



## The Institute of Ismaili Studies

The Summer Programme on Islam

14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> August 2012

### PROGRAMME

DATE	MORNING (9:00-13:00)	AFTERNOON (14:00 – 18:00)	EVENING
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> August	Participants arrive and make their way to Cambridge by 2.30pm: Arrival and check-in until 3.30pm	<b>Opening Remarks</b> <i>Mr Shiraz Kabani</i> <b>Logistics and Evaluation</b> <i>Selina K Ramji</i>	<b>Networking &amp; Mingling</b>
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Depicting the Prophet: Constructions and their contexts</b> <i>Dr Alnoor Dhanani</i> <b>Objective(s):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Provide participants with an introduction to the life of the Prophet</li> <li>b) Explore the historical Muhammad and the Ahmad of faith</li> <li>c) Explore the veneration of the Prophet</li> <li>d) Examine images/depictions of the Prophet and their contexts</li> </ul>	<b>God's Revelation: <i>Houris</i> in paradise or eternal hellfire?</b> <i>Dr Nadia Eboo-Jamal</i> <b>Objective(s):</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Explore the event, form and content of the Quran.</li> <li>b) Explore debates (both historical and contemporary) on the origin, collection and canonisation of the Quran</li> <li>c) Examine perspectives on the Quran in Muslim worldviews</li> </ul>	<b>Diversity &amp; Pluralism</b> Through film the session will explore the pluralism that exists amongst Muslims.



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Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> August	<p><b>After the Prophet: Authority, Legitimacy and Institutionalisation I</b></p> <p><i>Dr Nadia Eboo-Jamal and Dr Alnoor Dhanani</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Survey the transition from Prophetic to post-Prophetic authority and the formation of institutions of authority in religious traditions in general and in the particular case of Islam</li> <li>b) Explore the institutions of leadership: caliphate; imamate; the emergence of the Shia understanding of post-Prophetic leadership and authority</li> <li>c) Explore the movement to preserve the memory of the Prophet through the formation of the institution of the <i>sunna</i> and how this crystallises into the institution of the <i>ulama</i> as custodians of Prophetic tradition</li> </ul>	<p><b>After the Prophet: Authority, Legitimacy and Institutionalisation II</b></p> <p><i>Dr Alnoor Dhanani and Dr Nadia Eboo-Jamal</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Explore the development and institutionalisation of <i>fiqh/sharia</i> in the Sunni and Shia contexts</li> <li>b) Examine the adaptation of <i>fiqh/sharia</i> to changing contexts</li> <li>c) Explore charismatic authority of Sufi <i>pirs/shaykhs</i> as a form of authority and the reasons for the development of the institution of Sufi <i>tariqas</i></li> </ul>	<p><b>Diversity &amp; Pluralism</b></p>



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Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> August	<p><b>From the historical to the modern</b>  <i>Dr Alnoor Dhanani</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Survey the Muslim world from Napoleon's invasion of Egypt to Ataturk's embrace of Western secularism</li> <li>b) Explore Revival, Renewal and Reform movements from 18<sup>th</sup> until early 20<sup>th</sup> century</li> <li>c) Explore implications of European colonisation, anti-colonial nationalism, "modern" forms of national elites and the formation of new nation states</li> <li>d) Explore the shrinkage of classical <i>fiqh/sharia</i> to the domain of only "family law" and the adoption of Western legal codes</li> </ul>	<p><b>Modern Islam, Islamism and Gender Perspectives</b>  <i>Dr Nadia Eboo-Jamal</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Situate the rise of Islamism (e.g. the Iranian Revolution, <i>jihād</i> in Afghanistan, Talibans, Salafis, Wahhabis): the role of <i>jihād</i>, <i>sharia</i> and the Islamic State, women and non-Muslim minorities</li> <li>b) Explore the opposition to Islamist movements (such as spiritual brotherhoods, secularists)</li> <li>c) Explore the impact of globalisation</li> </ul>	<p><b>General Question and Answer session to provide a forum in which participants can raise any issues from the week (or even those not explored during the week) which require further elucidation.</b></p>



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DATE	MORNING (9:00-13:00)	AFTERNOON (14:00 – 18:00)	EVENING
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> August	<p><b>A clash of civilisations? Islamophobias and Westphobias</b> <i>Dr Alnoor Dhanani and Dr Nadia Eboo-Jamal</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Explore contemporary constructions of 'Islam' and the 'West' as mutual 'others'</li> <li>b) Explore the global reach of Islamism rooted in Arabia (role of petro-dollars, standardised Quran, notions of equating Islam with Arabs, etc.)</li> <li>c) Explore the impact of Western economic and cultural globalisation on Muslim societies</li> <li>d) Explore the causes and possible outcomes of the Arab Spring</li> </ul>	<p><b>Reclaiming Islamic heritage and building for the future</b> <i>Mr Khalil Shariff</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Explore current global Imamat initiatives and their vision and underlying principles</li> <li>b) Discuss the impact of the above for the Jamat, especially with regard to addressing issues faced by Muslims</li> <li>c) Explore both short and long term impact of this work and how it can be used as an entry point for thoughtful engagement</li> </ul>	<p><b>Formal Dinner</b></p>



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Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> August	<p><b>Transfer to London (8.30am)</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Address (11.30-1.00)</b> <i>Dr Aziz Esmail</i></p> <p><b>Objective(s):</b> Provide a perspective on the intellectual terrain covered by the programme</p> <p><b>Break (1.00-1.45)</b></p> <p><b>Question &amp; Answer (1:45 – 3:00)</b> <i>Dr Aziz Esmail</i></p>	<p><b>Closing Remarks, Final evaluation and vote of thanks (3.00-4.00)</b> <i>Mr Shiraz Kabani</i></p>	<p><b>Participants begin to depart</b></p>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> August	<b>Remaining participants depart</b>		