

IIS Update

March 2003

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If you have feedback or
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us at rdc@iis.ac.uk.



The Institute of Ismaili Studies



Expressions of the Pamir performance at the Musée Guimet, France

Message from the Director



The IIS at 25

Dear Donors
and Friends
of The Institute of
Ismaili Studies,

The Institute of Ismaili Studies this year celebrates the Silver Jubilee of its foundation. In summarizing 25 years of its history, the following stand out as key milestones. The Institute has:

- Gained an international reputation for excellence in research through its scholarship;
- Created pedagogically sound educational materials in several languages for Ismaili children world-wide;
- Become a significant resource, intellectual and human, for Imamats and AKDN institutions;
- Built a library of resources that has made it an acknowledged centre for Ismaili Studies;
- Fostered strong linkages with the *Jamat* world-wide and increasingly gained credibility for enhancing awareness regarding its mission and work;
- Trained talented students from diverse backgrounds to create a world-wide resource;
- Developed strategic academic linkages with selected institutions and individuals in

both the Muslim and the Western worlds to promote collaboration;

- Begun to strengthen the financial base to sustain and support its future activities.

The Institute represents an investment in people and knowledge. The research, publications, and educational materials produced by the Institute are not simply a window to the past—they create a bridge across time, seeking to relate that past to the issues of today and tomorrow. In that sense, our work should always look forward, without idealising or parochialising the past, while also giving full weight to the spectrum of our total heritage in the quest for a genuinely pluralistic and open vision of education.

There is therefore much to celebrate and even more to look ahead to as we build on the groundwork that has been established. We plan to undertake several events to commemorate this moment in the Institute's history, and we look forward to your participation and the strengthening of our connections and partnerships with you.

Azmi Nazeer

Expressions of the Pamir - The European Tour



Mawlana Hazar Imam, Begum Inaara, and Prince Aryn with the artistes and representatives from the IIS following the performance in Paris

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It is through the learning and sharing of cultures and traditions that one learns about, and is inspired by, the history, creativity and collective wisdom of a people. This was the aim of *Expressions of the Pamir: Culture and Heritage of the Ismaili Muslims of Tajikistan (EOTP)*, the first multi-dimensional programme to represent the rich cultural heritage of the *Jamat* in Central Asia. It was produced in order to assist the audience to gain an insight into this cultural heritage, and to develop an appreciation of the strength and cultural diversity of the *Ummah* reflected in the global *Jamat*.

Following its very successful North American tour and in close collaboration between the IIS and the Ismaili Councils for the UK, France and Portugal, the programme toured five cities in Europe in May and June 2002. *Expressions of the Pamir* provided an opportunity for the *Jamat* and its institutions to invite other community leaders, friends, colleagues and supporters from

the fields of art, culture, media, academia and development, to celebrate the richness of the Ismaili community's cultural diversity.

In London, the travelling exhibition was displayed at the Ismaili Centre, attracting over 1000 people. Performances played to full houses at Westminster Central Hall and the Logan Hall in London, as well as the Alexandra Theatre in Birmingham.

The highlight of the programme was in Paris on Thursday, 23rd May, when Mawlana Hazar Imam, Begum Inaara, and Prince Aryn attended a private performance at the Musée Guimet. The occasion was an historic event for the Ismaili Council for France, the IIS and the Tajik artistes, as well as deeply significant for the *Expressions of the Pamir* programme. After the performance, Mawlana Hazar Imam, Begum Inaara, and Prince Aryn met the artistes individually and expressed their pleasure and happiness at the outstanding performance they had witnessed.

In Lisbon, the exhibition was held at the Ismaili Centre and again attracted viewers from all walks of life. Begum Inaara, attended a special performance accompanied by Portugal's First Lady Maria Jose Ritta, the Portuguese Minister of Culture Dr Pedro Roseta, government officials and community leaders. Later, Begum Inaara and the First Lady also met with the artistes.

The artistes then visited Essen, Germany, where they presented a special performance for the local *Jamat*, which includes many from Afghanistan who have settled in the country. In all five cities, the sharing of culture was characterised by a real feeling of fraternity between the Tajiks and the local *Jamats* who were inspired by the vitality and enthusiasm, the talent and the friendship of the artistes.

