introduction to
The NanoWisdoms Archive
of imamat speeches interviews & writings

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AGENDA

• Introductions and genesis of the NanoWisdoms Archive.
• What is the NanoWisdoms Archive, its mission and why it is needed.
• Organisation, searching and other features.
• Services: Quotes and Suggested Readings.
• NanoWisdoms' Summary Documents.
• Contribute and support the Archive in your Jamat.
• Questions.
• Summary.
INTRODUCTIONS AND GENESIS OF THE ARCHIVE

• Mohib Ebrahim, Founder and Editor of NanoWisdoms.org

• Software engineer by profession. Chief Software Architect at MasterFile Software -- designs and develops software for academic researchers, investigators and litigators.

• Voluntary work for Aiglemont, AKF(K) and AKDN (K) and AKU(Pk).

• Developed personal database of over 300 speeches and interviews.

• Archive created in response to requests for access to my database.

• Solo, unfunded, voluntary effort ... there is no team!

• Twitter/Facebook quote services evolution of well received Eid, Imamat Day, Navroz, etc., greeting cards I’ve sent out for years.
TRUTH AND REALITY
NOT TO KNOW IS BAD. NOT TO WISH TO KNOW IS WORSE.
AFRICAN PROVERB

IMAMAT DAY MUBARAK

[EDUCATION] MUST ALSO STIMULATE STUDENTS TO CONSIDER A VARIETY OF PERSPECTIVES ON SOME OF THE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS POSED BY THE HUMAN CONDITION: WHAT IS TRUTH? WHAT IS REALITY? ..

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN IV AIGLEMONT 2003

Mohib
www.NANOWISEOMS.org
THE ESSENCE OF INTEGRITY

THE HIGHEST COURAGE IS TO DARE TO BE YOURSELF IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY,
CHIEVING RIGHT OVER WRONG, ETHICS OVER CONVENIENCE, AND TRUTH OVER POPULARITY...
THOSE ARE THE CHOICES THAT MEASURE YOUR LIFE. TRAVEL THE PATH OF INTEGRITY WITHOUT LOOKING BACK,
FOR THERE IS NEVER A WRONG TIME TO DO THE RIGHT THING. — RAY WILKISON

EID MUBARAK

A HEALTHY SENSE OF PUBLIC INTEGRITY, IN MY VIEW,
WILL BE DIFFICULT TO NURTURE OVER TIME
WITHOUT A STRONG RELIGIOUS UNDERPINNING.

IN THE ISLAMIC TRADITION, THE CONDUCT OF ONE'S WORLDLY LIFE IS INSEPARABLY
INTERTWINED WITH THE CONCERNS OF ONE'S SPIRITUAL LIFE AND
ONE CANNOT TALK ABOUT INTEGRITY WITHOUT ALSO TALKING ABOUT FAITH...

LET ME EMPHASISE MY STRONG CONVICTION THAT PUBLIC INTEGRITY
CANNOT GROW OUT OF AUTHORITARIAN PRONOUNCEMENTS.
IT MUST BE ROOTED IN THE HUMAN HEART AND CONSCIENCE.
AS THE HOLY QURAN SAYS: "THERE IS NO COMPULSION IN RELIGION"

HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN IV
NEW YORK 2006

Moktab

www.NanoWisdoms.org
BUSINESS ETHICS

THE MASTER SAID:
"THE GENTLEMAN UNDERSTANDS WHAT IS RIGHT,
WHEREAS THE SMALL MAN UNDERSTANDS PROFIT."

CONFUCIUS, ANALECTS 4:16

SALGIRAH MUBARAK

MOST DEVELOPERS WILL GO INTO A SITE LIKE OURS IN SARDINIA
AND THEY WILL SAY: "HOW DO I OPTIMISE MY RETURN?
I DO NOT CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO THE SITE,
TO THE SEAFRONT, TO THE VEGETATION,
I AM GOING TO PUT THE MAXIMUM DENSITY IN
FOR THE HIGHEST RETURN."

WE DID EXACTLY THE OPPOSITE...
A LOT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ARCHITECTURAL THINKING
THAT YOU SEE TODAY IN THE LEISURE FIELD
WAS IN A SENSE CREATED OR LEARNT ABOUT IN SARDINIA.

HIS HIGHENESS THE AGA KHAN IV
LONDON 2007

Mohib

www.NanoWisdoms.org
WHY THE NAME "NANOWISDOMS"?

• Small does not mean insignificant.

• "Nano-scale" technologies are not just small but powerful and influential, revolutionary and transformative.

• "Nano-scale" biology lies at the very heart of life itself.

• Imams succinctly articulate profound knowledge and wisdom.

• "When wisdom reaches the climax, words become fewer." -- Hazrat Ali

• This quote was the inspiration for the name, NanoWisdoms.

• A reminder that inspired wisdom is succinct and concise, influential and transformative -- fundamental (not small or insignificant).
WHAT IS THE NANOWISDOMS ARCHIVE?

