

PRIME MINISTER · PREMIER MINISTRE

December 13, 2008

## Greetings from the Prime Minister

It is my distinct pleasure to extend my warmest congratulations to His Highness Prince Karim Aga Khan on the occasion of his birthday. I am also delighted to have this opportunity to wish the Ismaili community in Canada a happy Salgirah Mubarak and Khushiali Mubarak

For half a century, His Highness the Aga Khan has provided spiritual guidance to the Ismaili community and served as a benevolent leader in the world. He has made it his life's mission to provide development and humanitarian aid in countries beset by conflict and poverty. More fundamentally, he has promoted dialogue, understanding and respect among different faiths and cultures.

I have had many wonderful opportunities to attend events and meet members of Canada's Ismaili community. Recently, I was honoured to join the Aga Khan for the official opening of the Delegation of the Ismaili Imamat in Ottawa. Together with the Global Centre for Pluralism, it will promote the values of peace prosperity and equality that have guided the Aga Khan throughout all his work. These humanitarian institutions have found a fitting home in Ottawa, the capital of one of the most successfully pluralistic countries in the world.

On behalf of the Government of Canada, please accept my best wishes for a joyous celebration.

Sincerely,

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