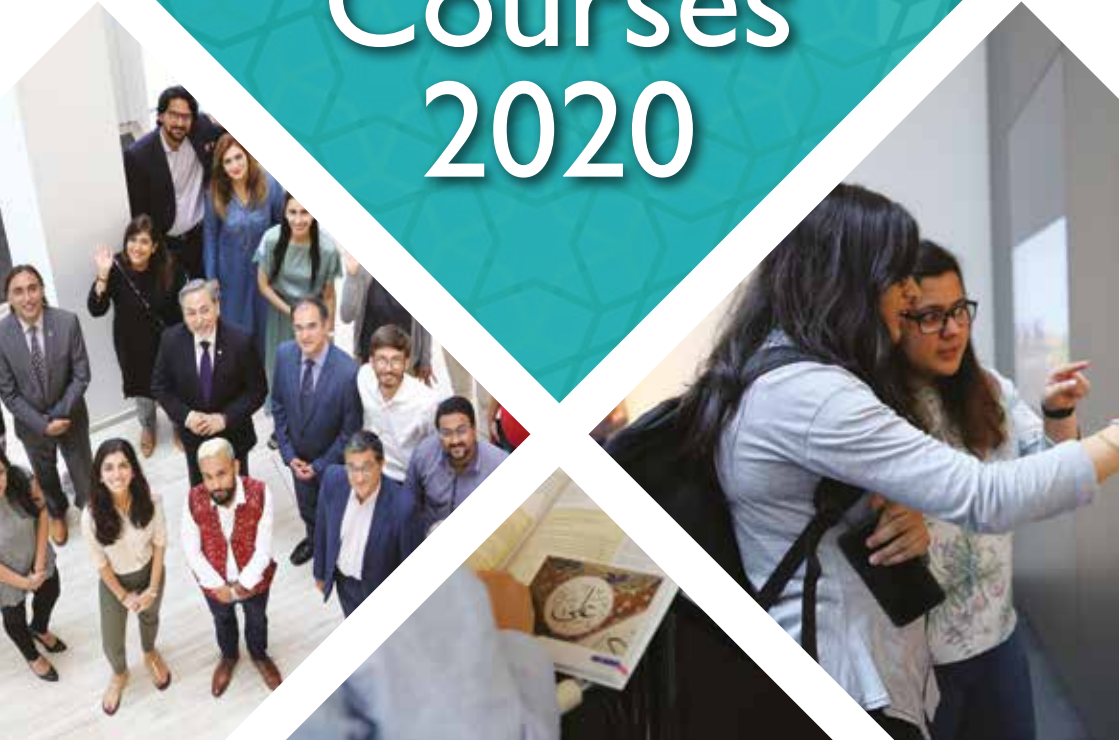




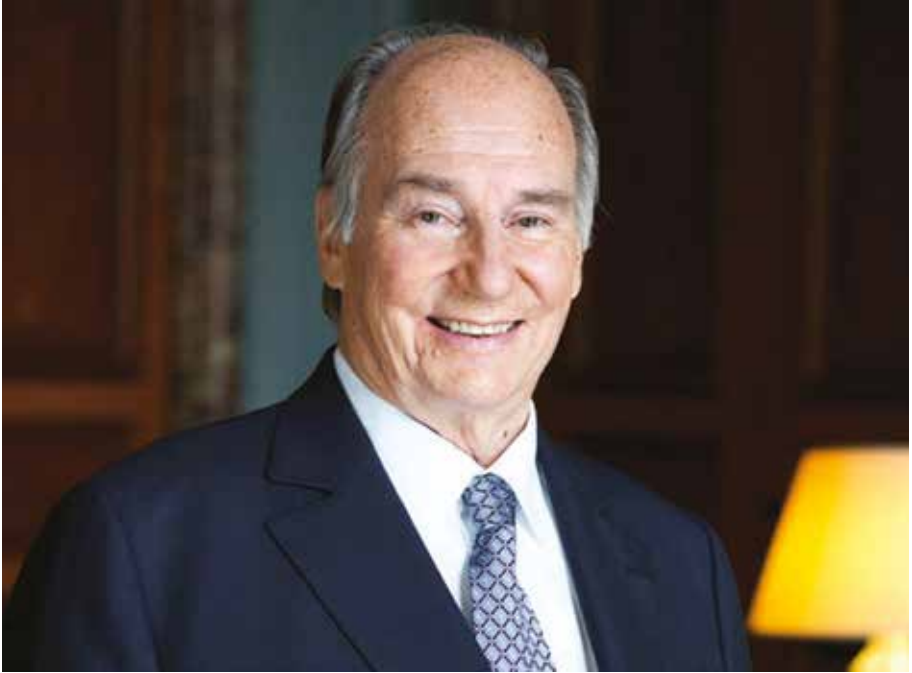
The Institute of Ismaili Studies

# IIS Short Courses 2020



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*“ What some describe as a clash of civilisation in our modern world is, in my view, a clash of ignorances. This is why education about religious and cultural heritage is so critically important – and why we will continue to invest in these institutions. We deeply believe that scholarship, publication and instruction – of high quality and generous breadth – can provide important pathways towards a more pluralistic and peaceful world. ”*

