

2018 DJAC Conference Guide

Objectives

- Enable knowledge exchange amongst professionals locally and globally
- Strengthen the capacity of our alliances
- Network with high caliber industry leaders
- Build bridges and work together to catapult our community forward

Duration



**Sept 28th – 30th,
2018**

Location



**Hyatt Regency DFW
in Dallas**

Attendees



**500+
Professionals**

Alliances



**10+
Alliance Groups**

Conference Logistics

- ❖ All events of the conference will take place in Dallas at the Hyatt Regency DFW.
 - Address: 2334 N International Pkwy, DFW Airport, TX 75261
 - Phone Number: +1 972 453 1234
- ❖ Accommodations can be secured at the Hyatt Regency DFW [using this link here.](#)
 - Conference Preferred Rate: \$99 per night
 - Our room block rates are available from September 25th – October 4th
 - Note: This rate will not be guaranteed after September 5.
- ❖ An airfare discount rate for conference attendees has been negotiated with only American Airlines: 7% discount on all AA Flights to DFW for all classes of service EXCEPT Basic Economy. Travel can originate from any US cities and is valid from 9/25 - 10/3 (inclusive). Note: This rate should not be published externally.
- ❖ Transportation will be provided to Jamatkhana on Friday night only.
- ❖ Dress Code for conference: Business Casual

Conference Format

- ❖ Industry and Institutional Keynote Addresses
- ❖ Horizontal Content Tracks led by Subject Matter Experts
- ❖ Inspiring Presentations & Stories from Ismailis Professionals
- ❖ Collaborative Roundtables
- ❖ Open & Guided Networking Mixers



Conference Schedule

- ❖ There are 4 parallel tracks at the conference in addition to the keynotes, presentations, and general plenary sessions that participants can enroll in
- ❖ Each participant will have the opportunity to register for their track sessions starting 10 days in advance of the conference
- ❖ Additional details for each session can be viewed on the following pages
- ❖ All participants will get a chance to network with their alliances during our networking breaks
- ❖ More details to come in the following weeks



Conference Schedule

Friday, September 28	
5:00 pm to 7:30 pm	Check-in & Informal Networking
7:30 pm to 9:30 pm	Jamatkhana <i>Note: Transportation will be provided to those who would like to attend</i>
9:30 pm to 11:00 pm	Conference Kick-off & Networking Dinner
Saturday, September 29	
8:00 am to 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 am to 10:00 am	Welcome & Keynote Address (<i>Asiff Hirji: Thriving Through the Next Wave of Disruption</i>)
10:00 am to 11:00 am	Track Session 1 (<i>refer to slide 15 for topics covered in session #1</i>)
11:00 am to 12:00 pm	Track Session 2 (<i>refer to slide 15 for topics covered in session #2</i>)
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Lunch

Conference Schedule

Saturday, September 29	
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Track Session 3 (<i>refer to slide 15 for topics covered in session #3</i>)
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Networking Mixer (<i>Industry Meetups: IHPA, IPEA, Finance, Entrepreneurship Ventures</i>)
3:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Track Session 4 (<i>refer to slide 15 for topics covered in session #4</i>)
4:00 pm to 4:30 pm	Closing Plenary
4:30 pm to 5:30 pm	Networking Mixer (<i>Industry Meetups: Technology, Public Service</i>)
5:30 pm to 8:00 pm	Personal Time
8:00 pm to 11:00 pm	Formal Dinner and Keynote Speaker (<i>Topic: The Shape of Work in a World of Intelligent Machines</i>)

Conference Schedule

Sunday, September 30	
7:30 am to 9:00 am	Breakfast (<i>Women's Networking</i>)
9:00 am to 10:00 am	The Power of Possibility: Journeys of Women in Leadership (<i>Moderator: Farzana Nayani. Speakers: Amal Merali, Illy Jaffer, and Saleema Vellani</i>)
10:00 am to 11:00 am	Social Impact Projects (<i>Selected participants will share creative pitches for service projects, non-profits, and start-ups. Moderator: Shakil Prasla</i>)
11:00 am to 12:00 pm	Track Session 5 (<i>refer to slide 15 for topics covered in session #5</i>)
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Networking Mixer (<i>Industry Meetups: AICC, IMCA, Legal</i>)
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Closing Plenary: Future of Alliances Lunch

Note: schedule is subject to change.