With the outstanding generosity and services of hundreds of volunteers who dedicated countless hours to the programme, *Expressions of the Pamir* is imprinted with affection and unforgettable moments; indeed it has bonded friends and families from across three distant continents.



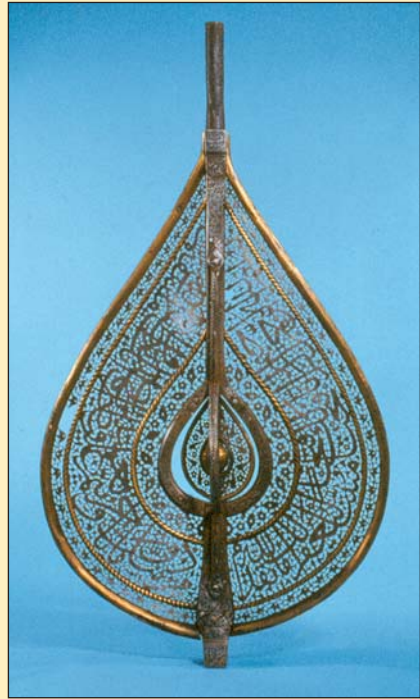
First Lady Maria Jose Ritta and Begum Inaara with Shamim Salaam and Dr Nouraddin Allahdini of the IIS, visiting the exhibition at the Ismaili Centre, Lisbon

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First Lady Maria Jose Ritta and Begum Inaara meet the artistes

Exploring the Landscape of Muslim Plurality



An 'alam used in ta'ziya practices of the Twelver Shi'is

Over the course of eleven seminars, a group of international scholars examined the landscape of Muslim plurality and discussed the factors that shape its contours and constitute its common ground.

of international scholars examined the landscape of Muslim plurality and discussed the factors that shape its contours and constitute its common ground.

Three themes emerged during the series. First is the manner in which contemporary nation-states manage plurality. The seminars of Drs Dina Kiwan and Patrice Brodeur, for example, described



Audience at one of the seminars

the ambivalence between the nation-state's desire to create "citizens" and its desire (particularly in Western democratic states) to recognise and uphold the rights of individuals and groups. In particular, Dr Brodeur's case study, which concerned census-taking in the United States of America, showed how the state limits the ability of Muslims to articulate their internal differences. Hence, in the contemporary American public sphere, Muslims are often represented as an undifferentiated mass with a single viewpoint. But there is a twist to this tale: particular groups of Muslims are integrally involved in the process of census-taking and categorising who is Muslim and who is not. This finding reveals that if diversity is to be recognised, then we need to understand the complex power relations between the state and particular groups and individuals within it. Put differently, we need to know who is representing us.

Dina Kiwan's case-study concerning citizenship education in England highlighted similar structural problems. She explained the extent to which terms such as diversity, plurality, pluralism, and multi-culturalism remain undefined and confused in government policy papers about citizenship education. Such ambiguities impact the challenging task of teaching about diversity in the classroom. The seminar also raised questions which have a direct impact on schools for Muslims in England (and elsewhere): How are teachers talking about plurality?; How are they teaching about Muslim diversity?; Are they characterising diversity in terms of 'Muslims' and 'others', or is the heterogeneity of Muslim societies used as means to foster an appreciation of human diversity?

The second theme is how difference amongst Muslims is expressed. This theme was made evident in Professor James Allan's seminar which concerned

That such a varied group of intellectuals with differing points of view exists exemplifies the very diversity that the seminar series sought to expose more fully.

mapping the visual boundaries of 'Islamic Art'. Professor Allan set out a typology of art produced by Muslims based on doctrinal differences. He then described and showed images of art objects associated with Shi'i and Sufi practices, such as 'alams used in ta'ziya practices of Twelver Shi'is, and the wool/hair cloaks of Sufi dervishes. He asked, "What particular features distinguish a Shi'i object from a Sunni one?" Professor Allan concluded that it is difficult to distinguish between objects based on doctrinal association. But, it is the presence or absence of certain types of objects within the broader repertoire of a particular Muslim tradition which marks differences and alerts us to the presence of an internal 'other'.