**His Highness the Aga Khan**  
**Chairman of the Board of Trustees,**  
**The Institute of Ismaili Studies, London, UK**  
**3 July 2008**



# Welcome



**T**he Institute of Ismaili Studies, established in 1977 by His Highness the Aga Khan, has over the past several years offered a number of short courses for a wide range of constituencies. We are pleased to offer eight short residential courses in 2020.

These short courses offer participants an academically rigorous curriculum, accessible resources and expert faculty members to explore and understand issues related to Islam and Muslim societies.

This is a learning opportunity open to all members of the Jamat and is particularly relevant to leaders and professionals, teachers, educators and waezeen working with Ismaili community institutions.

We are confident that your participation in the IIS Short Courses will be a rewarding and enriching experience, and we look forward to welcoming you.

**Dr. Farhad Daftary**  
**Co-Director**  
**The Institute of Ismaili Studies**

# The Institute of Ismaili Studies

**The Institute of Ismaili Studies (IIS) was established in London with the objective of promoting scholarship and learning on Muslim cultures and societies, historical as well as contemporary, and a better understanding of their relationship with other societies and faiths.**

The IIS's founding aim was defined by a basic and continuing re-assessment of existing scholarly endeavour in the field of Islamic Studies. As part of this aim, the Institute seeks to draw the most effective tools developed, in modern academic scholarship over the past century. Simultaneously, in actively seeking to bring the fruits of such scholarship to bear on the conditions and aspirations of Muslim societies today (including, present-day Ismaili communities), the Institute's programmes are attuned to the principles of

objective inquiry and research while reflecting an additional normative purposiveness.

The Institute achieves its overarching aims through research and publication activities, and in particular through its educational programmes, which at present are focused on the study of Ismaili Jamats and the complex Shi'i traditions within Islam, of which the Ismaili traditions are a part.



# IIS Short Courses

## Our Approach

IIS Short Courses are designed to introduce participants to a social, cultural and civilisational approach to the study of Islam and Muslim societies, with a particular focus on Ismaili contexts. Faculty will be drawn primarily from the IIS and, where relevant, from external academic institutions. Detailed programmes and faculty profiles for each course will be shared with participants closer to the start date. Descriptions of the eight courses to be offered in 2020 can be found on pages 5 to 12.

## Accommodation

For short courses held in London, the majority of participants will stay at our student accommodation Victoria Hall in King's Cross. If accommodation at Victoria Hall is not available or courses are held outside of London, participants will be housed at nearby hotels on a twin sharing basis.

## Eligibility

There are a maximum of 25 places on each course. The application form can be accessed at <https://iis.ac.uk/short-courses> IIS short courses are only open to members of the Ismaili community. Participants will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis. However, preference will be given to applicants affiliated with Ismaili community institutions. Criteria for participants' eligibility are:

- ◆ An undergraduate degree
- ◆ Proficiency in English language
- ◆ Potential to apply learning from the course(s) in their work



## Programme Cost, Course Fees and Visa

A contribution is expected from participants, which is non-refundable and must be paid within four weeks of receipt of the acceptance notification from the IIS. The contribution will cover the cost of lodging (six/seven nights), breakfast and lunch (five/six days), tea-breaks, one dinner and course materials.

Participants will be responsible for expenses related to flights, visas, local transportation (including airport transfers), evening meals and insurance. Limited financial assistance is available towards the contribution and will be determined on a case-by-case basis (please select the appropriate option when applying online). The selection of participants will be needs-blind. Any candidate requiring a visa to travel to the UK or other locations for the short courses must apply for their own visas well in advance. IIS will provide the necessary information and guidance once the candidate is accepted for the short course. However, please note that the IIS cannot assure issuance of the necessary visas.

