"Cultures are now mixing physically to an extent that would once have seemed impossible. Economic globalisation contributes to the trend. Some 45 million young people enter the job market in the developing world each year -- but there are not enough jobs at home for many of them. Immigrants now account for two thirds of the population growth in the 30 member countries of the OECD. Some 150 million legal immigrants now live outside their native countries, joined by uncounted millions of illegal immigrants."

His Highness the Aga Khan’s 2007 Masters of Public Affairs Programme, Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po), Graduation Ceremony address (Paris, France)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/8092/

"The fact that history moves at an accelerating pace is both challenge and an opportunity. I remember how people 50 years ago carelessly referred to many of the developing economies as hopeless ‘basket cases’, including places that have taken off since -- like India and China. As history demonstrates, so-called backward places can move forward over time. It is not unrealistic to plan for progress."

His Highness the Aga Khan’s 2007 Masters of Public Affairs Programme, Institut d’Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences Po), Graduation Ceremony address (Paris, France)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/8092/
"An important thing is looking forward across time, rather than being in a reactive mode. The reactive mode is a tremendous liability. Being in an anticipatory mode changes the whole nature of things, and the longer you have to change things, the better chance you have of making it work."

His Highness the Aga Khan's 2008 Vancouver Sun Interview with Don Cayo (Vancouver, Canada)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/9087/

"As world affairs have been steadily transformed by the process of globalisation, the ability to command and control has become less important than the ability to anticipate, connect and respond. And educational institutions which can instill and enhance those capacities have become essential to effective development."

His Highness the Aga Khan's 2007 Aga Khan Academy, Mombasa, Residential Campus Foundation Stone Ceremony address (Mombasa, Kenya)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/8188/

"As the pace of history has accelerated, agility and adaptability have become more important qualities than mere size or strength, and the race of life has gone increasingly to the nimble and the knowledgeable. As the economic arena has been globalising, openness and flexibility have become prerequisites for progress, and success has gone more and more to those who can connect and respond."

His Highness the Aga Khan's 2006 Aga Khan Academy, Hyderabad, Foundation Stone Ceremony address (Hyderabad, India)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/7877/
"In a world of rapid change, an agile and adaptable mind, a pragmatic and co-operative temperament, a strong ethical orientation -- these are increasingly the keys to effective leadership. And I would add to this list a capacity for intellectual humility which keeps one's mind constantly open to a variety of viewpoints and which welcomes pluralistic exchange. These capacities, over the longer term, will be critically important to the developing world."

His Highness the Aga Khan's 2008 'The Peterson Lecture' at the Annual Meeting of the International Baccalaureate (Atlanta, Georgia, USA)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/8435/

Christina Paxson: And, what advice, seriously, would you give them about shaping the futures and their children's futures?

Aga Khan: Difficult question.

Christina Paxson: Yes.

Aga Khan: Well I think I would start by saying, something very basic. First of all, what language do you speak? Do you speak one or do you speak several languages? If you speak several languages, your horizons are wider. You can function in a wider number of countries around the world. I think the second thing that I would say, is I would ask them to think about where they want to be when they're 35. What are the goals for their midterm? I think that's the second thing that I would ask. The third thing I would ask is, do you want to be a global citizen or do you want to be a continental citizen? If you want to be a global citizen, then prepare yourself for that. It's a different set of goals. So I think the whole issue is a rational issue that well educated children, young people, can address in a very, very rational way. And I think the final thing that I would say, is everybody makes mistakes. Never regret them, but correct them. But there's no such thing as a perfect world or a perfect life.
"In our globalised world, the best standards in any one place will quickly become the globe's standards, and societies which cannot meet these standards will be left behind to face decades of marginalisation."

"All societies, it has become clear, must invest in higher education for their talented men and women or risk being relegated to subordinate, vulnerable positions in the world.

"The feelings of the subordination of people -- that they are victims of an economic or cultural globalisation in which they cannot be full partners but from which they cannot remain apart -- these feelings fuel some of the most potent, destructive forces at play in our world today. The sense of vulnerability is especially powerful in parts of the Muslim world, which is itself heir to one of the greatest civilisations the world has known, but which also has inherited from history, not of its making, some of the worst and longest conflicts of the last 100 years, those of the Middle East and Kashmir."