Differences have been viewed positively and negatively throughout Muslim history. This point was made concrete in Professor Joseph van Ess' seminar on "Pluralism and Tolerance in

A wool/hair cloak used by Sufi dervishes



Early Islamic History". Professor van Ess made clear that in early Muslim histories, differences in interpretation of religion were tolerated, at least unwittingly. Over time, differences became less desirable. This was echoed by Professor Hasan Uddin Khan's presentation on the historical diversity of mosque architecture. For Professor Khan, the increasing similarity between contemporary mosques mirrors some Muslim claims that Islam should be uniform. Optimistically, Professor Khan sees this as a phase through which Muslims will pass; diversity will prevail.

Finally, the third theme which the seminars raised is to do with the praxis (contextualised discourses and practices) of plurality. Various speakers in the series (including Professor Farhang Jahanpour, Dr Faisal Devji, Professor Tazim Kassam, Professor John Bowen and Professor Roy Mottahedeh) cited intellectuals such as Muhammad Iqbal, Mohsen Kadivar, Ayatollah Mohammad Mojtahed-Shabestari, Fatima Mernissi, Riffat Hassan and others who have raised questions and offered solutions to Muslim issues and concerns. That such a varied group of intellectuals with differing points of view exists exemplifies the very diversity that the seminar series sought to expose more fully. Thus, one may ask: In the face of such diversity, what constitutes uniformity amongst Muslims? This crucial question, among others, will certainly be addressed in the forthcoming edited volume of papers from the series.



Djingareyber Mosque, Timbuktu, Mali
© The Aga Khan Award for Architecture, 1996, Farrokh Derrakhshani



The Central Mosque, Porto Novo, Benin
© The Aga Khan Award for Architecture, 1986, Carla De Benedetti



Huajuexiang Mosque, Xian, China
© The Aga Khan Award for Architecture, 1985, Wang Huaide

Human Resource Development Programmes for the Ismaili Tariqah and Religious Education Boards (ITREBs)



Learning by practice, PTEP, Ontario

*The word vector represents a sense of speed,
velocity and direction, which when combined
result in movement.*

In 1994, ITREBs world-wide, under the guidance of Mawlana Hazar Imam, embarked on their first five-year plans. The global picture that emerged from the planning process indicated the need for three major international training programmes for ITREBs: the Professional Teacher Educators' Programme (PTEP); the International Waezen Training Programme (IWTP); and the International Adolescent Education Vector (IAEV). The word vector was chosen because it represents a sense of speed, velocity and direction, which when combined result in movement.

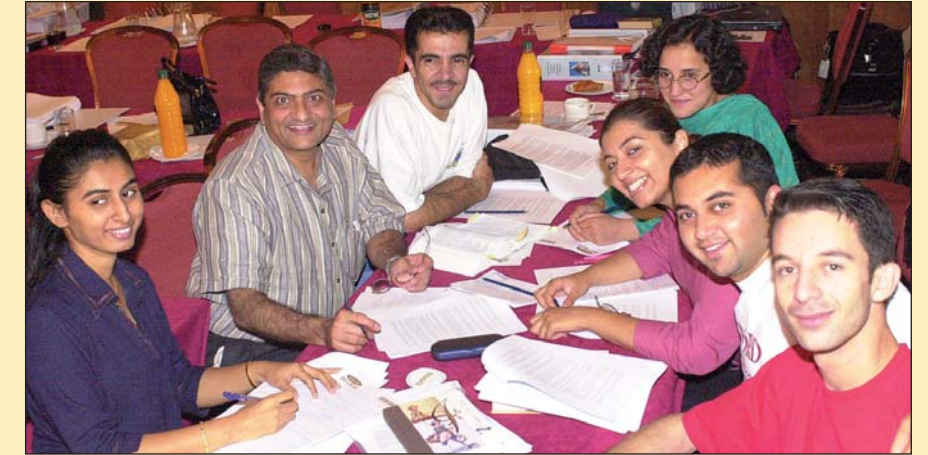
A Core Curriculum for these Vectors was developed by the IIS-ITREB Liaison Department and from this, three syllabi were extracted for each of the Vector Programmes. This was a collaborative venture between the