# Understanding Culture

As a result of the time-space compression brought about by globalisation, ways of life and cultural expressions have become more widely shared than ever before. Forms and ideas in the visual arts, music, literature and the performing arts traverse cultural boundaries at an unprecedented pace. We have become ever more conscious of cultural borrowings across geographical, religious, and ethnic boundaries, yet we also see many conflicts arising in the name of preserving perceived cultural purity. The course will address these issues.

This course is designed to explore different understandings of the notion of culture: both as ways of life and as the products of intellectual and artistic creativity, and the reasons for which both need to be nurtured, renewed and passed on to future generations. Aspirations to the beautiful and the good in architecture, urban planning and music, the three key domains in which the Aga Khan Trust for Culture operates, mirror human aspirations for the good life. In this context, using case studies, the course will introduce participants to the philosophical underpinnings, methods and impacts of the work of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

In addition to lectures, discussions and workshops, the course will include guided visits to sites of relevance to Fatimid history as well as the Museum of Islamic Art and Al-Azhar Park.

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Understand the complex range of meanings of the term culture.
- ◆ Recognise how cultures as ways of life shape the identities, beliefs and practices of faith communities and how cultural expressions

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**Programme date:**

12th – 17th February 2020

**Programme venue:**

Cairo, Egypt

**Application deadline:**

15 December 2019

**Programme fees:**

£700 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

**Course director:**

Professor Yudhishtir Raj Isar,  
Education Director, Aga Khan Trust for Culture  
*(for a brief profile, see p.14)*

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give form to the ethical values of societies through architecture, the built environment, music, language, etc.

- ◆ Appreciate the contributions of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture in improving the quality of architecture in and rehabilitating the urban heritage of the Muslim world; in preserving heritage sites and materials (e.g. manuscripts, artefacts) and revitalising traditional music as a key component of the intangible cultural heritage of humanity.
- ◆ Understand that beauty in the arts is not purely functional or meant only for the enjoyment of the educated few; it has intrinsic value, for spiritual and ethical reasons.
- ◆ Explore the importance of cultural literacy in avoiding conflicts, facilitating dialogue, enhancing creativity, and promoting the spirit of pluralism.

# Trends in Education about Islam: Opportunities and Challenges

How is Islam portrayed as a secular school subject and included within subjects like history that students study at school? What are some of the tensions and synergies that emerge when Ismaili students study Islam in their secular schools which often have a different perspective from the one that they study via IIS curricula?

These are some of the questions that this five-day course will seek to address. It will bring participants from diverse backgrounds together to investigate the varied responses and approaches that Muslim societies have developed to the study and teaching of Islam. The course will also explore how the Ismaili community, particularly the IIS, has situated primary and secondary religious education curricula. Drawing on recent research undertaken by the Department of Curriculum Studies at the IIS and MA research that STEP teachers have undertaken, the course will culminate with an exploration of the experiences of Ismaili youth of the study Islam via the IIS curriculum and as part of their secular school curricula for Islamiyat, History and Civic Education.

Course participants will be required to undertake a wide range of readings on education, post-colonial theories in analysing regional and national case studies, draw upon their own experiences, and contribute actively to the discussions.

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Develop insights into historical and contemporary factors giving rise to challenges related to Religious Education (R.E.) in Muslim societies and in diasporic contexts.

### Programme date:

14 – 18 July 2020

### Programme venue:

Aga Khan Centre, London, UK

### Application deadline:

29 March 2020

### Programme fees:

£600 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

### Course director:

Riaz Rhemtulla, STEP Liaison Manager in the Department of Community Relations, IIS  
(for a brief profile, see p.17)

- ◆ Assess policies and responses advanced to address dilemmas in education about Islam.
- ◆ Examine the ways in which Islam (Islamiyat) or religious education (*Diniyat*) is conceived in primary and secondary school curricula in Muslim contexts.
- ◆ Situate the R.E. programmes of the IIS primary and secondary curricula within the above context and explore how they respond to the larger debates on education about Islam.
- ◆ Explore the diverse ways in which Ismaili youth mediate the tensions and synergies that they encounter between the IIS curricula and their local Islamiyat, Civic Education or History curricula in which Islam is covered.

# Introduction to Islam

This five-day course will bring participants from diverse backgrounds in an engaging environment, to discuss key issues faced by Muslims around the globe. A pluralistic and civilisational approach will be adopted, highlighting the role of human agency, creativity and imagination in devising new solutions to the challenges encountered by contemporary Muslims.