- Important, significant new web presence for Ismailis and the Imamat.
- Has Aiglemont’s special permission to publish the Imam’s speeches.
- Launched in April 2011.
- Only web site dedicated solely to the Imamat’s knowledge.
- Over 500 speeches, interviews and writings.
- Most comprehensive, publicly available collection of Imamat readings.
- Quote services: Twitter, Facebook, E-mail.
- Attractive PDF for hardcopy of all contents.
THE ARCHIVE'S TWO FOLD MISSION

• First, collection: Archive and organize Imamat knowledge.

• Second, dissemination: Try to revive the tradition of studying, researching, reflecting and discussing the Imamat's knowledge.

• And continue to remind, for surely the reminder profits the believers. (Qur'an 51:55)

• Imam Jafar al-Sadiq said: The narrator [of our traditions] who makes an impact on the people is better than a thousand devotees.

• To make the impact everyone must help.

• Subscribe to the quotes and share them with your friends and families.
WHY IS THE ARCHIVE NEEDED ... IMAMAT KNOWLEDGE

• Largest source of Imamat knowledge today -- over 4,000 pages.

• "The Imam never utters a word which is light, superfluous or meaningless.... If we imagine that a particular word uttered by the Imam is not fruitful, the fault lies with us. We are too dull to detect the proper meaning of the words uttered by the Imam." – Qadi Nu'man

• "[A Farman] is any pronouncement, direction, order or ruling made or given by Mawlana Hazar Imam." – Constitution.

• "The ethics of Islam guide all my activity." – Hazar Imam

• "In Islam, [worldly and spiritual life] are the same thing. One cannot separate faith from the world (emphasis added)." – Hazar Imam

• Is the Imam talking about two things -- deen and duniya -- or just one? In other words, taken with the first quote, each point of view of his is an interpretation of our faith and so each action of his is an act of spirituality and an example or lesson for us to reflect on, understand and emulate as best we can.
WHY IS THE ARCHIVE NEEDED ... TECHNICAL BENEFITS

- Brings everything together into one place. No need to scour through:
  - akdn.org, iis.ac.uk, theismaili.org, aku.edu, archnet.org, pluralism.ca, etc.,
  - media web sites for interviews,
  - institutional publications, literature and books for written works,
  - un-transcribed videos, or
  - out of print community magazines or books for older speeches.

- Dedicated to Imamat knowledge: Can finally search the Imam's remarks.

- Organised and very easy to use.

- Quote management: Organized by theme and push Imamat knowledge.
ABOUT THE COLLECTION

• Not just speeches and interviews but also written works from institutional publications, media, letters, statements, books, press releases, etc.

• Over 400 speeches, 100 interviews and 80 written works and growing.

• Currently collection is focused on Hazar Imam's readings.
  Few from Mawlana Sultan Muhammad Shah -- more being added.
  Prior Imams' are material to be added also.

• About 200 previously published speeches (not interviews) made between 1957 to 1998 are available but not publicly accessible.
  • Been asked not to publish yet.
  • Login access for selected audiences: researchers, teachers, ITREB, etc.
SOURCES

• Archive is a professional, reliable resource for the Jamat, scholars and professionals (media, development, government, etc.).

• Accuracy is paramount and fundamental.

• All entries have sources listed: either primary or a reliable secondary.

• Where available primary sources have been used and cited. [>]

• Secondary sources are replaced as primary sources become available.

• So far all secondary sources have proven reliable and accurate. [>]


ORGANISATION

• Home Page: 20 random readings from Mawlana Hazar Imam.

• By far easiest to use organization of Imamat readings of any site today:
  • By Imam. [>]
  • By institution mentioned or discussed ... a first.
  • By location/country.
  • By theme(s) the reading touches on ... a first.
  • By type(s) of reading (speech, interview, press remarks, statement, etc.).
  • Collection(s) the reading is included in.
    (Books of speeches and Nano's “Editor’s Choice” collection). [>]

• Latest readings listed first. [>]

THE {STATUS} CATEGORY

• Flags readings with following outstanding issues to be resolved: [>

  • Incomplete: Readings for which only portions are available, such as extracts from speeches or interviews.

  • Maybe Incomplete: Readings for which extensive, but apparently incomplete, portions are available.

  • Maybe Missing: Unclear if there was speech or interview on the indicated date and venue.

  • Missing: Readings that are known to exist, but have not been located.

  • Transcription Required: Items for which only audio or video are available.

  • Translation Required: Readings requiring translation into English.
SEARCHING: BASICS

• Dedicated content **finally** allows precise, efficient narrow searches of just the Imam’s remarks. 

• Results listed in relevance order (like Google), not chronological order.

• Spellings are standardised to British English.

• Experiment with vocabulary and spelling:
  Alcohol instead of drinking, nur instead of noor, tithe instead of dasond. Not "abortion," but that children need "to be cared for from the time they are conceived."

• Tariqah related terms generally will fail:
  bandagi, dua, ginan, talim, chandraat, namaz, huzur, walaya, khidmat, etc.

• Search for exact phrases by enclosing them in quotes, like Google.
  For example (including quotes): "civil society". [>]
SEARCHING: ADVANCED

- Google operators ("AND", "OR", "+", ",", etc.) are not supported.