Content

- ❖ A unique experience not found anywhere else, the conference combines:
 - Real-world, action-based learning around four key industry-agnostic tracks: Entrepreneurship, Collaboration & Service, Professional Development, and Emerging Trends
 - An established platform for building and utilizing a personal and national industry network within our community
 - How to trampoline our efforts in propagating our knowledge, such that our global Jamat becomes an important component of a global knowledge society



Roundtables

AKF & AKDN	<p>Part of the track sessions Information about the session will be sent one week in advance of the conference Two sessions with two different formats: 1) Case study with Breakout (CEO of AKF USA) 2) Interactive discussion with Shams Kassim-Lakha (Chairman of UCA)</p>
Alliance Development	<p>What does it take to sustain the collaboration and integration of our Alliances? How can each of us foster a larger cross-industry community, rather than operating within silos that are familiar to us? In this roundtable session, representatives from every Alliance group will work together to create a plan detailing how each member can most effectively leverage our powerful network for professional development, play a role in each other's career advancement, and build bridges never before traversed. The mission of this conference is in part building upon what others have already mastered, and opening our minds to fresh perspectives, which often don't exist when we're stratified amongst like-minded professionals. Let's push ourselves not only to sustain but also to supercede the energy we create together even once the conference has concluded.</p>



Presentations

TED Talk	Women leaders share their story - how they identified their passion, lessons learned, and their key to success at the current stage in their career (representation from early career to seasoned professionals across industries).
Social Impact Projects	This session will showcase Ismaili entrepreneurs, innovators, thought leaders, and social impact investors as they pitch their innovative idea, service project, non-profit or start up to 500+ peers, many whom can be their next collaborator, advisor, co-founder or investor.



Track Descriptions

A Entrepreneurship at all Stages	B Collaboration and Service	C Emerging Trends	D Professional Development
<p>Accelerate your career in today's competitive world by managing your career as if it were a startup business: a living, breathing, growing startup of you. Why startups? Because startups- and the entrepreneurs that run them- are nimble. They invest in themselves. They build their professional networks. They take intelligent risks. They make uncertainty and volatility work to their advantage.</p>	<p>Service is at the epicenter of our community, but how can we amplify our global impact and further our reach? Collaborate with top public service professionals for an elite knowledge exchange of how to mobilize resources, leverage technology, monetize giving platforms, approach donors, serve as board members, build inter-organizational bridges, and understand the nuanced needs of various societies to deliver targeted, world-class service with the greatest impact and legacy.</p>	<p>The 20th century was characterized by industrial growth, infrastructure development, and modest technological advancement to meet society's basic needs. However, the 21st century exemplifies exponential technological growth in advance of customer needs, rapidly expanding global connectivity, and financial autonomy. Social media platforms, AI and machine learning, and digital currencies are a few of the foundational movements that have made life as we know it possible. Contribute to this macro-level track and draw inspiration from industry leaders and visionaries to position yourself at the forefront of emerging trends. What's next?</p>	<p>Are you ready to soar to new heights in your career? Whether you need to traverse a daunting industry transition, take a lofty career leap, or run your company with greater reach and impact, learn how to elevate your professional prowess. Catalyze your career with an actionable toolkit including effective branding, social media presence, adaptation and agility, advocacy, polished professional outreach, and leadership best practices. This tactical track is a practitioner's guide to career advancement. Your success is on the horizon!</p>