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Introduce participants to some critical and analytical tools to address cultural, political and intellectual issues.
- ◆ Facilitate the development of a historical understanding of the evolution of various Muslim communities, including the Ismailis, through time, and a nuanced understanding of the consequent diversity of beliefs, practices, and ethics.
- ◆ Discuss key concepts such as secularisation, authority and leadership, politics and the state, good governance and civil society, pluralism and cosmopolitan ethics, situating these ideas within their historical, cultural and geo-political contexts, drawing on perspectives articulated by critical leaders and thinkers as well as the Ismaili Imam.
- ◆ Explore the role played by art, architecture and literature in the development of Muslim civilisations, past and present.

### Programme date:

21 – 25 July 2020

### Programme venue:

Aga Khan Centre, London, UK

### Application deadline:

29 March 2020

### Programme fees:

£600 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

### Course director:

Dr Daryoush Mohammad Poor,  
Senior Research Associate in the Department  
of Academic Research and Publications, IIS  
(for a brief profile, see p.16)



# Shari'a: Development of Fiqh and Ethics in Muslim Contexts

This five-day interactive course is designed for individuals in leadership roles within Jamati and Imamat institutions, educators, professionals and others interested in learning about this theme. This will provide an understanding on how what has come to be called *shari'a* developed and evolved in Muslim history. Taught by specialists from different schools of thought in Islam, the course will focus on contemporary manifestations and interpretations of *shari'a* through an analysis of case studies. It will provide a perspective to show that what is understood as *shari'a* is not an exclusive marker of Muslim identity nor an ubiquitous symbol of Islam at the cost of other aspects of the faith. Special emphasis will be placed on Shi'i approaches to law and, more particularly, on Ismaili approaches to *shari'a* under the guidance of a living hereditary Imam. The course will also encourage a discussion on various approaches to ethics and its relationship to *shari'a* as Muslims, like others, confront new issues in the present globalised world.

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Engender an understanding of the many meanings of the term *shari'a* and how this notion has evolved historically in Muslim

### Programme date:

04 – 08 August, 2020

### Programme venue:

Aga Khan Centre, London, UK

### Application deadline:

29 March 2020

### Programme fees:

£600 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

### Course director:

Dr Mohamed Keshavjee, Governor,  
The Institute of Ismaili Studies  
(for a brief profile, see p.16)

societies in all its diverse manifestations and interpretations.

- ◆ Introduce participants to Shi'i approaches to law and the role of the Imam in the development of Shi'i *fiqh* (jurisprudence).
- ◆ Explore contemporary debates on *shari'a* in the context of the call for its return, and Muslim responses to the challenges of modernity.
- ◆ Show how ethical ideals have always underpinned *shari'a* discourse.



# The Qur'an and its Interpretations

This is a five-day intensive course for those who wish to become familiar with the Qur'an and the complexities that surround it. Taught by specialist faculty from the IIS's Qur'anic Studies Unit, the course looks at the Qur'an from various angles: it introduces participants to the necessary conceptual tools to deal with the complexities related to the Qur'an and its interpretations. The course will analyse the concept of revelation, prophethood and scripture, all within the historical, intellectual, religious and socio-political context in which the Qur'an emerged. Students will be exposed to the genre of *tafsir* as a repository of opinions by authors from various persuasions and schools. Interpretation will be explored as a product of its time focusing on questions such as: How are so many interpretations possible? How are interpretations actually produced? Further, the course will tackle some contemporary concerns like: What is the relevance of reading the Qur'an today? How is it used to justify such things as gender relations, political claims and the like?

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Facilitate a nuanced awareness of the Qur'an as a historical phenomenon, as a concept and as a text.
- ◆ Explore the complexities of interpretation and the reasons behind the existence of a plurality of interpretations (including Ismaili interpretations) by examining selected Qur'anic verses.
- ◆ Introduce participants to the role of the Imam in Shi'i contexts vis-à-vis the Qur'an.

### Programme date:

26 – 30 August, 2020

### Programme venue:

Aga Khan Centre, London, UK

### Application deadline:

29 March 2020

### Programme fees:

£600 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

### Course director:

Dr. Omar Ali-de-Unzaga

Deputy Head of the Department of Academic Research and Publications, IIS

(for a brief profile, see p.18)



- ◆ Develop an appreciation for the non-textual and non-theological expressions inspired by the Qur'an (such as in art, literature, and so on)

# Educational Evaluation

Educational programmes comprise a series of components and processes designed to achieve specific aims in a particular context. How well are these processes defined? What tools are required to monitor the progress and efficacy of educational processes? What are some of the important paradigms and frameworks that could help educators implement effective evaluation strategies? These are some of the important questions that this short course will aim to address.