IIS and the ITREBs of Canada, India, Pakistan, Syria, the United Kingdom, and the United States. The Core Curriculum, which was developed with the assistance of nine scholars affiliated with ITREBs, at present deals with nine thematic areas: Qur'anic Studies; Authority and Community; Worship and Practice; History and Historical Thinking; Intellectual Traditions; Nasir Khusraw; Literature; Arts and Architecture; and Issues of Development.

The first series of Vector Programmes, under the aegis of the ITREB Coordinator's office at Aiglemont, was launched in 2002. The first International Adolescent Education Vector Programme was held in California in May, the first International Waezen Training Programme was held in London in August, and the first Professional Teacher Educators' Programme was held in Ontario in October. The IAEV rollout was held in Lisbon, Portugal for the Western European *Jamats* in December 2002. The next rollouts are planned for Canada, East Africa, India, Bangladesh, Malaysia and UAE this year. Both the IWTP and the PTEP will have second episodes in 2003. It is estimated that within five years, in excess of 125 waezen, 125 professional teacher educators, and some 500 planners of youth programmes will have been trained worldwide.

Beside developing the curriculum, the IIS has made available some of its faculty for the Vector Programmes, which will hopefully go a long way towards meeting the human resource needs of ITREBs worldwide.

Photographs: Aly Ramji



IWTP participants, London



Dr Karim Janmohamed, Head of the IIS-ITREB Liaison Department, at the PTEP, Ontario

*IWTP participants and faculty at the
Roof Garden, Ismaili Centre, London*



*PTEP participants and faculty,
Twin Lakes, Ontario*



*Mohamed Keshavjee, International
ITREB Coordinator, delivering a talk,
at the IAEV programme, California*



Preserving History, Promoting Research: The Zahid ‘Ali Collection of Ismaili Manuscripts



Dr Zahid ‘Ali

One of the most outstanding Ismaili scholars of the 20th century, Dr Zahid ‘Ali, passed away in 1958, leaving behind a small number of widely acclaimed studies on the history and doctrines of the Ismailis. Nearly forty years later, in the autumn of 1997, the only surviving son of this scholar, Professor ‘Abid ‘Ali, donated to the Library of The Institute of Ismaili Studies an exceptional collection of Arabic manuscripts inherited from his father’s collection.

The story begins in India over a century ago when, in June 1888, Zahid ‘Ali was born into a distinguished and learned Must‘ali Ismaili family. His father, Fadl ‘Ali, was a prominent leader in the Must‘ali Ismaili community and a scholar in his own right. Zahid ‘Ali, after receiving his early education in Hyderabad and Surat, went to the University of Oxford, where he obtained a doctorate in Arabic Literature. Returning to India in 1926, he took up the position of Professor of Arabic at the Nizam College, Hyderabad, eventually becoming its Vice-Principal. He retired in 1945, and passed away shortly after his 70th birthday.

