



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION

March 5, 1986

Mrs. Nargis Simmons,

[REDACTED]
Downsview, Ontario [REDACTED]
Canada.

Dear Nargis,

Thank you very much for your letter of February 19th, the official and unofficial reports on the alumni/ae and student meeting held in Toronto and the photos. I am very grateful that you went to so much trouble to organize the meeting. Both you and Alnoor have really been very generous in giving so much time to the ISP coordinating effort. I am surprised more of our alumni/ae and students haven't been inspired by your interest and enthusiasm.

The only thing missing from your report is a list of participants. I am especially interested in knowing which ISP alumni/ae students showed up for the meeting.

Since I only received your report on February 28, when our Newsletter had already gone to the printer, I wasn't able to use it. We have a short paragraph on the meeting on the last page, which I put together from information Alnoor gave me over the phone. Since the photos are not very good, I think rather than doing an article on the meeting for the AKF Information Bulletin, I'll save your report for the next Newsletter and include it in a general write-up on "AKF alumni/ae and student meetings in 1985".

Because of the rather poor response to the recent meetings, not only in Canada, but in Boston and the UK as well, I suggest that we shelve the big, formal meetings for a while and rather concentrate on small, informal ones. The most interested alumni/ae and students could get together periodically during the year to discuss mutual concerns and to provide support for new students. These meetings would necessitate much less organization and may be more useful.

As a start, Alnoor suggested in a recent telephone conversation that when he goes down to Toronto on business, he would call some of the ISP group to have lunch together. I would hope this might lead to monthly or bi-monthly lunches. The participants could ask Nazeer Ladhani (AKF is moving to Toronto sometime this year) to let them know when someone interesting from the AK network is visiting whom they could invite to join them. Nazeer may be able to attend off and on as well to keep them up-to-date about AKF activities.

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If this suggestion is implemented, one of the participants at the meetings should be appointed to report on the get togethers and discussions for the Newsletter. Let me know how this strikes you.

I am waiting to receive the first issues of the Newsletter this week and will be sending them to all the ISP contingent. I would love to know what you think of it and any echoes you may hear about it from the others.

Nargis, many thanks again for all your help. Let's not give up on the ISP Association idea yet.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Hieronymi

Catherine Hieronymi
Scholarship Officer

cc: Alnoor Abdulla
Nazeer Ladhani

