikmat, *December 1986*

*25 Years in Pictures*



## Reflection



With the Imam of the X'ian Mosque, China, 1981. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With Vice Premier Gu Mu, China, 1981. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Vice President Hidayatullah, India, 1980. Photo: 25 years in Pictures



With President Zia ul-Haq, Pakistan, 1980. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With President Daniel Arap Moi, Kenya, 1981. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



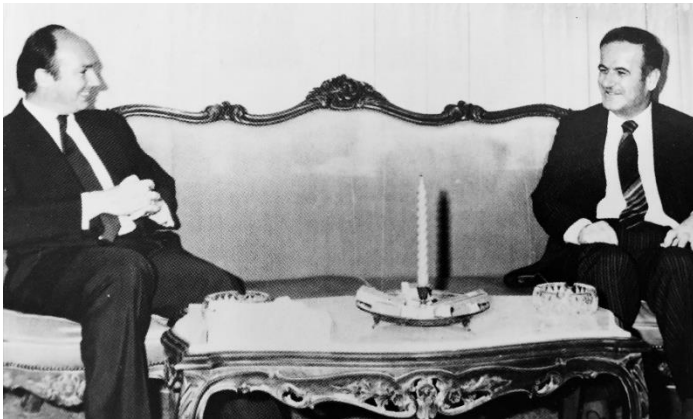
Working aboard a plane. Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



Meeting with Iranian delegation, Aiglemont, 1979.  
Photo: 25 Years in Picture



Examining model of Aga Khan Baug, Bombay, 1978.  
Photo: 25 Years in Pictures



With President Hafez Assad, Syria, 1980. Photo:  
25 Years in Pictures

### Selected World Events – 1978 to 1982

- First “[test-tube baby](#)” was born in Great Britain, through the in-vitro fertilisation procedure (1978).
- [Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol](#) (TCP/IP) was designed (1978) and in 1983 it became the standard for communicating between computers over the Internet.
- Sony marketed the [Walkman](#), the first portable stereo (1979).
- The [noise-free compacts discs](#) was introduced (1982).
- [AIDS was recognised as a disease](#) (1981). The virus was isolated in 1983 and was ultimately named the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).
- The first commercially automated cellular network ([the 1G generation](#)) was launched in Japan by NTT in 1979.
- The second launch of 1G networks was the simultaneous launch of the [Nordic Mobile Telephone](#) (NMT) system in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden (1981). NMT was the first mobile phone network featuring international roaming.

## 6. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee – Snapshots of Imamat – 1983 to 1987

*"Although this University is new, it will draw inspiration from the greatest traditions of Islamic civilisation and learning..... The Charter which His Excellency the President has been gracious enough to grant the new Aga Khan University creates the first university inspired by my family since Al Azhar was founded in the Fatimid dynasty's capital of Cairo in 970, a thousand years before we laid the foundation stone of the Aga Khan Medical College on this site in 1971. I can indeed hardly express the depth of my pleasure at receiving the Charter which dignifies that college with the status of a university....My prayer is that the university we are now building will enable many generations of the students to acquire both knowledge and the essential spiritual wisdom needed to balance that knowledge and enable their lives to attain the highest fulfilment."*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**Acceptance of Charter of Aga Khan  
University, Karachi, Pakistan  
March 16, 1983**

The seal of Aga Khan University is a visual representation of the principles inherent in the founding of the University. The circular form of the seal with its different levels of imagery contained in concentric circles has its visual roots in the rosettes of early Islamic periods. The circle also symbolises the world and reflects the internationality of the University.

At the centre of the seal is the sun. Light is a universal symbol for the enlightenment that education provides. The light emanating from the star is also symbolic of Nur (Divine Light). The star incorporates 49 points to commemorate the University's founding by Mawlana Hazar Imam, the 49th Imam of the Ismaili Muslims. The outer ring contains an excerpt from the Qur'anic Ayat (3:103) rendered in classic Thuluth script:

*And hold fast,  
All together, by the rope  
Which God (stretches out for you),  
And be not divided among yourselves,  
And remember with gratitude*

*God's favour on you:  
For ye were enemies  
And He joined your hearts  
In love, so that by His grace  
Ye became brethren*



President General Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq presenting the Charter of the Aga Khan University (AKU) to Mawlana Hazar Imam as then President of AKU Shamsh Kassim Lakha applauds. Photo: Hidayat, October 1985



[Aga Khan University](http://www.agakhan.edu)



## 1983 to 1987

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

- bestowed the title of *Diwan* on Count Sir Eboo Pirbhai (1983).
- ordained the New Ismaili Constitution at Merimont in Geneva (1986).



### established

- the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme in India (1983).
- Aga Khan Foundation in Portugal (1983).
- the Housing and Urbanisation Research Program at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design (1987).

### presided over

- acceptance of AKU Charter ceremony (1983).
- inauguration of Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan (1985).
- convocation of the Aga Khan School of Nursing (1986 & 1989).
- foundation ceremonies of
  - Serena Hotel, Faisalabad, Pakistan (1983).
  - Aga Khan Academy in Hunza, Pakistan (1983).
  - Sherqilla School, Pakistan, and Singal Medical School, Gilgit, Pakistan (1983).
  - Serena Hotel, Quetta, Pakistan (1985).
  - [Aga Khan Higher Secondary School, Karimabad](#), Hunza, Pakistan (1986).
- opening of
  - [Aga Khan Baug](#) in Bombay, India (1983).
  - the [Ismaili Centre, London](#) by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher (1985).
  - the [Ismaili Centre, Burnaby](#) by Prime Minister Brian Mulroney (1985).
- presentation of
  - second awards of Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Istanbul, Turkey (1983). [Speech](#)
  - third awards of Aga Khan Awards for Architecture in Marrakesh, Morocco (1986). [Speech](#)
- international seminars of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Sana'a, Yemen; Cairo, Egypt; Grenada, Spain; Dakar, Senegal.



Mawlana Hazar Imam presenting diplomas to the first group of graduates of the Teacher Training Programme jointly sponsored by The Institute of Ismaili Studies and the University of London Institute of Education, July 1983. Photo: The Prairie Newsletter, 1984



## 1983 to 1987

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### addressed

- guests gathered to commemorate Mawlana Hazar Imam's Silver Jubilee at a
  - luncheon organised by the Ismaili Council in Kenya (1982).
  - luncheon hosted by Aga Khan Foundation and Aga Khan Social Welfare Institutions in Islamabad, Pakistan (1983). [Speech](#)
  - luncheon hosted by Industrial Promotion and Development Company, Dhaka, Bangladesh (1983). [Speech](#)
  - dinner hosted by Council for Malaysia and Singapore (1983).
  - dinner hosted by Aga Khan Foundation in New Delhi, India (1983). [Speech](#)
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce in New Delhi, India (1983). [Speech](#)
- international seminar sponsored by The Association of Builders and Developers (ABAD) in Karachi, Pakistan, on *Shelter for the Homeless* (1983).
- entrepreneurs in Zurich, Switzerland, to increase their activities in the developing countries (1983).
- graduates of The Institute of Ismaili Studies and the University of London (1983). [Speech](#)
- inaugural session of the Enabling Environment Conference in Nairobi, Kenya (1986). [Speech](#)
- the International Development Conference in Washington, USA (1987). [Speech](#)
- delegates at Globe & Mail dinner, Toronto, Canada (1987). [Speech](#)
- tenth international seminar of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture at Granada, Spain (1987).