Fluent in English, as well as Arabic, Persian and Urdu,

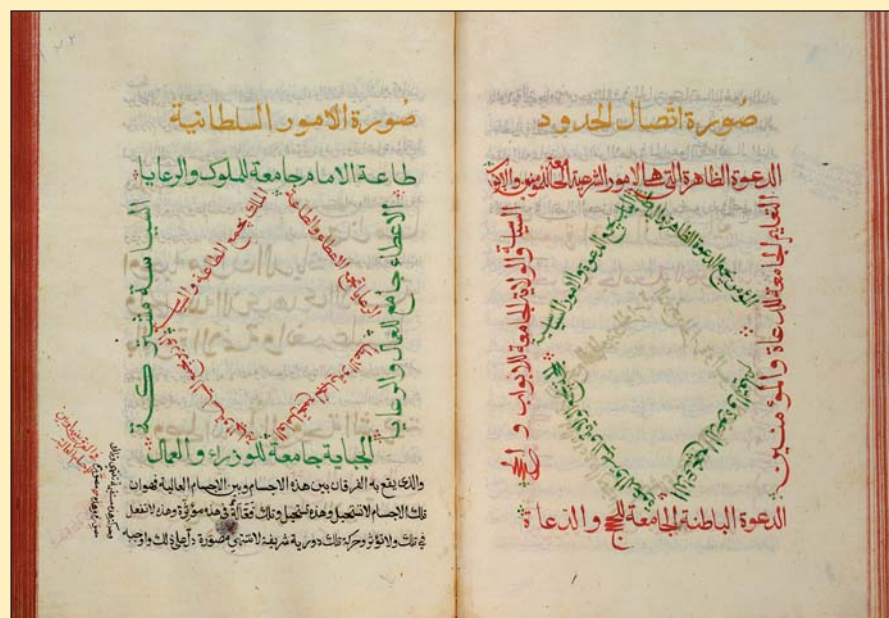
Dr Zahid ‘Ali showed a rare ability in effectively combining traditional and modern research methods. His main publications include a critical Arabic edition, with commentary, of the *Diwan* of the Fatimid poet Ibn Hani’, an outcome of his doctoral research at Oxford. His second major work was a history of the Fatimids, written in Urdu and published in two volumes. Perhaps his most important and significant contribution to Ismaili studies was entitled *Hamare Isma‘ili madhhab ki haqiqat aur us ka nizam*, a compendium in Urdu of Ismaili doctrines and teachings as professed among the Must‘ali Ismailis, which was published in 1954.

Dr Zahid ‘Ali had access to an extensive range of Ismaili primary sources, many of which were

copied by his father. After Dr Zahid ‘Ali’s death in 1958, this collection of manuscripts was inherited by his son, ‘Abid ‘Ali. In 1994, Professor ‘Abid ‘Ali visited the Institute and, impressed by its collections of Ismaili materials as well as its commitment to promote research on Ismaili studies, identified the Institute’s Library as the most suitable venue for the preservation of such a valuable literary heritage. Although ‘Abid ‘Ali was not able to fulfill this wish in his lifetime, he instructed in his will that the manuscripts be bequeathed to the Institute’s Library. The manuscript collection, comprising 226 volumes and located in California, was transferred, with the assistance of Professor ‘Abid ‘Ali’s wife and children, to the Library in 1997. Over the past years, the task of

The 221 Arabic Ismaili volumes in the collection belong to the tradition of legal, theological, philosophical and historical Ismaili literature produced over a period of nearly ten centuries, from pre-Fatimid to modern times.

Hamid al-Din al-Kirmani’s Rahat al-‘aql



collating, identifying, preserving and microfiching these manuscripts has been undertaken. A catalogue entirely devoted to the Zahid ‘Ali corpus, entitled *Arabic Ismaili Manuscripts: The Zahid ‘Ali Collection*, is being published this year. This illustrated catalogue, prepared by Dr Delia Cortese, includes details of the content of each manuscript and other relevant information of a literary and doctrinal nature, as well as a comprehensive introduction that will enable the user to place the featured works in their wider historical contexts.

Dr Zahid ‘Ali’s collection represents an outstanding record of transmission of Ismaili learning and scholarship through many generations. The 221 Arabic Ismaili volumes in the collection (there are four Arabic non-Ismaili manuscripts) belong to the tradition of legal, theological, philosophical and historical Ismaili literature produced over a period of nearly ten centuries, from pre-Fatimid to modern times. They feature a substantial number of previously unrecorded works, as well as titles that are already represented in the Library’s collection. Although most of the manuscripts are relatively recent, dating mainly from the middle of the 19th to the first half of the 20th centuries, there are some manuscripts from the 18th century. The oldest dated Ismaili codex in the collection is a copy of the legal treatise *Kitab al-Hawashi* by Aminji b. Jalal, dated 1733. Another text of particular importance is a Persian translation (this being the only Persian manuscript in the collection) by al-Mu‘ayyad fi al-Din al-Shirazi of al-Qadi al-Nu‘man’s *Asas al-ta’wil*.