This course is designed for individuals in the field of education, including religious education, where they are required to develop tools to evaluate the efficacy of educational initiatives. Over a period of five days, the course will provide an overview of the principles of educational evaluation and discuss critical issues in designing educational assessment. Special attention will be paid to designing and implementing educational evaluation within Ismaili religious education contexts. Through a combination of lectures, workshops and mock evaluation exercises, course participants will develop a basic understanding of current research in the field of educational evaluation, key evaluation techniques and frameworks, concepts of reliability and validity, and ways to effectively convey evaluation findings to stakeholders. At the end of the course, participants will be expected to develop a small-scale pilot evaluation tool to measure the impact of an educational endeavour implemented in their contexts.

**Programme date:**

17 – 21 September, 2020

**Programme venue:**

Aga Khan Centre, London, UK

**Application deadline:**

29 March 2020

**Programme fees:**

£600 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

**Course director:**

Dr Laila Kadiwal, Teaching Fellow – Education, Practice & Society, University College London - Institute of Education  
(for a brief profile, see p.15)

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Discuss various theories of educational evaluation and introduce participants to the latest research in this area;
- ◆ Provide an overview of factors that influence evaluation processes and implementation strategies.
- ◆ Familiarise participants with key components of effective evaluation to facilitate accountability and measurement of learning;
- ◆ Create an appreciation for the concepts of validity and reliability in the context of educational evaluation;
- ◆ Introduce evaluation methods and tools that can be deployed for assessment of learning in religious education contexts.

# Shi'i Islam: Thought, Beliefs and Practices

This five-day course will bring together participants from diverse backgrounds to discuss, in an engaging and enabling environment, some of the key questions about Shi'i Islam such as: How did it develop from its roots in 7th-Century Arabia to the highly elaborated tradition with its rich doctrinal, artistic, performative and intellectual heritage? What are the major branches of Shi'i Islam today, and what are their key figures, beliefs and practices? What are the commonalities as well as distinctive features of Ismaili beliefs and practices vis-à-vis other Shi'i traditions? Answers to such questions are important to anyone seeking to broaden their understanding about Shi'i Islam and its past that is intimately linked to its present. Further, Secondary teachers and wazeens will find this course particularly useful. The course will be delivered by specialist faculty from the IIS using case studies that are relevant to contemporary contexts and will adopt an interdisciplinary and civilisational approach to achieve its aims.

## The Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Introduce participants to sources and structures of religious authority, highlighting commonality of beliefs across major contemporary Shi'i traditions (Isma'ili, Ithna 'Ashari, Zaydi, etc.).
- ◆ Discuss the commonality and diversity of doctrines, practices and law among Shi'i communities to help participants develop a better understanding of what it means to be a Shi'a Muslim in the modern world and situate the Ismailis in this context.
- ◆ Explore the rich intellectual and artistic heritage of Shi'i Islam from its foundational period to contemporary times to enable participants to identify distinctive characteristics of Shi'i heritage and note how

### Programme date:

03 – 07 October 2020

### Programme venue:

Aga Khan Centre, London, UK

### Application deadline:

29 March 2020

### Programme fees:

£600 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

### Course director:

Dr Shainool Jiwa, Head of the Constituency Studies Unit in the Department of Academic Research and Publications, IIS  
(for a brief profile, see p.14)



these resonate in the intellectual and artistic heritage of the Ismailis, past and present.

- ◆ Facilitate a nuanced understanding of the status and role of the Shi'a in the cotemporary world, their geographical placement and some of the challenges ensuing from their minority status in the modern world, including those related to the current sectarian and geopolitical conflicts.

# Exploring Ismaili History: Walking in the Footsteps of the Fatimids

The course offers a unique opportunity to learn about Fatimid history, culture and architectural heritage, as well as experience first-hand some of the major developments shaping present-day Tunisia. The course, to be organised in Tunisia, will include interactive guided tours and presentations over five days. The programme will be led by specialist faculty from the IIS and field specialists in Tunisia. Participants will have the opportunity to explore the key Fatimid monuments in Mahdiyya, the first purpose-built Fatimid capital city, and surrounding regions. They will also learn about the dynamics that led to the founding of the Fatimids as a 10th-Century Mediterranean empire which flourished for over two centuries (909-1171 CE) across large areas of the Muslim world.