#### signed an agreement

- with American Express International Banking Corporation, Lloyds International Ltd. and nine banks for financing for the development of Aga Khan University and Hospital (1983).
- In Cambridge, Massachusetts, to expand the Aga Khan Programme for Islamic Architecture at MIT and Harvard. The agreement supported a Master's degree in *Design for Islamic Cultures* and also developed links with institutions in the Islamic world (1985).
- in Aiglemont, between Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development (AKFED), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Deutsche Finanzierungsgesellschaft für Beteiligungen in Entwicklungsländern GmbH (DEG) and the Compagnie Financière de la Côte D'Ivoire (COFINCI) to increase equity capital of Industrial Promotion Services (Ivory Coast) at Aiglemont (1987).
- with McMaster University, in Hamilton, Canada, for partnership in education. The Canadian International Development Agency pledged \$4.4 million to the nurse-training programme to enable nurses from Pakistan to attend McMaster University to upgrade their skills (1987). [CIDA-AKFC Partnership Projects](#)



At Aiglemont, a signing ceremony on October 18, 1983, between American Express International Banking Corporation, Lloyds International Ltd, and nine banks  
Photo: The Prairie Newsletter, 1984

## 1983 to 1987

### Mawlana Hazar Imam met

- with Dr. Milton Obote of Uganda to discuss the Government's new Expropriated Properties Bill which provided the legal framework for the return of properties expropriated in 1972 when the Asians were expelled from the country (1982). [UPI](#)
- delegates of Oxfam, the Overseas Development Administrator, and the University of London in London (1983).

### Silver Jubilee Mulaqats:

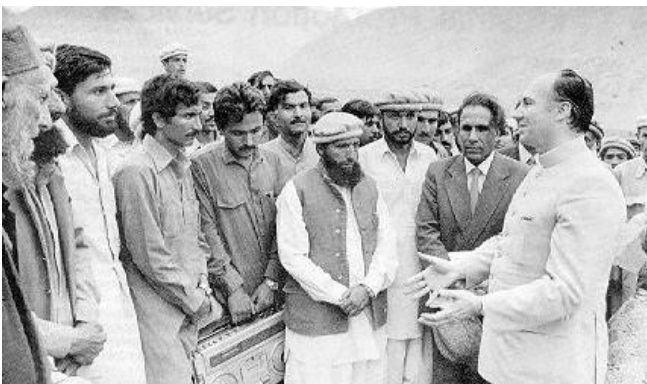
- Bangladesh – January, 1983
- India and Singapore – January, 1983
- Portugal - February, 1983
- Pakistan, UAE – March, 1983
- Canada – April, 1983
- USA - May, 1983
- UK and France - July 1983



Mawlana Hazar Imam bestowed the title of Diwan to Sir Eboo, July 1983. Photo: The Prairie Newsletter, 1984.



In discussion with Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in the United Nations headquarters office in New York, 1983. Photo: Africa Ismaili, December 1983.



In Hunza, Mawlana Hazar Imam discussing AKRSP, May 1983. Photo: The Prairie Newsletter, 1984



Signing the agreement to expand AKPIA at MIT and Harvard University, 1985. Photo: UK Ismaili

## Selected World Events – 1983 to 1987

- Marc Garneau became [the first Canadian in space](#) (1984), returning to orbit in 1996 and 2000 on *Endeavour*, becoming the only Canadian to make three journeys to space. He used the shuttle's Canadarm to install the first four solar panels on the International Space Station (2000).
- Italy and the Vatican signed an [agreement](#) to end Roman Catholicism as state religion (1984).
- Indian Prime Minister [Indira Gandhi](#) was assassinated (1984).
- Apple introduces the user-friendly [Macintosh](#) personal computer (1984).
- Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev introduced [glasnost and perestroika](#) a broad program of reform and liberalisation (1985).
- British scientists reported the opening of an enormous hole in the [earth's ozone layer](#) over Antarctica (1984).
- [Cabbage Patch Kids](#) doll became a frenzy (1983); developed in 1976 by Xavier Roberts, an art student, they began to be sold in 1981.
- IBM introduced the high density [floppy disk](#) for the PC, which could store 1.2 megabytes of data (1984).
- The first Internet domain [Symbolics.com](#) was registered (1985).
- The [wreckage of the Titanic](#) was discovered (1985).
- Chernobyl Nuclear Plant in USSR exploded causing the [world's worst nuclear disaster](#) (1986).

Sources:

*Ontario Ismaili*, July 1987

*Canadian Ismaili*, various issues

*Hikmat*, July 1977 and December 1986



Cabbage Patch Doll. Image: The History of Cabbage Patch Kids

## 7. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee - Snapshots of Imamat - 1988 to 1992

*"Many days in a lifetime are unremarkable, some are notable, few are unforgettable. In the trust sense only one can be unique. The longer one's life, the more the relativity of a unique day is measured against time gone by. Despite all this, for me, having lived over half a century, this is indeed a unique day. Years of thought and hope are in front of me this 20th March 1989 to esteem and applaud, in the form of the first class of graduating students from the Faculty of Health Sciences School of Medicine at the Aga Khan University."*



**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**First Convocation of Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan, March 20, 1989**

There was increased collaboration between the Aga Khan Development Network and the governments of several countries in the areas of education, health, and economic development. The first Imamat humanitarian projects began in Tajikistan (1993). Aga Khan Foundation USA and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) signed an agreement in which the USDA provided food aid to the Gorno-Badakshan province of Tajikistan.

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

- established Aga Khan Trust for Culture (1988) and the Historic Cities Programme of the AKTC (1992).
- commemorated the twenty-fifth anniversary of Aga Khan Foundation at Aiglemont (1992).

**presided over**

- the first Convocation of Aga Khan University, in Karachi (1989).
- foundation ceremony of the Aga Khan Girls' Hostel in Hyderabad, Pakistan (1989).
- foundation ceremony of the Nation Centre, Nairobi, Kenya (1988).
- presentation of awards of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture at the Citadel of Salah el Din in [Cairo](#), Egypt (1989), Registan Square in [Samarkand](#), Uzbekistan (1992).
- international seminar of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Jakarta, Indonesia (1990).

**inaugurated**

- Serena Hotel, Quetta, Pakistan (1989).
- the [Aga Khan Maternity and Child Care Center](#) in Hyderabad, India (1989).
- the [Development Cooperative Bank's](#) Integrated Standard Software Programme in Bombay, India (1989).

**addressed**

- Rockefeller Foundation in New York on the occasion of the 150th birthday of John D. Rockefeller (1989).



## **1988 to 1992**

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

#### **held meetings in**

- India, as a guest of the Indian Government, and to Pakistan, reviewing various AKRSP initiatives (1989).
- Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania with the respective heads of state to discuss AKU collaboration (1991).

