Welcome to the inaugural issue of AT HOME, a new digital magazine presenting the programmes and projects of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture (AKTC).

The aim of AT HOME is to provide a better understanding of His Highness the Aga Khan’s vision of improving quality of life through culture.

Over the course of the next few weeks, you are invited to explore resplendent parks and gardens from Mali to Afghanistan, witness incredible performances by some of the most celebrated music artists in the world, visit works of architectural excellence that respond to global problems, and listen to fascinating accounts of the formation, evolution, and future of the Aga Khan Trust for Culture.

The Trust’s portfolio through music, arts, architecture, and landscapes reflects the beauty and diversity of the Muslim world. We hope these works will be a source of pride, inspiration, and knowledge.

As you read through the newsletter, clicking on the ● leads to content.

Cover image: Registan Square, Samarkand, Uzbekistan
Aga Khan Music Programme
In a three-part series, Professor Raj Isar, Director, Education Programme, introduces the multi-faceted notions of culture and cultural heritage. Why are they so central to our lives today? Subsequent presentations will explore the topics of identity and pluralism.

THE CULTURAL AGENCY OF AKDN

Luis Monreal, General Manager, reflects on Hazar Imam’s vision for AKTC. His brief introduction touches on the key milestones, decisions, and projects that have shaped the Trust and the forces that will impact AKTC in the future.
The Muslim world is undergoing dramatic processes of transition and change. Poverty, population growth and environmental degradation are posing serious challenges. Cultural heritage is a casualty of this upheaval. What is being done to address these conditions?

How can initiatives that boost healthcare and education, the creation of parks and gardens, and the rehabilitation of cultural heritage help a war-ravaged country reach its aspirations?

This never before released film, professionally produced by AKTC, is the first of a three-part series focusing on Kabul, Delhi, and Lahore. Featuring interviews, drone photography and archival newsreels, the film shows that while there have been setbacks, there is still hope. And where there is hope, dignity emerges.
The Aga Khan Trust for Culture is pleased to share with the Jamat the exciting news of the creation of the Aga Khan Music Programme (AKMP). Effective immediately, all existing activities of the Aga Khan Music Initiative and Aga Khan Music Awards are consolidated under the new Programme, marking an important milestone.

The Aga Khan Music Programme collaborates with exceptionally creative musicians and music educators in societies across the world to preserve, revitalise, further develop, and disseminate their musical heritage in contemporary forms. Traditions, once diminishing, have found new life and forms of expression.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony of the Aga Khan Music Awards, Hazar Imam spoke of the power of music: “Music can be a strong cultural anchor, deepening a sense of community, identity and heritage, while simultaneously reaching out in powerful ways to people of different backgrounds.”
The triennial Music Awards, established by Hazar Imam in 2018, recognise exceptional creativity, promise, and enterprise in music performance, creation, education, preservation and revitalisation in societies across the world in which Muslims have a significant presence. The inaugural Music Awards ceremony took place in Lisbon, Portugal from 29-31 March 2019.

Introduced by Fairouz Nishanova, Director, Aga Khan Music Programme, a special highlight compilation film has been put together for the Jamat's listening pleasure.

The six triangles that form the Aga Khan Music Awards logo are each a stylization of a word rendered in Kufic script. These words are: East, Inspiration, Breath/Soul, Listening, Teaching, and Time.
What can history teach us about the present and the future? Listen to Aga Khan Professor Nasser Rabbat reflect on the lessons of the past and what we can learn with respect to the current crisis.

Dr. Nasser Rabbat is the Aga Khan Professor and the Director of the Aga Khan Program for Islamic Architecture at MIT and a member of the Steering Committee of the Aga Khan Award for Architecture.
Preview Issue 2

Issue 2 will shine a spotlight on the Aga Khan Historic Cities Programme in Pakistan and also feature the Aga Khan Music Programme, the Aga Khan Award for Architecture, and a presentation on the notion of culture and identity.

We hope you enjoyed learning more about the work of AKTC and look forward to seeing you again.
THANK YOU