His Highness the Aga Khan's 2007 Golden Jubilee Inaugural Ceremony address (Aiglemont)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/8171/

His Highness the Aga Khan's 2007 conversation with Christina Paxson following his Stephen A. Ogden Memorial Lecture, Brown University (Providence, USA)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/10725/
"Without the establishment of institutions like the Profession Development Centre, rural populations have no hope of succeeding in this world of increasingly rapid change. Many observers have expressed concern that the gap that has always existed between villagers and city dwellers will actually be exacerbated in the new globalising economy. Without a solid education at the primary and secondary level, young people will be deprived of any hope of choosing new futures. Where there is no hope, disenchantment and alienation often follow. If the PDC is successful, it should help schools in the Northern Areas close the gap for at least some of the young people of the region."

His Highness the Aga Khan’s 2000 Professional Development Centre, Northern Areas, Opening Ceremony address (Gilgit, Pakistan) (Emphasis added)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/5824/

"[W]hile true success must be determined largely by merit, meritocracy and competition must not be permitted to erode [our] traditions of compassion and care for the less fortunate -- for it is those traditions, rooted in our faith and history, that should temper the harshest consequences of free market economics."

His Highness the Aga Khan’s 1994 remarks at the Ismaili Council Dinner (London, United Kingdom)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/4833

"Concepts such as meritocracy, free-world economics, or multi-party democracy, honed and tested in the West may generally have proven their worth. But valid though they may be, responsible leadership in the Islamic world must ask if they can be adapted to their cultures which may not have the traditions or infra-structure to assimilate them.... There is a real risk that market place economics could lead to ruthless competition, and increased concentration of wealth, further marginalising the existing poor. There is a real risk that
meritocracy could exacerbate, for example, the existing problem of equitable access to quality education and sophisticated health care. Although the modern page of human history was written in the West, you should not expect or desire for that page to be photocopied by the Muslim world.”

His Highness the Aga Khan’s 1996 Brown University Commencement Ceremony address (Providence, Rhode Island, USA)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/5089/

"In recent years, the need for regional integration has become a central concern for the peoples of East Africa. Cross-border cooperation is essential if the patchwork quilt of small African nations is to cope effectively in a globalised economy."

His Highness the Aga Khan’s 1986 Commonwealth Press Union Conference Keynote Address (Cape Town, South Africa)
http://www.nanowisdoms.org/nwblog/5137/

Peter Muaura: The global reach of the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development suggests that you have taken a view on globalisation. How globalisation has helped your outreach and is globalisation good for Africa?

Aga Khan: Globalisation is good for Africa if corrective procedures are available for products which are critical for Africa. African economies are clearly still heavily dependent on agriculture. If agricultural products and their global values vary massively from one year to the other, countries can find themselves in very, very great difficulty. So regulation in terms of global pricing for Africa in those situations would be very important indeed. AKFED as an institution has tended to look at the economies of individual countries or regions rather than at the global situation. We are not engaged in any way in South America. So there are parts of the world we have no contact with.
Nuno Rogerio: And network: we mean something global. So in a sense you are anticipating globalisation in lots of ways.

Aga Khan: Yes we have. Yes we have. We've been looking at issues of globalisation and we've been looking at issues of regionalisation first because we started with the analysis of capacities in Africa, in Central Asia, etcetera to see whether we could develop capacities only on a national basis, or whether we had to do it on a regional basis. We concluded that we had to do both. Some institutions had to be regional to be most effective, some had to be national. So we're working at both levels. Now to say that that ultimately is a global issue may not be correct. I don’t see too many similarities between developing countries in Asia and Africa and the wealthy industrialised world.
See also: His Highness the Aga Khan on globalism - Part 4/7: the pace of change

See also: His Highness the Aga Khan on globalism - Part 5/7: English: the 'predominant global language' & 'of global connection'

See also: His Highness the Aga Khan on globalism - Part 6/7: threat to culture and pluralism

See also: His Highness the Aga Khan on globalism - Part 7/7: the hazard of a superficial, homogenised mega-culture