#### **signed an agreement**

- on behalf of the Aga Khan Foundation with Overseas Development Administration (ODA) Accord of Cooperation at the Ismaili Centre, London for development work in Northern Pakistan (1988).
- with the Government of Zanzibar for restoration and revitalisation of the old dispensary building and the water-front area (1989).
- with President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, returning the properties, including religious buildings, schools, medical facilities, and industrial and commercial projects that were confiscated when the Asian community was expelled in 1972 from the country by the Idi Amin regime (1989).
- with government leaders in [Cairo](#) to finance the creation of a park to combat the declining green space (1990).
- with Lynda Chalker, UK's Minister for Overseas Development, in London, pledging of funds by British Government, to the Aga Khan Rural Support Programme in Chitral, Northern Pakistan (1991).
- in Brussels with Mr. Abel Matutes, the European Community Commissioner for North-South Relations, to finance Aga Khan Foundation's projects in Chitral, Northern Pakistan (1991).
- with Governments of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Canada for development work (1992).

#### **mulaqats**

- Bhavnagar, Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Sidhpur and Malia Hatina (1989).
- Kenya and Tanzania (1991).
- Canada (1992).

### **Selected World Events – 1988 to 1992**

- NASA scientist James Hansen warns congress of the [dangers of the global warming](#) and the greenhouse effect (1988).
- The [Berlin Wall](#) was opened. East and West Germany re-united, after 45 years, marking the end of the Cold War (1989).
- [Archie](#), the first Internet search engine was developed (1990).
- [Nelson Mandela](#) was released, after an imprisonment of 27.5 years (1990).
- The [Hubble Space Telescope](#) was launched (1990).
- [Gopher](#), the first user-friendly internet interface, was created at the University of Minnesota and named after the school mascot (1991).
- The [World Wide Web](#) server and browser became publicly available (1991).
- The USSR broke up into 15 countries, establishing the [Commonwealth of Independent States](#) (1991).
- [Compact discs surpass cassette tapes](#) as the preferred medium for recorded music (1992).

## 8. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee - Snapshots of Imamat – 1993 to 1997

*"The right to hope is the most powerful human motivation I know. Its importance has been paramount in the history of this nation. It is a reasonable expectation that the next generation will be better equipped to address the challenges of life than the present one."*

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

**Commencement Ceremony at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA, May 26, 1996**

[Speech](#)

### Mawlana Hzar Imam

**presided over**

- Convocation ceremony of the Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan (1994). [Speech](#)
- the award ceremony of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Solo, Indonesia (1995). [Speech](#)
- Foundation Ceremony of the Centre, Lisbon, Portugal (1996). [Speech](#)

**inaugurated**

- the first Professional Development Centre of AKU's Institute for Educational Development in Karachi, Pakistan (1993).
- the restored [Baltit Fort](#) in Karimabad, Pakistan (1996).
- Nation Press building, Nairobi, Kenya (1997).
- Serena Hotel, Zanzibar (1997)

**met with**

- board members and other dignitaries at Aga Khan University, Karachi (1993).
- senior Russian leaders in Moscow on a five-day state visit at the invitation of the Government of Russia to discuss development initiatives, collaboration between the Institute for Oriental Studies, The Institute of Ismaili Studies, and the Aga Khan University (1995).
- Government officials of the Kyrgyz Republic in Bishkek. AKDN has been working in the country through the Pair Relief and Development Programme's office in Osh.
- Government and Jamati leaders in Nairobi, Kampala, Dar-es Salaam, and Zanzibar to review Imamat projects (1997).



Greeted by Prime Minister of Russia, Victor Chernomyrdin. Photo: The Ismaili Canada

**addressed**

- World Congress of Architects in Chicago, organised jointly by the International Union of Architects and the American Institute of Architects (1993).
- guests at the Outreach Dinner held at the Ismaili Centre, London, UK (1994).
- Commencement ceremony at
  - at MIT Cambridge, Massachusetts (1994). [Speech](#)
  - Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, USA, the first Muslim to do so in the University's over 200-year history (1996). [Speech](#)
- Biennial conference of the Commonwealth Press Union in Cape Town, South Africa (1996). [Speech](#)

## 1993 to 1997

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### signed Accords

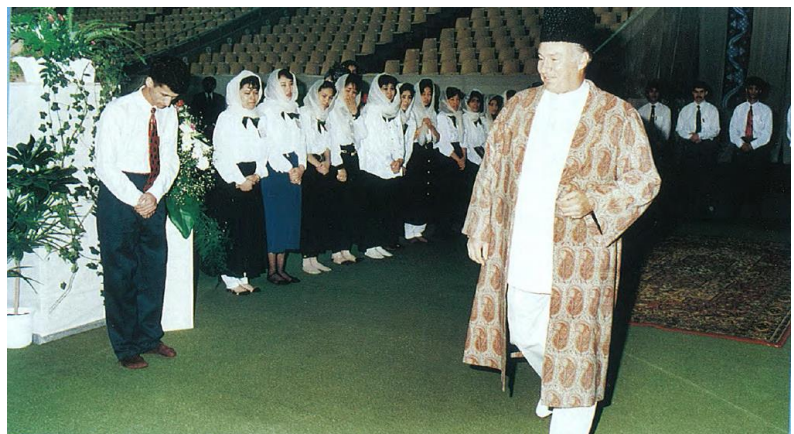
- with the Government of Bangladesh for development work (1993).
- between AKU and Oxford University, launching a new partnership in teacher education between Oxford University's Department of Educational Studies and the Aga Khan University's new Institute for Educational Development in Karachi, Pakistan (1993).
- between Aga Khan University and Sudbury Memorial Hospital, Ontario, whereby Sudbury's medical staff trained their counterparts in Karachi, Pakistan (1994).
- between Aga Khan Foundation Canada and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for the Social Institution Development Program (SIDP) in Pakistan (1994).
- with Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto for development between the Government of Pakistan and the Aga Khan Development Network (1994).
- with the European Commission, who announced its largest ever grant to a single non-governmental organisation, to co-finance, with the Aga Khan Foundation (United Kingdom), an eight-year initiative for community management of natural resources in rural Gujarat, India (1994).

#### mulaqats with

- Jamat of Afghanistan in Islamabad, Pakistan and London, UK (1994).
- Jamat of Central Asia in Moscow and Dushanbe for the first time (1995).



Ishkashim, Tajikistan (May 27, 1995).  
Photo: the Ismaili Canada



In Moscow, with volunteers. Photo: The Ismaili Canada

- In 1997, to commemorate 40 years of his Imamatus, Mawlana Hazar Imam made grants totalling US\$50 million to five institutions founded by him:
  - ❖ Aga Khan University
  - ❖ The Institute of Ismaili Studies
  - ❖ Aga Khan Foundation
  - ❖ Aga Khan Trust for Culture
  - ❖ Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development



## 1993 to 1997

### Other events

- Fostrian Children Universal Society's mandate was revised to become a universal emergency humanitarian relief and refugee resettlement, now known as Focus Humanitarian Assistance (FOCUS) (1994).
- The University of British Columbia (UBC) and the Aga Khan University (AKU) announced a joint program to promote academic exchanges and research between the two institutions in the field of respiratory medicine (1996).
- Princess Zahra visited Ottawa, Canada as Guest of Honour at the launch of the book, *Speaking Out: Women's Economic Empowerment in South Asia* (1996).
- Princess Zahra in Toronto, Canada, to Chair the International Ismaili Women's Forum under the auspices of the International Social Development and Sports Foundation (1997).