- Readings' dates are indexed searchable.
  Format (including quotes): "Month Year" (i.e. "April 2005").
  Month spelled out in full, year with 4 digits, no punctuation. [>]

- Restrict searches to a particular category and/or search category names for focused searches.
  - Example: Remarks about nuclear energy in just the interviews? [>]
    Terms: nuclear
    Category drop down: Interviews

  - Example: Wrong and right way to find list of Canadian interviews? [>]
    Wrong … Terms: canada
    Wrong … Category drop down: Interviews
    Correct … Terms: interviews
    Correct … Category drop down: Canada
OTHER FEATURES

• Professional quality, printer friendly versions of all documents: speeches, interviews, summary documents, quotes, word clouds, etc. for: [>
   • posting on JK notice boards,
   • seminar or student hand outs,
   • seniors not on-line, etc.

• Categorized archive index. [>
   Lists the full collection: all missing, incomplete and the ~200 speeches prior to 1998 to help volunteers tracking down material missing from the Archive.
QUOTES AND READING SERVICE

- Only regular "push" of Imamat knowledge to the Jamat available today.
- Supported and backed by the Archive for further reading and sources.
- Largest on-line collection of quotes: over 1,000.
- E-mail, Facebook, Twitter: short and extended quotes
- New quotes posted several times a week.
- Available in PDF format for posting on JK notice boards.
- Thematic Quote Browsers organise quotes by theme.
- Bi-weekly Suggested Readings.
Human genius is found in its variety which is the work of Allah. Harnessing that genius to the fullest should be one of the goals of all modern societies and nations in addition to mobilising creative capacity from all segments of society.

Aga Khan, MHI

http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/5445/ | PDF
• Concise synopses of Imamat knowledge.

• Backed by the Archive for further reading and sources.

• Thematic charts: Attractive one page synopses with selected quotes. Ideal for JK notice boards, discussion groups, seminar handouts, etc. [>]

• Speech Summaries:
  Key themes of Hazar Imam's speeches between 2000 and July 2007. [>]
  Key themes of Golden Jubilee celebration speeches.

• Word Cloud analyses ... visually represent the database for new insights and the "big picture". Size matters!
150 MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED LEXICAL CONCEPTS IN HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN’S SPEECHES, INTERVIEWS AND WRITINGS MADE BETWEEN 1957 AND 2012
FREQUENCY OF THEMES

NanoWisdoms themes identified in His Highness the Aga Khan’s speeches, interviews and writings made between 1957 and 2012

www.NanoWisdoms.org

Archive of Imamat Speeches, Interviews & Writings
COUNTRIES WHERE HIS HIGHNESS THE AGA KHAN’S SPEECHES, INTERVIEWS AND WRITINGS WERE MADE BETWEEN 1957 AND 2012

www.nanowisdoms.org
ARCHIVE OF IMAMAT SPEECHES, INTERVIEWS & WRITINGS
GRAPHIC TIME LINE OF AWARDS AND HONOURS
CONTRIBUTE AND SUPPORT THE ARCHIVE

• Long term goal is to make NanoWisdoms a definitive, reliable, permanent archive of the Ismaili Imamat's knowledge.

• Invite contributions: interviews, writings, speeches not in the Index.

• Favorite quotes from any Imam or Prophet (pbut), with source.

• Also seeking individuals willing collaborate and help us with:
  • Locating primary sources.
  • Resolving items flagged in the {Status} category.
  • Reviewing out-of-print Ismaili magazines available at ITREB libraries.
  • Reviewing newspapers and magazines in libraries or publishers’ archives.

• Visit the "How to contribute" page for contact and other info.
HELP US INFORM YOUR JAMAT ABOUT THE ARCHIVE

• We need your help!

• Suggestions for your jamatkhana notice boards and literature counters:
  • Posting the NanoWisdoms announcement flyer. [>]
  • Posting thematic charts, perhaps rotate one every two or three weeks.
  • Posting PDF copies of the extended Facebook posts.
  • Posting printed copies of Suggested Readings.

• Other outlets through which you can help spread the word:
  • Weekly news bulletins such as al-Akhbar or Khabar (quotes, website listing).
  • National/regional magazines (write an article about Nano, republish thematic charts, start a quote column, website listing for Nano).
  • ITREB resources (al-waez, BUI teachers/students, youth programmes, etc.),
  • Jamatkhana libraries and book clubs.

• Group webinars: BUI classes, book clubs, ITREB staff, JK seminars, etc.
SUMMARY

• Only website dedicated to Imamat speeches, interviews, writings.
• Has Aiglemont’s special permission to publish Hazar Imam’s speeches.
• Eliminates scouring AKDN, Thesmaili, IIS, AKU, media sites, books, etc.
• Most comprehensive public collection available: over 500 readings.
• Accurate, reliable, and easy to navigate.
• Dedicated content finally allows searching of the Imam’s remarks.
• Quotes: E-mail, Twitter, Facebook, thematic charts, quote browser.
• Summary documents: thematic charts, speech summaries, word clouds.
• Presentation quality PDF/hardcopy for jamatkhana notice boards.
• Contribute: speeches, interviews, writings, quotes.
• Needs your help to spread the word: JK notice boards, tell friends, etc.