**Programme date:**

07-11 November 2020

**Programme venue:**

Mahdiyya, Tunisia

**Application deadline:**

29 March 2020

**Programme fees:**

£700 (excluding cost of flights, visas, local transportation, dinner and insurance)

**Course director:**

Dr Shainool Jiwa, Head of Constituency Studies Unit in the Department Academic Research and Publications, IIS  
*(for a brief profile, see p.14)*

## Aims of the Programme:

- ◆ Expose participants to the rich intellectual and architectural heritage of the Ismailis during the Fatimid period and germinate an understanding of the role of art, architecture and literature in the shaping of Muslim civilisations, historically and in present times.
- ◆ Initiate an experiential and informed understanding of a major period and region that is significant in Ismaili history, while also gleaning the key challenges and opportunities that prevail in contemporary Tunisia.
- ◆ Introduce participants to the major figures and developments that have shaped Ismaili history, thought and practice in Fatimid North Africa (present day Tunisia and north-west Algeria) and to contextualise these as part of the larger mosaic of Muslim traditions and heritage.
- ◆ Facilitate the development of critical analytical and historical skills, and an understanding of the relationship between the past and the present, and how these inform our beliefs, interpretations and values today.



# The Programme Team

## Programme Head

Hussain Jasani

Email: [hjasani@iis.ac.uk](mailto:hjasani@iis.ac.uk)

Telephone: +44 (0)207 756 2782

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## IIS Short Courses Director

Zulfiqar Khimani

email: [zkhimani@iis.ac.uk](mailto:zkhimani@iis.ac.uk)

telephone: +44 (0) 20 7756 2737

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## Programme Support

Malika Pallaeva

email: [mpallaeva@iis.ac.uk](mailto:mpallaeva@iis.ac.uk)

telephone: +44 (0)207 756 2700



## Course Directors' Profiles

**Yudhishtir Raj Isar** is currently the Education Director of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture. He is also Emeritus Professor of Cultural Policy Studies at The American University of Paris; Distinguished Scholar/Robert Schuman Fellow at the European University Institute, Florence, Italy in 2018-19 and Visiting Professor, Ahmedabad University. From 2011 to 2016, he was 'Eminent Research Visitor' and adjunct professor at the Institute for Culture and Society, Western Sydney University. Founding co-editor of the *Cultures and Globalization Series* (SAGE), published between 2007 and 2012; principal investigator and lead writer for the *United Nations Creative Economy Report 2013*; team leader of the European Union's inquiry 'Culture in EU External Relations' and editor of UNESCO's two reports (2015 and 2017) entitled *Re|Shaping Cultural Policies*. An official of UNESCO from 1973 to 2003, Isar was notably Executive



Secretary of the World Commission on Culture and Development (1994-95). He is also a past President of the platform organization *Culture Action Europe*.

**Dr Shainool Jiwa** is Head of Constituency Studies Unit as well as a Senior Research Associate in the Department of Academic Research and Publications. Dr Jiwa has over 25 years of teaching experience at several academic institutions including at the University of Edinburgh, International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) and has also served as an Associate Assessor with Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Education, Scotland. Dr Jiwa is also a lecturer on the IIS graduate programmes (GPISH & STEP) and contributes to the development of the IIS Secondary Curriculum.

Dr Jiwa completed her Master's degree from McGill University and her doctorate from the University of Edinburgh. Her research interests include Islamic history in general and Fatimid history in particular.

Dr Jiwa has written several journal articles, chapters and books. Her latest publication *The Fatimids: The Rise of a Muslim Empire*, which is a World of Islam series title. Dr Jiwa's other recent publication include *The Fatimid Caliphate: Diversity*



*of Traditions*, which she has jointly edited with Dr Farhad Daftary. This complements her earlier work titled *Towards a Shi'i Mediterranean Empire*. She has also contributed a chapter entitled *Inclusive Governance: A Fatimid illustration in A Companion to the Muslim World*. She was one of the editors of an edited volume on Shi'i Islam, entitled *The Shi'i World: Pathways in Tradition and Modernity*. Dr Jiwa is currently working on a monograph on the life and times of the Fatimid Imam-Caliph al-'Aziz billah.