### Selected World Events – 1993 to 1997

- The [European Union](#), headquartered in Brussels, Belgium, was formed (1993).
- [Mosaic](#), the first global web browser, was developed at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) (1993).
- The first data services appeared on mobile phones starting with person-to-person [SMS text messaging](#) in Finland (1993).
- The FDA approved the Flavr Savr tomato, the first [genetically-engineered](#) food product (1994).
- [Global atmospheric temperature](#) climbs to record high (1995).
- The world's [first cloned sheep](#) is created from embryo cells (1996)
- The [television ratings system](#) debuts on cable stations and broadcast networks (1996).
- [Deep Blue](#) became the first computer chess-playing system to beat a reigning world chess champion, Garry Kasparov (1996).
- [Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone](#), the first novel in the *Harry Potter* series, is published in the UK (1997).
- The first [mobile phone with a full keyboard](#) - the Nokia 9000i Communicator - was produced in Finland (1997).
- [Google](#) was founded (1997).

## 9. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee – Snapshots of Imamat – 1998 to 2002

*“The new notions of free enterprise, of creating wealth, these are sound notions but they should be followed within the ethic of our faith...The question is, not only what have I achieved, the question is what have I helped others to achieve? That is the notion of social conscience in Islam.”*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**Press Conference, Maputo,  
Mozambique, August 1998**

Published in *The Ismaili, Realising the Social Conscience of Islam*, December 1998



Mawlana Hazar Imam and President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique sign a Development Cooperation Agreement, August 1998. Photo: The Ismaili, December 1998

**Mawlana Hazar Imam  
established**

- [University of Central Asia](#), the world's first internationally chartered institution of higher learning (2000).
- [Aga Khan Music Initiative](#) (2000).
- Aga Khan University's nursing programme in Uganda (2001).
- [ArchNet](#), the world's largest on-line resource on architecture, urbanism, landscape design, related issues with a particular focus on the Muslim world (2002).
- the Aga Khan University's [Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations](#) in London, UK (2002).



International Treaty establishing the new University of Central Asia in a ceremony in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. Photo: AKDN/Gary Otte

**presided over**

- presentation of awards of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, Granada, Spain (1998). [Speech](#)
- the formal launch by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture and the Presses de l'Universite de Paris-Sorbonne of a [new series of publications](#) on Islam (1999).
- presentation of awards of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Aleppo, Syria (2001). [Speech](#)
- the [inauguration](#) of the Islamabad Serena Hotel by President Musharaff (2002).
- the [inauguration](#) of the First MicroFinanceBank in Islamabad, Pakistan (2002).

## 1998 to 2002

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### inaugurated

- [Aga Khan Lycée in Khorog](#), Tajikistan (1998).
- Centro Ismaili in Lisbon, Portugal (1998). [Speech](#)
- Aga Khan School in Osh, Kyrgyz Republic (2002). [Speech](#)
- Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC (2002). [Speech](#)
- Ismaili Jamatkhana and Centre, Houston, USA (2002). [Speech](#)
- [a bridge](#) - the first of a series of bridges across the Pyanj River that consolidated permanent overland links between Tajikistan and Afghanistan (2002).

#### met with

- [President Mubarak in Cairo](#), Egypt, to discuss the plan for development of Cairo's largest park, and cultural restoration and economic revitalisation projects being undertaken by the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (1999).
- [President Assad of Syria](#) in Damascus, to discuss AKDN activities in the region (2001).
- [President Putin of Russia](#), in Moscow, to discuss the potential for expanding activities of the Aga Khan Development Network within the Russian Federation (2002).
- [Prime Minister of Canada, Jean Chretien](#), in Ottawa to review the extensive collaboration between the Aga Khan Development Network and the Government of Canada over the past two decades (2002).
- [President of Kenya, Daniel Arap Moi](#), and government officials in Nairobi, Kenya, to discuss the increasing breadth of activities of the Aga Khan Development Network in Kenya (2002).
- [President Nursultan Nazarbayev in Astana, Kazakhstan](#), to discuss projects of AKDN in the region, especially the establishment of the Kazakhstan campus of the University of Central Asia at Tekeli in the mountains of the Taldy-Kurgan oblast (2002).

#### addressed

- industry leaders, government officials and development executives from around the world at the World Bank InfoDev (1999). [Speech](#)
- White House Conference on Culture and Diplomacy (2000). [Speech](#)
- delegates at the Conference on Indigenous Philanthropy in Islamabad, Pakistan (2000). [Speech](#)
- Delegates at the XIII International Meeting of Peoples and Religions in Lisbon, Portugal (2000). [Speech](#)
- International Convocation of the Association of American Universities in Washington, DC (2001). [Speech](#)
- Winners' seminar of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Aleppo, Syria (2001). [Speech](#)
- Archon Award ceremony of Sigma Theta Tau International in Copenhagen, Denmark (2001). [Speech](#)
- the Plenary Session of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic (2002). [Speech](#)
- Prince Claus Fund's Conference on culture and development in Amsterdam, the Netherlands (2002). [Speech](#)

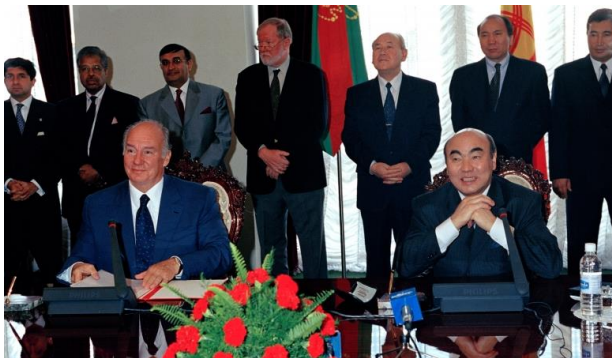


## 1998 to 2002

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### signed agreements for development work

- with the Government of Mozambique in Maputo (1998).
- in Paris, [between France and the Association Aga Khan](#), whose members include some of the principal agencies and affiliates of the Aga Khan Development Network (1999).
- [in Bishkek](#), Kyrgyz Republic (2001).
- with [President Benjamin Mkapa](#) of Tanzania for the preservation of marine and maritime dimensions of Zanzibar's history and culture, and tourism (2001).
- in [Kabul](#), with Hamid Karzai, Chairman of the Interim Authority of the Government of Afghanistan (2002).
- with [Zanzibar's Chief Minister](#) Shamsi Vuai Nahodha to initiate a comprehensive urban rehabilitation proposal for the Seafront Area of Zanzibar's Stone Town (2002). \_



Mawlana Hazar Imam with the President of the Kyrgyz Republic Askar Akaev at the signing ceremony of an Agreement of Cooperation for Development. Photo: AKDN/Patrick Ruchdi

#### Other events

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

- was [interviewed](#) by Robert Ivy, FAIA Editor in Chief, Architectural Record, in Aiglemont (2001).
- [announced](#) plans to establish the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, Canada (2002)
- Aga Khan University Hospital opened its first international representative office in Dubai, UAE (2002).
- [First MicroFinance Bank Pakistan](#) was established (2002).