The Zahid ‘Ali Collection will occupy a prominent place in the Library’s efforts to develop the finest and largest corpus of Ismaili codices in the world. The collection reflects not only the literary and intellectual interests of a pious man of great learning, but is also a rare example of the exemplary dedication of his past and present family members to the preservation and study of Ismaili literature.

Class of 2004 Summer Programmes



Students from the Class of 2004 near the Pyramids, Egypt

At the end of their first year, students of the IIS Graduate Programme are offered the opportunity to attend Arabic immersion programmes in Arabic-speaking countries. This year, the IIS sent seven students to the British Council in Cairo, three to the American Language Institute in Fez, and one to the University of Damascus. For all of the students concerned, this was their first visit to an Arabic-speaking country, and for some of them it was also their first visit to a predominantly Muslim country. For the first time, the students had the opportunity to study Modern Standard Arabic, to hear the language spoken all around them, and to use the language daily. They were also able to take full advantage of the cultural exploration opportunities available in Egypt, Morocco, and Syria.

“I believe that this experience has heightened my awareness and understanding of Islam in addition to acting as a great complement to my first year core studies at the Institute.”

Jamil Jaffer

“Visiting Cairo was very helpful for all aspects of the Graduate Programme, because Cairo is so rich in Islamic art, and there are so many historic buildings from the Fatimid period. It was my first time in an Arabic-speaking country, and I found Egypt a very friendly place - I enjoyed visiting the markets and speaking Arabic with the traders. We saw many aspects of Egyptian life; we even went on a tour of a factory where we saw beautiful silk carpets being made by hand!”

Maruf Kandakov

“It was wonderful to feel a sense of Ismaili heritage in Egypt. In Cairo they are restoring the Ayyubid walls. We visited the mausoleum of Imam Sultan Muhammad Shah in Aswan. It was a very beautiful and green place, like paradise. We also visited Saladdin’s Citadel, where in the evenings there were Arabic and Western concerts and displays of dancing. We also went to an Egyptian wedding in a garden where the bride and groom were on a stage with the musicians. Egypt is a very diverse place, and it was great to visit so many of the places we have read about in our time at the Institute.”

Usnoro Dodikhudoeva



Al-Azhar Mosque, Cairo



Drs Arzina Lalani, Annabel Keeler, Shainool Jiwa, Rachel Howes, and Sajjad Rizvi at work

The Qur'anic Studies Unit was created at the beginning of 2002 and is currently coordinated by Dr Shainool Jiwa. One of the key aims of the Unit is to commission academically sound materials that demonstrate the diversity of interpretations of the Holy Qur'an by Muslims throughout the course of history,

from around the world. One of its areas of focus is the formative period of Islam (until AH 4th /10th CE century), when a variety of views were allowed to co-exist and the perceived closure of the interpretive corpus had not yet occurred. In this regard, a major, multi-volume anthology of *tafsir* literature, which takes a thematic

approach to the Holy Qur'an, is being prepared. This anthology is particularly aimed at university audiences for it will make English translations of primary sources available to them. The Qur'anic Studies Unit is also committed to examining contemporary and regional approaches to the Holy Qur'an. Currently, five author manuscripts are ready, some of which will be published in 2003. The Unit is also exploring the non-textual representations of the Holy Qur'an. For 2003, a series of workshops and an international conference are being planned on the Holy Qur'an and its expression in the Arts. At the present time, the Unit consists of the Coordinator, three Post-Doctoral Fellows and two part-time Editors. Academic guidance is provided through a Steering Committee and an Advisory Board, which includes leading scholars in the field.

