

THE ISMAILI

Bulletin

AKDN's annual budget for non-profit development activities is approximately US\$ 950 million

Issue 62, December 2018

[Editorial](#) | [Panorama](#) | [Mind & Body](#) | [Community](#) | [Society](#)



Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC) team members visiting the Humayun's Tomb restoration project in India. © AKDN

Giving

As December approaches and we reflect upon the decisions of the year, and set intentions for the year forward, it is the perfect time to consider how we can give more to the world around us.

Offering our time, our resources, and our knowledge enables us to leave the world better than we found it. Isn't that the ultimate goal?

This year also marks the centenary of the global Ismaili Volunteer Corps. A great opportunity for even more generosity.

Panorama

AKDN partners with Paris Peace Forum

On 11 November, Mawlana Hazar Imam joined over 60 world leaders for the opening session of the inaugural Paris Peace Forum. Initiated by French President Emmanuel Macron, the Forum was founded on the principle that international cooperation is key to tackling global challenges and ensuring durable peace. The Forum was launched on the 100th anniversary of the Armistice, marking the end of World War I. [Read More »](#)



AKDN institutions across Pakistan

Prince Rahim and Princess Salwa travelled to Pakistan for a six-day working visit in late October 2018, which included stops in several districts of Gilgit-Baltistan as well as in Chitral district of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa, along with the capital city of Islamabad and the southern city of Karachi.

[Learn More »](#)

World Monuments Fund honours Prince Ayn

Prince Ayn Aga Khan received the Hadrian Award in recognition of his lifelong support of cultural heritage. Among many board and committee positions at cultural institutions around the world, Prince Ayn has served as a trustee of World Monuments Fund since 1997. *"Culture is something we share, as a way of rediscovering our dignity, rediscovering what unites us, rediscovering that there is a human heritage, which is a world heritage – a world heritage which binds us"* said Prince Ayn. [Read more »](#)

Commitment reaffirmed to Afghanistan

Mawlana Hazar Imam has reaffirmed his enduring commitment to the country at the Geneva Conference on Afghanistan. He said: *"... As we come together to support the National Unity Government, investing in civil society, encouraging private organisations designed to serve public goals, deserves equal attention. Such institutions can be stabilising factors and points of continuity. That is why, AKDN supports the full spectrum of civil society, devoting special attention to health, education, culture, community governance, and public-private partnerships to deliver other services."* [Read more »](#)

Mind & Body



Book of the Month

The Paradox of Generosity by Christian Smith and Hilary Davidson

When we look at social media we are flooded by the image of the perfect self. But where did this ideal come from? Go on a journey from Ancient Greece to modern day neoliberalism to find out the story of the person we know so well – our self.

[Learn More »](#)



Video of the Month

[Meet Sara.](#)

She's seven years old and lives in one of the world's most remote areas – in northern Afghanistan. She dreams of becoming a doctor. But access to education isn't the only thing that will get her there.

Thank you to all who give generously to AKF.

[Watch Sara's Story »](#)



Quote of the Month

"You give but little when you give of your possessions. It is when you give of yourself that you truly give."

– Khalil Gibran on Giving

Community



Symposium on the Abrahamic Concept of Sacrifice

In October, North London Jamatkhana hosted a Symposium on the Abrahamic Concept of Sacrifice. Keynote speeches by Rabbi Mark Goldsmith from Alyth synagogue and Dr Farouk Topan, a senior lecturer from the Aga Khan Centre, covered the Judeo-Christian and Islamic perspectives respectively.

Guests from the neighbourhood and of different faiths participated in thought provoking workshops.

In his vote of thanks Es Rosen, co-chair of Barnet Multi Faith Forum paid tribute to Mawlana Hazar Imam & the Ismaili community.

The high tea proved a great hit, and non-Ismaili visitors were also shown around the Jamatkhana building.



Leaders International Forum Meeting hosted in London

The Leaders International Forum (LIF) met at the Ismaili Centre, London to review the outcomes of the Diamond Jubilee goals set by Mawlana Hazar Imam at the start. Mawlana Hazar Imam also gave approval for the International Camps Programme, Jubilee Games and Jubilee Arts to sit under the "Global Encounters" banner. The National Councils will now become the carriers of these legacy programmes.

The UK National Council hosted a dinner for the LIF at the Aga Khan Centre as part of the two day meeting.



Jubilee joy on the sea

IROC brought an amazing event to Shoreham-by-Sea. The sessions, the entertainment and the interactions with families, the young and old were an opportunity to reflect on the Diamond Jubilee.

Various sessions ranged from Farmans, Mobility Exercise, Cancer Awareness, Laughter Yoga and Children's activities, all emphasising Hazar Imam's vision for the quality of life of the Jamat.

Institutional leaders shared with the Jamat details and experiences of Mawlana Hazar Imam's Diamond Jubilee visit to the UK.

The day was loved by everyone thanks to the efforts of the volunteers.



Recognising brilliant women in Germany

We celebrated international women's day with awards in Germany this month with our sisters from Syria, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, East Africa, Austria and Europe.

The first of its kind, these awards, sponsored by the National Council acknowledges their achievements in education and community work. It was a weekend filled with love, laughter with inspiration and determination to overcome all odds.

We are so proud of our Superwomen!



A night to remember

On the 20th October, over 125 children age 7-13 spent the night at the Ismaili Centre for Youth Club Network's Lock In event.

Over the course of this magical night, participants took part in a range of activities from arts and crafts, team building, and exploring the Ismaili Centre, as well as spending time reflecting on their Diamond Jubilee memories, before joining the Jamat for morning Jamati ceremonies.

The event was an opportunity for children to come together to have fun, build friendships and reflect on a historic year.



A call for Social Justice

This year, the Milad lecture at the Ismaili Centre reflected on the Arab Spring as a call for democracy, accountability, representation and rule of law.

Professor Bano explored the role the youth played and the role of the religion of Islam in this political uprising. Using a recent survey of popular opinion, she discussed how the statistics show a potentially conflicting view of the role of Islam in the development of democracy.

Society

Female leaders gather together

Over 100 female Members of Parliament from around the world met in the House of Commons on Thursday 8 November as part of the celebrations for the centenary of suffrage for some women, and the right for women to stand for election in the UK. The conference celebrated the progress made in advancing women's rights to participate in public life, and the improvement to the lives of women and girls around the world. It also focused on the progress that is yet to be made. Globally, only 24% of parliamentarians are women, with concerns about female autonomy and influence. [Read more »](#)

Lest we forget

This year, Remembrance Sunday fell on the 100th anniversary of the end of the First World War. This day recognised the significance of the end of the First World War, and the sacrifice made by many men and women during this period.

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