### Selected World Events – 1998 to 2002

- The Korean company Saehan introduced the [MPMan](#) (1998).
- First trial payments using a mobile phone to pay for a Coca Cola vending machine were set in Finland (1998).
- The first full internet service on [mobile phones](#) was introduced by NTT DoCoMo in Japan (1999).
- [Star Wars Episode I – The Phantom Menace](#) opened, breaking a string of box office records (1999).
- [Wikipedia](#) was launched (2001).
- September 11 changed the world forever (2001).
- The [X-Box and Playstation](#) were introduced (2001).
- First time the word '[selfie](#)' was used in print (2002).
- Europeans agree on single currency, the [Euro](#) (2002).

## 10. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee – Snapshots of Imamat – 2003 to 2007

*“In the Muslim ethical tradition, which links spirit and matter, the Imam not only leads in the interpretation of the faith, but also in the effort to improve the quality of life of his community, and of the wider societies within which it lives; for a guiding principle of the Imamat’s institutions is to replace walls which divide with bridges that unite.”*

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam**

#### **Foundation Ceremony of the Delegation of the Ismaili Imamat**

**Ottawa, Canada, June 6, 2005**

[Speech](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam explains the key features of the building to the Right Honourable Adrienne Clarkson, Governor General of Canada (1999-2005), while architect Fumihiko Maki looks on. Photo: AKDN/Zahur Ramji

### **Mawlana Hazar Imam established**

- [Aga Khan Agency for Microfinance](#) (AKAM) as a non-profit Swiss foundation to formalise and develop microfinance activities of the AKDN (2005).

### **laid the foundation of**

- [Ismaili Centre, Dushanbe](#), Tajikistan (2003) and [Ismaili Centre, Dubai](#), UAE (2003).
- [Khorog campus](#) in Tajikistan – the first of three campuses of the University of Central Asia (2004).
- [Aga Khan Academy, Maputo](#), Mozambique (2004).
- [Delegation of Ismaili Imamat](#) in Ottawa, Canada (2005).
- [Aga Khan Academy, Dar-es-salaam](#), Tanzania (2005).
- [Aga Khan Academy, Hyderabad](#), India (2006).



Mawlana Hazar Imam addresses the audience at the Foundation Stone Ceremony for an Aga Khan Academy in Maputo. Photo: AKDN / Aziz Islamshah

## 2003 to 2007

### Mawlana Hazar Imam presided over

- the [opening of the Alltex EPZ Limited](#), an apparel plant, at Athi River, Kenya. The company is a joint venture between Industrial Promotion Services (Kenya) Limited (IPS) and Global Readymade Garments Industry LLC of Qatar (2003). [Speech Video](#)
- [Award ceremony](#) of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture at Humayun's Tomb, New Delhi, India (2004).
- [Convocation Ceremony](#) of Aga Khan University in Karachi (2005).

### inaugurated

- the [international conference](#) organised to commemorate the 25th anniversary of The Institute of Ismaili Studies in London, UK (2003). [Speech](#)
- [Aga Khan Academy Mombasa](#), the first of an international network of Aga Khan Academies that would offer an IB curriculum (2003). [Speech](#)
- [Al-Azhar Park](#) in Cairo, Egypt, developed by Aga Khan Trust for Culture (2005). [Speech Video of ceremony](#)
- the [French Medical Institute for Children](#) in Kabul, Afghanistan (2006) [Speech](#)
- [Kampala Serena Hotel](#), Uganda (2006) [Speech](#)
- [Ishkashim Bridge](#), Tajikistan (2006) [Speech](#)
- [Splendori a Corte](#), an exhibition of manuscripts from the Aga Khan Museum collection at the Palazzo della Pilotta in Parma, Italy (2007) [Speech](#)
- [Spirit and Life Exhibition](#) at the Ismaili Centre, London, UK (2007) [Speech](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam speaking at the inauguration of the Spirit & Life Exhibition, 12 July 2007. Photo: AKDN/Zahir Daya

### signed agreements

- [with German Federal Minister](#) for Economic Cooperation and Development Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, to deepen cooperation between the BMZ and the Aga Khan Development Network, particularly in crisis prone-countries of Asia and sub-Saharan Africa (2004).
- [in Oslo](#), between the Government of Norway and the Aga Khan Development Network to strengthen cooperation in the areas of culture, health and education, rural development, capacity building, human resource development and economic recovery (2005).
- with [the Government of Portugal](#) to improve the quality of life of vulnerable populations in Portugal and Portuguese-speaking countries of Asia and Africa (2005). [AKDN](#)
- witnessed the signing of an [agreement by His Eminence Dom José Policarpo](#), the Cardinal Patriarch of Lisbon, and Prince Ameen, Director of Aga Khan Foundation, for an urban community support programme to address problems of social exclusion and poverty alleviation (2005).
- with the [Government of Canada](#) for funding for the Global Centre for Pluralism in Ottawa (2006).



## 2003 to 2007

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### addressed

- [Fresh Water Forum](#) in Dushanbe, Tajikistan (2003). [Speech](#)
- the [Jacques de Larosiere Lecture](#) at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and other international financial institutions at the Annual Meeting's Business Forum, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan (2003). [Speech](#)
- [Leadership and Diversity Conference](#), Gatineau, Canada (2004). [Speech](#)
- Convocation of the University of Toronto's Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (2004). [Speech](#)
- [Fifth annual conference of German Ambassadors](#) in Berlin (2004). [Speech](#)
- [International Press Institute World Congress](#) and 54th General Assembly held in Nairobi, Kenya (2005). [Speech](#)
- [Nobel Institute](#) in Oslo, Norway (2005). [Speech](#)
- [Scully Seminar](#), in Washington, DC (2005) [[Speech](#)] and upon acceptance of the Vincent Scully Prize (2005) [Speech](#)
- guests of the [Carnegie organisation](#) upon receiving the Andrew Carnegie Medal of Philanthropy, in Edinburgh, Scotland (2005). [Speech](#)
- Commencement at American University in Cairo, Egypt (2005). [Speech](#)
- [Conference on Afghanistan](#) in London, UK (2006). [Speech](#)
- [International symposium](#) at the University of Évora, Portugal, titled *Cosmopolitan Society, Human Safety and Rights in Plural and Peaceful Societies* (2006). [Speech](#)
- School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, New York, USA (2006). [Speech](#)
- gathering to present the winner of the 2006 Die Quadriga Prize in Berlin, Germany. [Speech](#)
- Royal Toledo Foundation upon acceptance of an award from the Foundation (2006). [Speech](#)
- the Evangelical Academy of Tutzing upon receiving the Tolerance Award (2006). [Speech](#)
- Enabling Environment Conference in Kabul, Afghanistan (2007). [Speech](#)
- Masters of Public Affairs Programme at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po), France (2007). [Speech](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam watches as President Emomali Rahmon lays the foundation of the Ismaili Centre in Dushanbe, Photo: The Ismaili/Gary Otte



Tajikistan's President Emomali, Afghanistan's Vice-President Nematullah Shahrani, and Mawlana Hazar Imam lay the foundation stone for the Korog campus, University of Central Asia. Photo: AKDN/Gary Otte

## 2003 to 2007

### Other events

- The [Professional Development Centre](#) was established in Chitral, northern Pakistan (2003).
- AKFED and AKF Tajikistan established the First MicroFinance Bank Tajikistan together with [International Finance Corporation](#) and [KfW](#) as founding shareholders (2003). [AKDN](#)
- AKDN launched Roshan, the GSM mobile phone company, in Afghanistan (2004)
- [First MicroFinance Bank Afghanistan](#) was established with IFC and KfW as founding shareholders (2004).
- AKAM established the [First Microfinance Foundation Egypt](#) (2006).
- AKAM incorporated the [First Microcredit Company Kyrgyzstan](#) (2006).