Central Asian Studies at the IIS

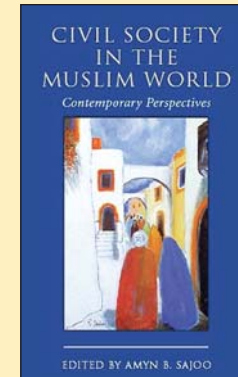
The Central Asian Studies Unit is a new and ambitious project, which seeks to create a knowledge base on Central Asia, in particular about the history, present realities, and the future of the Ismaili community and the communities around them. It also seeks to develop research capacity within Central Asia itself. Currently, the Unit consists of two Research Assistants, two Research Fellows, one Translator, and is coordinated by Dr Sarfaroj Niyozov. The Unit has already developed close links with other institutions in Central Asia through various projects. In 2002, the Unit was engaged in activities that included human resource development, textual research, book reviews, translations, mapping studies, collection of publications on Central Asia, as well as commissioning two research reports. This year, the Unit is planning to conduct research on

civil society, education and research conditions in Central Asia, a mapping study of the Northern Areas of Pakistan, developing human resource capacity, and working with other departments within the IIS to commemorate the millennial anniversary of the birth of Nasir Khusraw. Close collaboration,

reflective practice, and scholarship are among the major principles guiding the Unit's work.

These, and other academic projects, reinforce the need to re-establish the idea and the image that diversity and pluralistic discourse and interpretations have always been part of the history of Central Asia's Muslims.

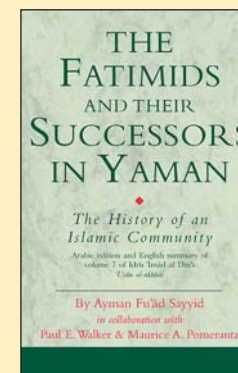
Otambek Mastibekov, Hakim Elnazarov, Nazigol Zamonova, Dr Sarfaroj Niyozov, and Sultanbek Aqsagolov discussing various issues



Civil Society in the Muslim World: Contemporary Perspectives

Edited by Aryn B. Sajoo

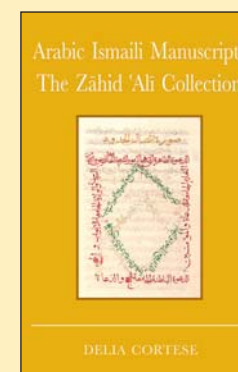
Well before the events of September 11, 2001, the global discourse on civil society had caught the attention of citizens and communities across the Muslim world. This survey of social and intellectual trends in diverse contexts, challenges many of the superficial claims about the contemporary Muslim world that abound in mainstream media as well as scholarly accounts. It will appeal not only to scholars of contemporary culture, politics and religion, but to all those interested in the unfolding of civic modernities in the new millennium.



The Fatimids and their Successors in Yaman: The History of an Islamic Community

By Ayman Fu'ad Sayyid in collaboration with Paul E. Walker and Maurice A. Pomerantz

The '*Uyun al-akhbar* is the most complete text written by an Ismaili author on the history of the Ismaili community from its origins up to the AH 6th/12th CE century. The seventh volume, edited here for the first time, together with an English summary, deals in particular with the period of the three Fatimid caliphs, al-Mustansir, al-Must'ali and al-Amir, and then the Tayyibi Ismaili community in Yaman.



Arabic Ismaili Manuscripts: The Zahid 'Ali Collection

By Delia Cortese

This represents the fourth volume published by The Institute of Ismaili Studies, cataloguing some 750 volumes of Arabic Ismaili manuscripts housed in its Library. This new catalogue is entirely devoted to the corpus of manuscripts which formerly belonged to the eminent Must'ali Ismaili scholar, the late Dr Zahid 'Ali (1888-1958). The collection was kindly donated to the Institute by the 'Ali family in 1997.

The Institute continues to promote original, informative and mature thought, scholarship and analysis of relevant issues through its publications. The following are anticipated to be published in the near future:

- ***Culture and Memory in Medieval Islam: Essays in Honour of Wilferd Madelung***
Edited by Farhad Daftary and Josef W. Meri
- ***The Paradise of Submission: Naṣir al-Dīn Tūsī's Rawḍa-yi taslīm***
Edited and translated by S. J. Badakhchani
Ismaili Texts and Translations Series, 5
- ***Crossing the Threshold: Towards an Understanding of Religious Identities in South Asia***
By Dominique Sila Khan
- ***Ismaili Thought in the Twentieth Century***
Edited by Suha Taji-Farouki and Basheer Nafi
- ***Memoirs of a Mission: al-Mu'ayyad fi'l-dīn al-Shirāzī***
By Verena Klemm
Ismaili Heritage Series, 9
- ***Ismaili Studies and Sources: A Bibliography***
By Farhad Daftary

Further information and synopses of these publications will be posted on the IIS website closer to the publication date.

