



The Institute of Ismaili Studies

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTATIONS FOR THE SUMMER PROGRAMME ON ISLAM 2004		
7-15 AUGUST 2004		
DATE	MORNING (9:30-12:30)	AFTERNOON (2:00-5:00)
Day 1 Sat 7 Aug 2004	Orientation/Registration/Welcome	
Day 2 Sun 8 Aug 2004	<p>History of Muslim Societies: An Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Azim Nanji <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to provide a broad overview of the history of thought in Muslim societies in their diverse geographical and cultural settings, familiarising participants with significant epochs, personalities, debates, texts and institutions in Muslim history</p> <p>b) to highlight some of the issues that will be covered over the course of the Summer Programme by tracing through a case study the historicity and development of a particular theme of relevance to the jamaat</p>	<p>What is Islam? Who is a Muslim?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Ali Asani <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to provide a framework for understanding the diversity of Muslim societies</p> <p>b) to contextualise religious identity as part of the broader development of thought and culture in Muslim societies</p>

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Day 3 Mon 9 Aug 2004	<p>Worship & Practice (9.00am -12.00pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Karim Jiwani <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to provide a context within which to understand the nature, purpose, significance and principles of worship and practice</p> <p>b) to examine the notion of prayer, giving examples of prayers (using texts from different languages) and highlighting their evolution and diversity in form and practice</p> <p>c) to discuss the varied spaces of worship amongst Muslims, locating the Jamatkhana within this context</p>	<p>Art & Architecture in Muslim Societies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Gulzar Haider <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to survey the arts (literature, painting, music, architecture, calligraphy, sculpture, numismatics, etc.) in Islam so as to introduce participants to expressions of aesthetics in various Muslim societies</p> <p>b) to highlight the diversity of Islamic art/architecture as examples of local understandings and expressions of Islam</p> <p>c) to examine how one of these expressions (e.g. architecture) impacts, reflects and/or addresses the needs and values of a people through a case study of a contemporary Muslim society</p>	<p align="center">Evening Programme 1: Film Feature – <i>The Day I Became a Woman</i></p>

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<p align="center">Day 4 Tue 10 Aug 2004</p>	<p>An Introduction to the Holy Qur'an</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Hanna Kassis <p>Objective(s):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to enable participants to be better informed about the Qur'an and understand its place in Muslim religious life by illustrating its use in ritual, poetry, art, calligraphy, performance, etc. to discuss the concept of revelation and the variety of perspectives on this amongst Muslims to provide basic information about the Qur'an (i.e. its compilation, organisation, etc.) to examine selected <i>ayats</i> to highlight how the Qur'an is/has been interpreted by different groups of Muslims (mystics, jurists, etc.) to examine Shi'i interpretations of the Qur'an, highlighting the notion of intercession and the complementary significance of the Shi'i Imamate 	<p>The Prophet and the Prophetic Tradition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Abdou Filali-Ansary <p>Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to discuss the notion of prophethood in Muslim societies and compare the different perspectives generally held by Muslims, Christians and Jews regarding the subject to discuss the compilation, development and significance of the <i>hadith</i> and <i>Sira</i> to examine how the Holy Prophet exercised his authority and how authority was exercised in his name after him, and modern understandings of these historical developments

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Day 5 Wed 11 Aug 2004	<p>The 'Alid Tradition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Reza Shah-Kazemi and • Prof. Azim Nanji <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to survey the emergence and development of the categories of Sunni and Shi'a upto their crystallisation as distinct groups</p> <p>b) to indicate the multi-faceted nature of Imam 'Ali's perspective on the <i>'aql</i></p> <p>c) to elucidate the development of a Shi'i consciousness with reference to Imam 'Ali (in Shi'a traditions and the <i>Nahj al-balagha</i>), Imam Husayn and the events of Karbala, and Imams al-Baqir and Ja'far al-Sadiq (including reference in terms of Shi'i ethics and law)</p> <p>d) to examine other key ideas (e.g. the notion of the Mahdi), developments and events that have contributed to a collective understanding and historical memory of the Shi'a</p> <p>e) to discuss the spiritual significance of Imamah both for an individual and in the life of a community/society</p>	<p>Key Moments & Critical Junctures in Ismaili History</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Farhad Daftary <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to provide an overview of important periods, events and ideas, and to show how they represent turning points in Ismaili history</p>	<p align="center">Evening Programme 2: Q&A with Prof. Nanji</p>