### Golden Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam – July 11, 2007

#### Golden Jubilee Emblem

Imam's crest is surrounded by 50 crescents representing half a century of Mawlana Hazar Imam's leadership. The outer ring embodies verse 4:1 rendered in Fatimid Kufic calligraphy script:



*O mankind ! Be careful of your duty to your Lord Who created you from a single soul and from it created its mate and from them twain hath spread abroad a multiple of men and women.*

White was the official colour of the Fatimids (909-1171). During their reign, when the city of Mecca was part of their empire, they adorned the Kaba in a white *kiswa* with verses of the Quran embroidered in gold thread (Hunsberger, *The Ruby of Badakshan*, p 156).

#### Selected World Events – 2003 to 2007

- The Hubble telescope has detected the oldest known planet (2003). [NASA](#)
- [Human genome](#) deciphered; revolutionising the practice of medicine (2003).
- [Facebook](#) was launched (2004).
- [Web 2.0](#) was introduced (2004).
- First [non-stop 10,000-mile-plus](#) passenger airline flight (2004).
- [Yahoo!Maps](#) was introduced (2004).
- [YouTube](#) was launched (2005).
- [Google maps](#) was introduced (2005).
- Nintendo released [Wii](#) (2006).
- [Pluto lost its status](#) as a planet, reclassified as a dwarf planet (2006).
- [Google Map's Street View](#) was introduced (2006).
- [iPhone](#) was introduced (2007).

## The Arts & Culture Exhibitions

*"At a time when the forces of exclusion, alienation, and separation can often seem so threatening in our world, I am convinced that our ability to honor authentic symbols of pride and identity - and to share their beauty and their power with one another - can be a tremendous force for good."*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam, *Spirit & Life* Exhibition, London, UK**

**July 12, 2007**

- [\*Spirit & Life\*](#) exhibition at the Ismaili Centre, London, UK - July 12 to August 31, 2007.
- The [\*Masterpieces of Islamic Art from the Aga Khan Museum\*](#) in Paris
  - at the Louvre - October 5, 2007 to January 7, 2008.
  - at the Museum of Decorative Arts/Le musée des arts décoratifs Paris - October 11, 2007 to January 13, 2008.
- [\*Splendori a Corte\*](#) exhibition at the Palazzo della Pilotta in Parma, Italy - March 31 to June 3, 2007.
- [\*The Path of Princes\*](#) - Masterpieces of the Aga Khan Museum Collection in Lisbon, Portugal - March 14 to July 6, 2008.
- [\*Rays of Light\*](#) - A visual description of the 50 years of Hazar Imam's Imamatus.
- [\*Historic Cities Programme\*](#) - An international initiative, the Historic Cities Programme exhibition featured of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in Egypt, Syria, Mali, India, and Afghanistan.
- [\*Bridges that Unite\*](#) - Aga Khan Foundation's travelling exhibition.

### Performances

- [\*A Mystical Journey - Sufi Music and other Expressions of Devotion from the Muslim World\*](#), featured artists from Algeria, Bosnia, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Syria performing music from various Sufi and other esoteric traditions of Islam.
- [\*Ali to Karim: A Tribute to the Ismaili Imams\*](#) recounted the story of the Imams in seven episodes, tracing the unbroken thread of Imamatus over 1,400 years of history.

### Additional Golden Jubilee Initiatives

- [\*Heritage Discovery Programme\*](#) - an international programme to facilitate travel and learning, explore heritage and history, and nurture a frontierless brotherhood and ambassadorial skills among young Ismailis.
- [\*Golden Jubilee Games\*](#) - a global Ismaili sports festival held in Nairobi, Kenya from June 24-29, 2008.
- [\*AKDN Speaker Series\*](#) - an initiative of the Golden Jubilee Nazrana International Task Force, with support from the Ismaili Councils for Canada and the United States, intended to inform the Jamat about volunteer opportunities for those who wishing to offer a *nazrana* of time and knowledge (TKN).
- [\*Spark of Knowledge Symposium\*](#) - to explore ways in which to advance the frontiers of knowledge in an increasingly pluralistic and interconnected world.
- [\*CIVIC - Challenging Ismaili Volunteers in Communities\*](#) – an initiative to engage Jamati youth aged 13 – 25 years.



## 11. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee - Snapshots of Imamat – 2009 to 2013

*"The new Museum will have a strong educational vocation: it will be a place for active inquiry, for discussion and research, for lectures and seminars, and for an array of collaborative programs with educational institutions and with other museums...My own family has been intimately involved in Islamic cultural history, notably during the Fatimid Caliphate which, a thousand years ago, founded one of the world's first, great universities in Cairo...As we look ahead, we can anticipate with some confidence that the Wynford Drive project will be a beautiful part of the future — a proud gift from our generation to future generations — even as it celebrates so fittingly what past generations have given to us."*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**Foundation Ceremony, the Ismaili Centre, the Aga Khan Museum and their park  
Toronto, Canada, May 28, 2010**

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**laid the foundation of**

- Ismaili Centre, the Aga Khan Museum and their Park in Toronto, Canada (2010). [Speech](#). [Video](#) of ceremony
- Aga Khan University's Graduate School of Media and Communications in Nairobi, Kenya (2011). [Speech](#)
- [Shurobod Bridge](#) in Tajikistan (2011).

**presided over**

- the signing of agreements
  - between Aga Khan University and the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Canada, to increase global engagement and to promote equitable human advancement (2009). [AKDN](#)
  - between Aga Khan University and University of California San Francisco (UCSF), in Sacramento, to advance their common goal to promote equitable human advancement and social justice in the less privileged parts of the world (2009). [UCSF](#)
  - the Aga Khan Development Network Foundation and the International Baccalaureate to intensify joint efforts to broaden access to quality education for students across the developing world and more global perspectives to those in the industrialised world (2010). [AKDN](#)
  - between State of Illinois and AKDN to expand collaboration in the areas of education, environmental stewardship, health sciences, library and information sciences, infrastructure development, agricultural sustainability and culture (2011). [AKDN](#)
  - Aga Khan University and Catholic University of Portugal reaffirm cooperation, in Lisbon, Portugal (2013). [AKDN](#)
  - between the People's Republic of Bangladesh and AKDN to intensify cooperation on improving of the quality of life of the people of Bangladesh (2013). [AKDN](#)
- [award ceremony](#) of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Doha, Qatar (2010) and Lisbon, Portugal (2013).
- [Convocation ceremony](#) of Aga Khan University, Karachi, Pakistan (2013).