Track Session Topics

#	A Entrepreneurship at all Stages	B Collaboration and Service	C Emerging Trends	D Professional Development
1	<p>Silicon Valley is a Mindset, Not a Location Moderator: Karim Bhalwani Speakers: Saba Karim, Michelle Noorali, Arif Virani, Faizal Kassamali</p>	<p>How to Embed Service in Your Workplace Moderator: Amira Dhalla Speakers: Salima Khakoo, Salman Bhojani</p>	<p>Finance in the 21st Century Moderator: Aly Alibhai Speaker: Asif Ramji</p>	<p>Workshop: Using Social Media to Build Your Professional Brand Moderator: Nureen Gulamali</p>
2	<p>3 Puzzle Pieces That Inform Your Direction and Competitive Advantage Moderator: Shan Ali Moledina, Speakers: Dr. Rob Cole, Shaherose Charania</p>	<p>Serving from the Top: How to Catalyze Change as a Board Member Speakers: Shelmina Abji, Kamruddin Shams, Omar Samji, Alnoor Shivji</p>	<p>Healthcare in the 21st Century Moderator: Ameya Kulkarni, Speakers: Saleem Sayani, Seema Lalani</p>	<p>Personal and Professional Wellness Moderator: Shahzil Amin</p>
3	<p>Idea Lab: Start-up Pitches Moderator: Farah Remtulla</p>	<p>AKDN Roundtable: Global Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange Session I Moderator: Zohray Talib Speaker: Shams Kassim-Lakha</p>	<p>Media & Journalism in the 21st Century Moderator: Nausheen Hussain Speakers: Nomaan Merchant, Nadya Shakoor, Shelina Kassam</p>	<p>Take Control of Your Finances and Build Wealth Moderator: Forrest Fielder Speaker: Shanif Dhanani, Nabyl Charania</p>
4	<p>Mission-Oriented Work: How Your Entrepreneurial Skills Can Make a Difference Speakers: Nageeb Sumar, Alif Khalfan</p>	<p>AKDN Roundtable: Global Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange Session II Facilitator: Aleem Walji</p>	<p>Technology in the 21st Century Speakers: Samir Pradhan, Aziz Gilani</p>	<p>How to Repeatedly Reinvent Yourself Moderator: Liz Lalani Speaker: Samina Hooda, Shirin Sharif, Zain Gulamali, Adil Kabani</p>
5	<p>How to Innovate at a Big Company Moderator: Ashraf Karim Speakers: Munira Rehmtulla, Samir Rayani, Asif Makhani</p>	<p>How Business Can and Should Be Used as a Force for Good Moderator: Rehana Nathoo Speakers: Rizwan Ladha, Khairunnisa Jivani</p>	<p>Education in the 21st Century Moderator: Sabina Bharwani Speaker: Danish Kurani, Nabeel Gillani, Zohra Manjee</p>	<p>Ismaili Alliances - Our Competitive Advantage Moderator: Faheem Noor Ali Co-facilitators: Karim Meghji, Sabeen Dhanani</p>



