



PRIME MINISTER • PREMIER MINISTRE

July 11, 2012

Greetings from the Prime Minister

Khushiali (Imamat Day) commemorates the anniversary of the accession of His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan as Imam of the Shi'a Ismaili Muslims. It offers all Canadians a chance to reflect on the extraordinary achievements of the Aga Khan, and on the contributions of Canadian Ismailis to our society. I am pleased to join the many Ismailis in Canada and around the world in marking this year's 55th anniversary.

Canadians share a close connection with the Aga Khan and his important work. This is best exemplified by the fact that His Highness is one of only five people in history to have ever been awarded honorary Canadian citizenship. His name is synonymous with humanitarian aid and development in countries beset by conflict and poverty. Just as importantly, he has worked tirelessly as a bridge-builder between faiths and cultures.

The Global Centre for Pluralism in Ottawa is the product of The Aga Khan's visionary international leadership. Founded in collaboration with the Government of Canada, this research and education centre is focused on deepening the world's ability to understand and practice pluralism. His Highness chose Canada as this Centre's home because of our country's great success as a pluralist society.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, Laureen and I extend our best wishes for a joyous celebration.

Khushiali Mubarak!

*The Rt. Hon. Stephen Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada*



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