## 2009 to 2013

### Mawlana Hazar Imam inaugurated

- the exhibition *The Islamic Worlds in the Aga Khan Museum Collection* at CaixaForum Madrid together with the King of Spain (2009).
- revitalised Forodhani Park in Zanzibar (2009). [Speech](#)
- [Khorog Park](#) in Tajikistan (2009). [Speech](#)
- [National Park of Mali](#) in Bamako, created under a public-private partnership between the Government of Mali and the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (2010). [Speech](#)
- the [refurbished Polana Serena Hotel](#) in Maputo, Mozambique (2010). [Speech](#)
- [Aga Khan University Hospital's Heart and Cancer Centre](#) in Nairobi, Kenya (2011). [Speech](#)
- Dushanbe Serena Hotel, in Tajikistan (2011). [Speech](#)
- the exhibition titled *Treasures of the Aga Khan Museum: Architecture in Islamic Arts*, in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (2012). [Video](#)
- [Bujagali Hydropower Plant](#) in Uganda (2012). [Video](#)
- the [restored mausoleum of Timur Shah](#) (by AKTC) in Kabul, Afghanistan (2012).
- the [restored Humayun's garden tomb](#) in New Delhi, India (2013). [Video](#)
- [Aga Khan Academy, Hyderabad](#), India (2013). [Video](#)



Mawlana Hazar Imam, the First Deputy Prime Minister Asadullo Gulomov, and the Governor of Gorno-Badakhshan Autonomous Oblast, Qodiri Qosim, tour the newly revitalised Khorog Park. Photo: AKDN / Gary Otte

### met with

- [Chancellor Angela Merkel](#), Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier, and Development Minister Heidemarie Wiecek-Zeul to discuss the expansion of activities in regions of mutual interest (2009).

### addressed

- delegates of the annual Global Philanthropy Forum in Washington, USA (2009). [Speech](#)
- the Academy of Sciences in Lisbon (2009). [Speech](#)
- graduates at University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada (2009). [Speech](#)
- [London Conference on Afghanistan](#) (2009). [Speech](#)
- [The Marketplace on Innovative Financial Solutions for Development](#) in Paris co-hosted by the Agence Française de Développement, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the World Bank (2010). [Speech](#)
- opening ceremony of the inaugural Pan Africa Media Conference to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Nation Media Group, founded by Mawlana Hazar Imam (2010). [Speech](#)
- Annual LaFontaine-Baldwin Lecture (2010). [Speech](#)
- Urban Land Institute's Annual Conference Leadership Dinner in Paris, France (2012). [Speech](#)
- UNESCO conference in Hangzhou, China on the role of culture in development (2013). [Speech](#)

## 2009 to 2013

### Mawlana Hazar Imam

#### signed

- an [international agreement](#) with the Portuguese Republic on matters relating to religion, cooperation, culture and education (2009).
- an agreement in Austin between [Imamat and State of Texas](#) to expand collaboration in the areas of education, health sciences, natural disaster preparedness and recovery, culture and the environment (2009).
- agreement of cooperation between Imamat and [State of California](#) reaffirming their shared commitment to dedicate human and material resources to confront poverty (2009).
- signed an agreement in Arusha, Tanzania, between the [East African Community](#) and the AKDN to strengthen and broaden cooperation in the areas of economic, social and cultural development throughout East Africa (2012).
- signed an agreement between [Government of Alberta, Canada](#), and AKDN to expand collaboration in the areas of health sciences, education, the environment, forestry and natural resources management, culture, and private sector and economic development (2012).
- an agreement with [Kenya's Prime Minister](#), the Right Honourable Raila Odinga, to rehabilitate Nairobi City Park (2012). [Video](#)

#### announced

- in Geneva, Switzerland, the [doubling of the prize](#) for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture (2010).

#### Other events

- Aga Khan Foundation established the [Community-Based Savings Programme](#) (CBSG) to promote community-managed financial services in the disadvantaged communities where it works (2009).
- [Canadian International Development Agency](#) announced it would provide funding over five years to Aga Khan Foundation Canada to pursue partnership for a new millennium project (2011).
- Mawlana Hazar Imam made an official visit to
  - [Urumxi, China](#), at the invitation of the Governor of the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, Mr Nur Bekri, to discuss collaboration between the AKDN and the Government of Xinjiang (2012).
  - [Dushanbe, Tajikistan](#) to discuss a range of national and regional development issues with government officials (2012).
- Mawlana Hazar Imam attended the [Foundation Ceremony](#) of the new Women's Wing at the French Medical Institute for Children in Kabul, Afghanistan (2012). [Speech](#)

### Selected World Events – 2009 to 2013

- Michael Jackson died (2009).
- Iceland volcano erupted, European airports closed due to spreading ash (2010).
- Apple CEO Steve Jobs died (2011).
- A series of earthquakes caused a [tsunami in Japan](#) (2011).
- [Voyager 1](#) entered interstellar space (2012).
- Mars Science Laboratory, [Curiosity](#), landed on Mars (2012)



## 12. Countdown to Diamond Jubilee - Snapshots of Imamat - 2014 to July 11, 2017

*"The voices of civil society will reflect and express the growing complexity of society, not as autonomous fragments, but as diversified institutions seeking the common good. And I believe that the voices of civil society can be among the most powerful forces in our time. Where change has been overdue, they can be voices for change. Where people live in fear, they can be voices of hope."*



**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**Stephen Ogden Lecture at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, USA**

**March 10, 2014**

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**laid the foundation stone of**

- the [museum at the Humayun's Tomb Complex](#) in Delhi, India (2015). [Speech](#)
- the [Aga Khan University Hospital](#) in Kampala, Uganda (2015). [Speech](#)

**presided over**

- [meetings in Arusha](#), Tanzania, in which Trustees from five countries spanning three continents made key decisions to expand the Aga Khan University's presence as a multidisciplinary university of international standing in the East African region (2014).
- Convocation ceremony of AKU in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania [[Video](#)] and Kampala, Uganda [[Video](#)] (2015).
- [signing ceremony](#) in Gouvieux, France, of an agreement to expand the scope of an existing partnership for the protection, development and enhancement of Penang's historic George Town in Malaysia for another three years (2015).
- the [opening](#) of a new state-of-the art printing plant of the Nation Media Group – a media house he founded almost sixty years ago (2016). [Speech](#)
- the [signing of a loan agreement](#) to finance the construction of the Aga Khan Academy Maputo to expand provision of high quality education and to train teachers, supporting economic and social development in Mozambique (2016).