Session Descriptions – Entrepreneurship at all Stages

Session Name	Description
<p>Silicon Valley is a Mindset, Not a Location</p>	<p>What makes entrepreneurs in Silicon Valley so special is their ability to take on big challenges, fail fast and persevere to new heights. The key ingredient is continuing to learn and grow with the help of your network. In this session, we will explore how tech luminaries are using these traits to prove that Silicon Valley is not only a location, but also a mindset that's driving startup success in New York, Boston, Austin and Los Angeles, and how it can propagate through the rest of the country.</p>
<p>3 Puzzle Pieces That Inform Your Direction: Your Assets, Your Aspirations, and the Market Realities</p>	<p>Your competitive advantage is formed by the interplay of three different, ever-changing forces: your assets, your aspirations, and the market realities, i.e., what you offer the marketplace relative to your competition. In this session, we will discuss how to put yourself in a position to win by pursuing worthy aspirations and using your assets to your advantage, while navigating the market realities.</p>
<p>Idea Lab: Start-up Pitches</p>	<p>Do you have an idea but don't quite know how to communicate it to create maximal impact? In this session, you will learn the components of a meaningful pitch, how to tailor it to various audiences, and you will have the chance to work with experts on developing a strong pitch.</p>
<p>Mission-Oriented Work: How Your Entrepreneurial Skills Can Make a Difference</p>	<p>Many careers now span the private, public and nonprofit sectors, and recruiters are increasingly looking to leverage skill sets from all three to bring expertise to their organization. In this engaging session, panelists will describe their own career trajectories from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and the Walt Disney Company and how their backgrounds have prepared them to contribute to meaningful mission-related work. We will discuss the extension of these insights as they apply to specific global regions of interest and the needs of various communities around the world. We'll collectively share the best ways to implement your skill sets to address a community's greatest needs.</p>
<p>How To Innovate at a Big Company</p>	<p>Innovation is not limited to startups. It can be applied to big companies. By treating their business units as collection of startups, Amazon, Google and Facebook are innovating at breakneck speeds, bringing products to market as fast as startups and taking advantage of their economies of scale. In this session, we will hear from business leaders of similar companies to discuss how we can democratize innovation at all big companies.</p>



Session Descriptions – Collaboration & Service

Session Name	Description
<p>How to Embed Service in Your Workplace</p>	<p>How can we embody our core ethic of service in the corporate world and become ambassadors for change in our professional lives? Many local nonprofits struggle to procure adequate funding and volunteers. Service-learning offers a higher impact alternative. Service-learning when embedded in any corporate structure, creates a larger service footprint, as entire departments and business units get involved in service activities within their community. Often, there are designated community service days embedded within working hours, if not after-hours, as a way of team building while simultaneously giving back. Integrating service-learning as part of your company's service endeavors is a way to leverage your professional network to contribute with greater impact through a larger vehicle of change.</p>
<p>Serving from the Top: How to Catalyze Change</p>	<p>You have reached a point in your career when you can set the tone from the top and be the force that drives change. Contributing a career's worth of experience and knowledge as a member of a corporate or non-profit board of directors can truly effect change on a massive scale. As a part of our community, you likely have always had a passion for service, desire for stewardship of others, and maybe even a knack for effective governance. Learn how to build on these traits and create successful pathways for giving, tackle difficult strategy and governance problems, align your business model with a well-chosen mission, and quantify what success means to your company or organization.</p>
<p>AKDN Sessions - Sessions I & II Global Collaboration and Knowledge Exchange</p>	<p>How can you contribute your knowledge and skills to the global community? In these sessions, you will have the opportunity to learn the history on how different components of the AKDN have scaled over the years and about real-life problems that the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) is currently working to resolve and the history. .</p>
<p>How Business Can and Should Be Used as a Force For Good</p>	<p>We no longer live in a world where financial performance alone can secure a well-respected top spot for the world's largest corporations and businesses. In a time of increasingly limited resources, overwhelming need, and accelerated innovation, organizations that emphasize, plan for and invest in social missions are raising the bar. As Larry Fink, CEO of the world's largest asset manager said in a letter to shareholders this past year, "Without a sense of purpose, no company, either public or private, can achieve its full potential." Join a panel of impact investors, nonprofit leaders, and career professionals working at the cross-section of the public and private sector to discuss how business can not only be a force for social good, but also a necessary leader for change.</p>