# Course Directors' Profiles

**Dr Laila Kadiwal** is a Teaching Fellow in education and international development at the Institute of Education, University College London (UCL). She is a recipient of the Global Challenges Research Fund. Before joining the UCL, she worked as a Research Fellow for the Research Consortium on Education and Peacebuilding – a partnership between UNICEF and the University of Amsterdam, the University of Sussex, and the University of Ulster. In addition, Dr Kadiwal worked as a Research Associate for 'Being young in Brexit Britain' project for the Centre for Global Youth at IOE-UCL. Dr Kadiwal is an alumna of the Institute's Graduate Programme in Islamic Studies and Humanities (GPISH class of 2009) and a recipient of the Institute's Doctoral Scholarship. Dr Kadiwal holds MSc Higher Education from the University of Oxford and has received doctorate in 2015 from the University of Sussex, School of Law, Politics, and Sociology. Dr Kadiwal's research focuses on education, and peacebuilding in conflict-affected settings, with particular attention to youth, teachers and educational programmes and policies in Pakistan, India, and Tajikistan. She also co-runs Best Foot



Music (<https://www.bestfootmusic.net/>), an intercultural music and arts organisation that connects refugee and marginalised musicians with diverse heritages with extensive music networks and communities in the UK.

# Course Directors' Profiles

**Dr Mohamed M. Keshavjee** is a South African born-lawyer called to the Bar at Gray's Inn in 1969. He completed his LLM at London University and his PhD at SOAS with a focus on Islamic Law and Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). He has practised law in Kenya, Canada and the United Kingdom. He has spoken on ADR at conferences in Europe, North America and Asia, and has trained family mediators in the EU countries and imams and pastors in mosque and church conflicts in the UK and the USA, respectively. In 2016, he was awarded the Gandhi, King, Ikeda Peace Award by the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel at Morehouse College, Atlanta, Georgia, for his work on peace and human rights education.



**Dr Daryoush Mohammad Poor** is Senior Research Associate in the Department of Academic Research and Publications. He is also a lecturer for the Department of Graduate Studies and his teaching areas include Ismaili intellectual history and philosophy, intellectual traditions and contemporary Muslim thought.

Dr Mohammad Poor completed his PhD in 2012 at the University of Westminster in Political and Social Studies. His research interests include Ismaili studies, Shi'i studies, political theory and philosophy, contemporary Muslim politics and the intellectual history of Muslims.

His latest book '*Authority without Territory: The Aga Khan Development Network and the Ismaili Imamate*' (2014) is a fresh theoretical engagement with contemporary institutions of the Ismaili imamate. He is currently working on a new Persian and English edition of Shahrastani's



*Maljis-i Kharazm* and an evaluation of the impact of this work and Shahrastani's other works on the discourse of *qiyamat* in the Alamut period of Ismaili history.

# Course Directors' Profiles

**Mr Riaz Rhemtulla** is the STEP Liaison Manager in the Department of Community Relations. In this role, Riaz is responsible for working with the ITREB Academic Directors to facilitate the sharing of knowledge and expertise across ITREBs to ensure the effective implementation of the IIS Secondary Curriculum and the successful implementation of STEP. He is also responsible for the continuing professional development of STEP graduates and the training of STEP mentors.

Prior to joining the Department of Community Relations, Riaz served in the Department of Curriculum Studies, where he was involved with the conceptualisation and implementation of STEP and supported STEP teachers' practice in the implementation of the IIS Secondary Curriculum as well as supervising Masters level research projects.

With a diverse background in drama/theatre, genetics and social work, Riaz joined the IIS as an Education Officer in 2000 to manage the teacher education programmes for the Ta'lim primary education curriculum. Prior to joining the IIS, he worked for the Toronto District School Board in Canada for several years as a teacher and a teacher-educator at primary and secondary levels.



Riaz completed an M.Ed. in Teacher Education from the University of Toronto, Canada. He holds an MA from the University of London's Institute of Education in Assessment and Evaluation, and is currently pursuing a Doctoral programme in the role of the performing arts, and *Kathak* dance in Islamic-based religious education.

# Course Directors' Profiles

**Dr Omar Ali-de-Unzaga** is Deputy Head of the Department of Academic Research and Publications, with particular responsibility for the academic coordination of the Qur'anic Studies Unit. He is also the Coordinator of the Scholarships and Fellowship programmes at the IIS. He was a recipient of the Institute's Doctoral Scholarship and is currently involved in a number of research programmes and publications at the IIS. Dr Ali-de-Unzaga completed a PhD at the University of Cambridge on the use of the Qur'an in the Epistles of the Pure Brethren (Ikhwan al-Safa). He obtained a BA in English Philology from the Universidad Complutense of Madrid and graduated from the Institute's Graduate Programme in Islamic Studies and Humanities in 1997. He completed his MPhil at the University of Cambridge. Dr Ali-de-Unzaga has taught courses in STEP and GPISH. He has also taught a course at the University of Cambridge on the Ethics of the Ikhwan al-Safa. He is the editor of a book titled *Fortress of the Intellect: Ismaili and other Islamic Studies in Honour of Farhad Daftary* and is currently preparing a



critical edition of the Arabic text, and an English translation, of the Epistle on Character Traits (Al-Risala fi'l- Akhlaq) of the Ikhwan al-Safa for the IIS/OUP Brethren of Purity Series.