Staff Achievements



Dr Shainool Jiwa obtained her PhD in Islamic Studies from the University of Edinburgh in 1989. In her academic career, Dr Jiwa has served as Assistant Chief Examiner for the History of the Muslim World for the International Baccalaureate Organization (IBO), based in Geneva. In 2002, Dr Jiwa was appointed as Chief Examiner in Islamic History for the IBO. In this capacity, Dr Jiwa will provide both leadership and guidance for the entire examining team as well as participate in the preparation of the assessment tools and content of the examinations. Also last year, Dr Jiwa won a commendation at the UK's Fourth Ismaili Awards for Excellence in the field of Public, Community, and Social Affairs. Currently, Dr Jiwa is the Qur'anic Studies Coordinator at the IIS, teaches a course to IIS second year students entitled 'The Age of the Fatimids', gives lectures on the Fatimids and the Nizaris, and conducts seminars on Islamic History at Edinburgh University.



Dr Arzina Lalani is an Arabist with a doctorate in Islamic Studies from the University of Edinburgh. She has previously taught *Hadith* literature at the University of Cambridge, served as a mentor in Arabic at DeMontfort University, and lectured on Early Shi'i Studies at the IIS. Her book, *Early Shi'i Thought: The Teachings of Imam Muhammad al-Baqir*, was recently selected for the prestigious *Kitab Sal-e Vilayat* award in Iran, as one of the most distinguished books of the year. Dr Lalani is a contributor to the *Encyclopaedia of the Qur'an* and is on the editorial board of the Routledge *Companion to the Qur'an*. She is also the 2002 recipient for the Award in Arts and Culture at the UK's Fourth Ismaili Awards for Excellence. Presently, Dr Lalani is a Research Associate at the Institute and is working on a monograph entitled *Interpretations on the Imamate*. Her forthcoming publication, entitled *Affirming the Imamate*, is a critical edition and translation of a Fatimid era manuscript of Ahmad al-Naysaburi.

New Appointments

Dr Najam Abbas

- Research Fellow, Central Asian Studies Unit

Fayaz Alibhai

- Education Officer, Department for IIS-ITREB Liaison

Becky Arnold

- Student Affairs Officer, Department of Graduate Studies

Dr Vehbi Baysan

- Academic Coordinator, Department of Graduate Studies

Sara Cerfontyne

- Administrative Assistant, Department of Operations, Finance and Development

Dr Nader El-Bizri

- Research Associate, Department of Academic Research and Publications

Hakim Elnazarov

- Research Fellow, Central Asian Studies Unit

Dr Feras Hamza

- Postdoctoral Fellow, Qur'anic Studies Unit

Dr Zulfikar Hirji

- Research Associate, Department of Academic Research and Publications

Dr Annabel Keeler

- Postdoctoral Fellow, Qur'anic Studies Unit

Dr Nouha Khalife

- Research Associate, Department of Academic Research and Publications

Nina Lee

- Administrative Secretary, Department for IIS-ITREB Liaison

Dr Dinah Manisty

- Librarian, Library

Dr Josef Meri

- Visiting Research Fellow, Department of Academic Research and Publications

Christina Phillips

- Editor, Qur'anic Studies Unit

Kathryn Stapley

- Editor, Qur'anic Studies Unit

Fahmida Suleman

- Postdoctoral Fellow, Qur'anic Studies Unit

Alumni Relations

The Institute is keen to keep in contact with its alumni. This year, we have a few activities planned and would like to involve

our alumni in these endeavours. Please keep us informed of your progress so that we can update our records and keep you informed of

the latest news and activities at the IIS. You can update your details on-line through our website or e-mail us at alumni@iis.ac.uk.

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