Session Descriptions – Emerging Trends

Session Name	Description
<p>Finance in the 21st century</p>	<p>The 20th century was all about big banks providing premier financial services to a wealthy few. The 21st century has transitioned to FinTech startups unbundling traditional financial services and providing access to everyone, including more than 40% of the global population that is unbanked. In this session, we will discuss how these companies monetize their platforms, use AI software to reveal patterns, and offer the type of personalized guidance that used to come from human financial advisors.</p>
<p>Healthcare in the 21st century</p>	<p>Healthcare is shifting from analog to digital. Medicine, for so long centered around the knowledge in human brains of doctors, radiologists, and other experts, is turning into a data science problem. The whole focus of healthcare is shifting from treating conditions after they arise to keeping people healthy and stopping illness before symptoms appear. In this session, we will discuss how some of the most forward-thinking healthcare organizations are providing personalized healthcare with the help of AI and Data Science.</p>
<p>Media & Journalism in the 21st century</p>	<p>The truth in journalism is currently under attack, as those who work in the media are juggling changing platforms, new technologies, corporate mismanagement, a lack of diversity in newsrooms, accusations of "fake news," and sometimes, physical threats. In this session, we'll hear from media professionals who continue to prioritize ethical and accurate distribution and consumption of information, despite the challenges involved.</p>
<p>Technology in the 21st century</p>	<p>Throughout the 20th century, technology and economics drove a dominant logic: bigger is better. Around the world, the goal was to create economies of scale by building big corporations. In the 21st century, a wave of AI-propelled technologies are empowering innovators to effectively compete against economies of scale. In this session, we will go behind the scenes to see how developer platforms, computer vision and sensor fusion are reshaping existing industries and creating new ones altogether like self-driving cars and robotics.</p>
<p>Education in the 21st century</p>	<p>As the field whose objective is to prepare generations for change, education is itself facing rapid change from all directions. Neuroscience research is surfacing better understanding of child development and informing new pedagogical methods. Technology is emerging as both a dynamic delivery vehicle (e.g. MOOCs) and a core foundational subject (e.g. computer science foundations for primary students). However, we continue to grapple with issues that persist and may even be more pronounced, such as global education divides, lack of school funding, rapidly-rising cost of higher education, and teacher retention and development. Join us for an engaging session to explore the changing landscape in education and how other fields play an inextricable role in the education-related professions.</p>



Session Descriptions – Professional Development

Session Name	Description
<p>Workshop: Using Social Media to Build Your Professional Brand</p>	<p>How can we use social media platforms and global connectivity to increase our professional presence, to identify and target our network, and to create completely novel career opportunities? Learn how to take advantage of the viral connectivity of social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, as well as professional platforms such as LinkedIn, AngelList and SERMO, to build authority around your personal brand. Learn how to target your audience outside of crowded industry-centric groups, how to keep your image consistent across all outlets, how to engage regularly with diversified multi-media content, how to study and collaborate with influencers, and how to create upfront value for the highest success rates of engagement.</p>
<p>Personal & Professional Wellness</p>	<p>In a world of competing priorities, learn how you can bring the concept of wellness into your daily life. This session will provide you an opportunity to reflect on your personal and professional wellness and leverage certain tactics to live a healthier life.</p>
<p>Take Control of your Finances and Build Wealth</p>	<p>Learn how the most financially successful individuals optimize their savings hierarchies and plan early for retirement, take full advantage of employee benefits, offload debt, monitor spending, diversify their venture's exposure within their total asset base, reduce the volatility of their cash flow, keep a rainy day fund in reserve, choose a suitable asset allocation for their investment portfolio, and value the tradeoff between time and money. The road to building wealth is paved with goals - discover how close you are to your destination.</p>
<p>How to Repeatedly Reinvent Yourself</p>	<p>The world doesn't stay constant – why should your knowledge base? How can you revise and amplify your knowledge, and do so continually through lifelong learning? Inevitably, you will change careers several times throughout your lifetime. In order to prepare yourself for success in these transitions, you will likely have to cultivate a growth mindset, as opposed to a fixed mindset, to develop new capabilities and push your boundaries. That could include pioneering new fields that don't yet exist today, developing skills that require you to stretch, or engaging in geographies and with cultures far beyond North America. Join us for an engaging session to explore how to navigate dynamic, ever-emerging fields and how to propel yourself forward into knowledge leadership.</p>
<p>Ismaili Alliances - Our Competitive Advantage</p>	<p>What does it take to sustain the collaboration and integration of our Alliances? How can each of us foster a larger cross-industry community, rather than operating within silos that are familiar to us? In this roundtable session, representatives from every Alliance group will work together to create a plan detailing how each member can most effectively leverage our powerful network for professional development, play a role in each other's career advancement, and build bridges never before traversed. The mission of this conference is in part building upon what others have already mastered, and opening our minds to fresh perspectives, which often don't exist when we're stratified amongst like-minded professionals. Let's push ourselves not only to sustain but also to supercede the energy we create together even once the conference has concluded.</p>