# Participant Accommodation

**During the residential sessions held in London, we aim to accommodate participants at the dedicated student accommodation in the Victoria Hall King's Cross. The building has 198 individual rooms, primarily for the accommodation of graduate students of The Institute of Ismaili Studies (IIS) and Institute for the Study of Muslim Civilisations, Aga Khan University.**



The design for this new residential building draws on the solidity of the brick-built architecture of the Middle East and aims to provide a stimulating and collegiate environment for students in the urban setting of King's Cross.

The building has been conceived as a form carved from a single block, creating two 12-storey 'bookend' wings above a ground-floor plinth, flanking a central south-facing 8-storey element set back from the street.

Central to the building's character is the Garden of Reflection on the 1st floor and the Terrace of Unity on the 8th floor. Their design is inspired by the Islamic gardens of Andalusia in southern Spain, and the courtyard gardens of Morocco. These generous communal spaces consist of lush planting, water features and high quality stonework and are designed to provide opportunities for recreation and social interaction.

# Key Dates to Remember

Course Titles	Page#	Programme Dates (both days inclusive)	Application Deadline
Understanding Culture	5	12 – 17 February, 2020	15 December 2019
Trends in Education about Islam: Opportunities and Challenges	6	14 – 18 July 2020	29 March 2020 (Participants will be accepted on a first-come first-served basis)
Introduction to Islam	7	21 – 25 July 2020	
Shari'a: Development of Fiqh and Ethics in Muslim Contexts	8	04 – 08 August 2020	
The Qur'an and its Interpretations	9	26 – 30 August 2020	
Educational Evaluation	10	17 – 21 September 2020	
Shi'i Islam: Thought, Beliefs and Practices	11	03 – 07 October 2020	
Exploring Ismaili History: Walking in the Footsteps of the Fatimids	12	07 – 11 November 2020	

## Captions and Credits

**Inside front cover:** Alam, (safavid) Iran, 16th century. The Aga Khan Museum, AKM679. Image credit: The Aga Khan Museum.

**Page 3:** Aga Khan Centre. Image credit: Edmund Sumner.

**Page 8:** A Court manuscript Workshop. Folio from the manuscript of *Akhlaq-i Nasiri* (Ethics of Nasir) by Nasir al-Din Tusi (d.1274). Lahore, Pakistan, 1590-95. The Aga Khan Museum, AKM288.12. Image credit: The Aga Khan Museum.

**Page 9:** A folio from the manuscript of the Blue Qur'an. North Africa, Iraq, or Iran. The Aga Khan Museum, AKM248. Image credit: The Aga Khan Museum.

**Page 11:** Illuminated pages from a *Nahjalbalagha* manuscript, from the IIS's special collections. Image credit: The Institute of Ismaili Studies.

**Page 12:** The Fatimid congregational mosque of Mahdiyya, in which early Fatimid Imam-caliphs led prayers. Image credit: Russell Harris, Institute of Ismaili Studies.

**Page 19:** Exterior of student halls of residence in King's Cross. Image credit: The Institute of Ismaili Studies.

# How to find us

The Institute of Ismaili Studies

Aga Khan Centre,  
10 Handyside Street  
King's Cross, London  
NIC 4DN  
United Kingdom

Email: [DCR@iis.ac.uk](mailto:DCR@iis.ac.uk)

Website: [www.iis.ac.uk](http://www.iis.ac.uk)

Tel: +44 (0) 207 756 2700

## Nearest Rail

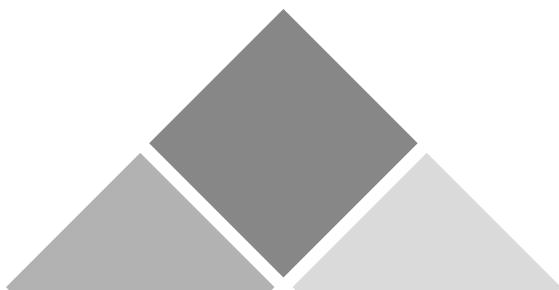
King's Cross mainline station and  
St. Pancras International

## Underground

King's Cross:Victoria, Northern,  
Circle, Metropolitan and  
Hammersmith & City Lines

## Bus

10, 17, 30, 45, 46, 59, 63, 73, 91,  
205, 214, 259, 390 and 476





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