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<p align="center">Day 6 Thu 12 Aug 2004</p>	<p>The Doctrine of Imamah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Farouk Mitha <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to highlight the specifically Ismaili interpretation of the Shi'i Imamate</p> <p>b) to survey the development of the various models of leadership and authority arising amongst Muslims after the Prophet's death</p> <p>c) to examine more specifically the development of the concept of Imamah amongst different Muslim communities over different times and places</p> <p>d) to detail the development of the concept of Imamah from the pre-Fatimid period (w. ref. to Imams al-Baqir and Ja'far al-Sadiq) to Fatimid times (w. ref. to Qadi al Nu'man and his <i>D'a'im al Islam</i>) to its further development in the Alamut period (w. ref. to Hasan Sabah and the doctrines of <i>ta'wil</i> and <i>ta'lim</i>), and onwards</p>	<p>The Reception of Modernity in Islamic Contexts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Mohammed Arkoun <p>Objective(s)</p> <p>a) to examine the reception of the events of modernity and their continuing impact in contemporary Muslim societies</p>

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<p align="center">Day 7 Fri 13 Aug 2004</p>	<p>Women and Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kecia Ali <p>Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to discuss the role and status of women in contemporary Muslim societies and communities of interpretation to highlight the challenges faced by women in many Muslim societies and communities within the context of larger societal issues of the modern period such as the role of the state, development, economics and technology to discuss the relevant Qur'anic verses and those traditions attributed to the Prophet which underpin the perspectives of absolutist, traditionalist, modernist, progressive and feminist conceptions of the role and status of women in Muslim societies to introduce participants to the views of key thinkers – past and present – on this theme 	<p>Ethics and Law in Islam</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Kecia Ali <p>Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> to illustrate how law has been one of the vehicles of ethical ideals in Islam to show the breadth of ethical thought and practice in Islam, independent of legalism to examine the notion that the law (<i>shari'a</i>) is divinely ordained vs. its actual historical development to provide an introduction to the ethico-legal traditions of Islam, examining the historical development of the schools of law (Sunni and Shi'i) to discuss a particular aspect of Islamic law (e.g., marriage), using it to highlight both the historical and contemporary issues discussed above

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Day 8 Sat 14 Aug 2004	<p>Muslims and the Media</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Karim H. Karim <p>Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to discuss how Muslims represent themselves vis-à-vis non-Muslims (and vice-versa) in the media b) to examine the presentation of Islam in various media, particularly in the West and the Muslim world. (How adequate is this presentation? Examine the forces that play a role in influencing such presentations. Is the categorisation of the world into Western and non-Western valid? Perceptions of the 'other' in the media. What influences the media coverage of the Muslim world? Give examples of 'better' and 'poor' (uninformed) coverage in the media) c) to discuss what aspects of the contemporary realities of the Muslim world are informing media images of Islam and Muslims (in Western and Muslim media) 	<p>Religious Life and Conceptions: A Comparative Perspective on Ismailism Today</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Azim Nanji and • Dr. Sarfaroze Niyozov <p>Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to provide an introduction to the diversity of the contemporary Ismaili traditions (Central Asian, Persian, South Asian and Syrian) in historical terms, with a particular focus on present-day, living experience 	Evening Programme 3: Farewell Dinner
Day 9 Sun 15 Aug 2004	<p>Keynote Address (10.45am – 12.00pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Aziz Esmail <p>Objective(s)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) to provide a perspective on the intellectual terrain covered by the programme 	<p>Q & A (Open forum) (2.00pm – 4.30pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Aziz Esmail 	Participants depart early evening