Our Speakers & Facilitators



SHAMSH KASSIM-LAKHA

Chairman of the Board of
Trustees, University of Central
Asia

SHELMINA BABAI ABJI

Empowerment Speaker & Board
Member, TiE-Seattle



DAVID LEE

Vice President, Innovation &
Strategic Enterprise Fund, UPS

ARIF VIRANI

Chief Operating Officer, DarwinAI



View our full lineup of speakers & facilitators at
ipnonline.net/djac/speakers

Our Speakers & Facilitators



ASIFF HIRJI

President & Chief Operating
Officer, Coinbase



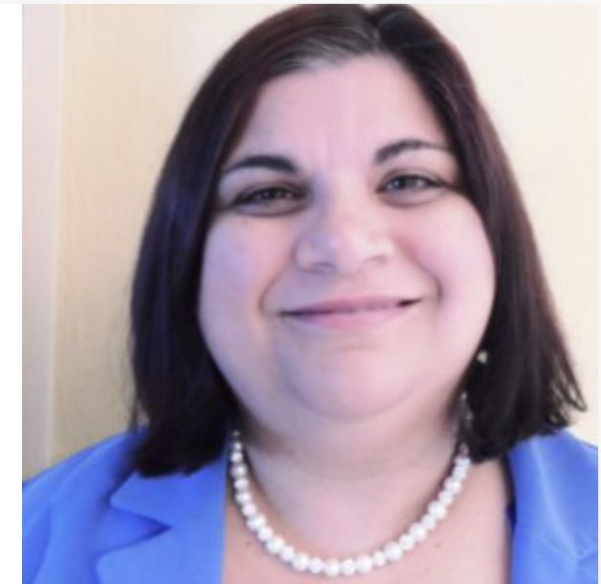
ALEEM WALJI

Chief Executive Officer, Aga Khan
Foundation USA



ASIF RAMJI

Chief Product Officer, Worldpay



SALIMA KHAKOO

CEO & Managing Attorney,
American Dream Law

View our full lineup of speakers & facilitators at
ipnonline.net/djac/speakers



Our Alliances



Our Alliances

- ❖ Alliances are communities of Ismaili professionals in a given industry. They are designed to enhance the careers of professionals, entrepreneurs, and business owners through the use of knowledge sharing, valuable linkages to industry-specific organizations and events, and access to industry leaders.
- ❖ The intended purpose of the conference is to strengthen the capacity of these alliances and its members by creating meaningful connections for participants and showcasing the braintrust of its members.
- ❖ We have 11 Alliance and Professionals Groups currently active in our community, each of which is in a different stage of maturity..
- ❖ If you would like to become an Alliance Leader, please contact conference@ipnonline.net.



Groups

- ❖ Ismaili Media Communications Association (IMCA)
- ❖ Ismaili Health Professionals Association (IHPA)
- ❖ Ismaili Professionals in Education & Academia (IPEA)
- ❖ IPN Technology Alliance
- ❖ IPN Finance Alliance
- ❖ American Ismaili Chamber of Commerce (AICC)
- ❖ North American Trade Association (NATA)
- ❖ Ismaili Legal Professionals
- ❖ IPN Public Service Alliance
- ❖ IPN Entrepreneurship Venture Alliance (EVA)
- ❖ IPN Women's Alliance



Conference Participants

550
Attendees

11
Alliance and
Professional Groups

50
Speakers

**A historic event
for our
professional
community**



Thank You!

Contact us at conference@ipnonline.net