Mawlana Hazar Imam, Chancellor of AKU, reviewing the master plan and design for a new 42-acre campus on Sam Nujoma Road which will house both the Aga Khan University Institute for Educational Development serving master's level students and an Aga Khan Academy for middle and secondary school students. Photo: AKDN / Zahur Ramji

**2014 to July 11, 2017**  
**Mawlana Hazar Imam**  
**inaugurated**

- the Aga Khan Museum and the Ismaili Centre Toronto (2014). [Speech](#)
- the [restored Amir Aqsunqur](#) “Blue Mosque” in Cairo, Egypt. The restoration was undertaken by Aga Khan Trust for Culture as part of the larger Al-Darb al-Ahmar Urban Regeneration Programme (2015). [Speech](#)
- Aga Khan Park, Toronto (2015). [Speech](#)
- [Naryn campus](#) of the University of Central Asia and Seitaaly Jakypov Park in Naryn restored by Aga Khan Trust for Culture (2016). [Speech](#)
- the international headquarters of the [Global Centre for Pluralism](#) in Ottawa, Canada with David Johnston, Governor General of Canada (2017). [Speech](#)



Kyrgyz Prime Minister HE Sooronbay Jeenbekov, Mawlana Hazar Imam, and Shamsh Kassim-Lakha, Executive Chairman, Board Executive Committee, University of Central Asia, and Diplomatic Representative to the Kyrgyz Republic, following the official unveiling of the plaque to mark the opening of the University’s Naryn campus. Photo: AKDN / Gary Otte



Mawlana Hazar Imam and His Excellency the Right Honourable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada unveil a plaque to commemorate the opening of the international headquarters of the Global Centre for Pluralism in Ottawa, Canada. Photo: AKDN/Mo Govindji

**met with**

- the [president of the World Bank Group](#), Dr. Jim Yong Kim, to discuss poverty alleviation (2014).
- [Germany’s foreign minister](#), Frank-Walter Steinmeier, to discuss cooperation between the German government and the AKDN (2014).
- [UN High Commissioner for Refugees](#) António Guterres to discuss past and future cooperation in emergency operations around the world (2015).
- [delegation](#) from the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic in London, during a four-day visit to the United Kingdom focused on multi-dimensional aspects of secular and religious education (2016).
- the [President of the Republic of Madagascar](#), in Paris, France, to discuss development in Madagascar, where the AKDN operates a number of programmes (2016).

**2014 to July 11, 2017**

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

**addressed**

- a joint session of parliament in Ottawa at the invitation of the Right Honorable Stephen Harper, Prime Minister of Canada (2014). [Speech](#)
- participants at the [88th Stephen A. Ogden Jr Memorial Lecture](#) on International Affairs in Providence, Rhode Island, USA (2014).
- Summit on Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in Toronto, Canada (2014). [Speech](#)
- Athens Democracy Forum on the International Day of Democracy (2015). [Video](#)
- conference marking the 50th anniversary of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) in London, UK (2015). [Video](#)
- Samuel L. and Elizabeth Jodidi Lecture at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, titled *The Cosmopolitan Ethic in a Fragmented World* (2015). [Video](#)
- *Supporting Syria and the Region* Conference in London, pledging that the AKDN will expand its activities in Syria over the next four years (2016). [Speech](#)
- Africa 2016 conference. [Speech](#)
- Brussels Conference on Afghanistan co-hosted by the European Union and the government of Afghanistan (2016). [Video](#)

**signed**

- a [Protocol of Understanding](#) in Ottawa with Prime Minister Stephen Harper, committing Canada and the Ismaili Imamate to regular, high-level consultations on a range of global and regional issues (2014).
- an [agreement](#) between the Province of Ontario and the Ismaili Imamate for cooperation in a number of areas including culture and education (2015).
- an [agreement](#) in Lisbon, between the Republic of Portugal and the Ismaili Imamate for the establishment of a formal Seat of the Ismaili Imamate in Portugal (2015).
- an [agreement](#) between the Ministry of Science, Technology and Higher Education of the Portuguese Republic and the Ismaili Imamate to strengthen research capacity and to improve the quality of life in Portugal and in Portuguese-speaking countries, particularly in Africa (2016).

**received**

- the [Charter of Aga Khan University](#) from His Excellency President Jakaya Kikwete at State House in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, marking the first time such recognition has been accorded to a foreign institution of higher learning (2015).
- the [Adrienne Clarkson Prize](#) for Global Citizenship (2016).
- the [Order of Danaker](#) from the President of the Kyrgyz Republic Almazbek Atambayev (2016). [Video](#)
- an [Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters](#) by The Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, the oldest humanities research institute in Canada, in recognition of his work to advance, and advocate for, pluralistic societies across the globe (2016)
- the [2017 Architectural League of New York's President's Medal](#) to recognise his work in the field of architecture, and on the fortieth anniversary of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.



**2014 to July 11, 2017**

**Mawlana Hazar Imam**

- [introduced Justice Albie Sachs](#) at Annual Pluralism Lecture (2016).
- presented awards for the Aga Khan Award for Architecture in Al-Ain, UAE (2016). [Speech](#)
- attended the Safeguarding Endangered Cultural Heritage conference in Abu Dhabi, UAE (2016). [Ismailimail](#)
- celebrated his 80th birthday with members of his family and global Jamati leaders in Aiglemont, France (2016). [Video](#).
- [contributed Euros 500,000](#) towards the support of victims of the deadly forest fire in Pedrógão Grande in central Portugal (2017).



Mawlana Hazar Imam is presented with a cake on behalf of the worldwide Jamat on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Photo: The Ismaili/ Farhez Rayani



Members of Hazar Imam's family applaud as the birthday cake is presented to Mawlana Hazar Imam. Photo: The Ismaili/Zahur Ramji



## Photo Gallery – Mawlana Hazar Imam’s 80<sup>th</sup> birthday The Ismaili



Mawlana Hazar Imam and members of his family applaud the artists at the end of the performance.

L to R: Prince Hussain, Princess Salwa, Prince Rahim, Mawlana Hazar Imam, Prince Aryn, Princess Zahra, Prince Ali Muhammad and Princess Zahra’s daughter Sara. Photo: The Ismaili/Zahurr Ramji



LIF Chairman Mahmoud Eboo wishes Mawlana Hazar Imam a happy 80th birthday on behalf of the global Jamat. Photo: The Ismaili/Zahurr Ramji

## Reflection



*"My wish for the decades ahead is that you stand firmly by the principles and ethics of our faith. Wherever you are, whatever age you are, whatever you do in your lives, it is essentially important to me that the principles of our faith should be respected everyday of your lives. This is my hope and this is my prayer.*

*As we look ahead, the Jamat is likely to become more and more a global community. But the essence of the Jamat, the ethics of our faith, the principles which we believe in and which we seek to practice in our lives are the essence of how our community will stay united....*

*I hope that in the decades ahead, you will remember this occasion as one of special happiness, as I do."*

**Mawlana Hazar Imam Aiglemont, December 16, 2016**  
[The Ismaili](#)

### **Diamond Jubilee of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Imam'at - July 11, 2017**

#### **Diamond Jubilee Emblem**

Mawlana Hazar Imam's crest is surrounded by 60 crescents embodied by the verse 49:13 in Kufic script:

*O mankind! Lo! We have created you male and female, and have made you nations and tribes that ye may know one another. Lo! the noblest of you, in the sight of Allah, is the best in conduct. Lo! Allah is Knower, Aware.*

