What some describe as a clash of civilisations in our modern world is, in my view, a clash of ignorances. This is why education about religious and cultural heritage is so critically important – and why we will continue to invest in these institutions. We deeply believe that scholarship, publication and instruction – of high quality and generous breadth – can provide important pathways toward a more pluralistic and peaceful world.

His Highness the Aga Khan
Chairman of the Board of Governors of The Institute of Ismaili Studies, London, UK
3 July 2008
It is with great pleasure and distinct pride that I welcome you to The Institute of Ismaili Studies (IIS).

Since its inception in London in 1977, The Institute of Ismaili Studies has been contributing to the building of knowledge and learning on Islam, in its historical as well as contemporary contexts. More specifically, the Institute’s programmes seek to promote research on those areas which have, to date, received relatively little attention from scholars. These include the intellectual and literary heritage of Shi‘i Islam in general, and Ismailism in particular.

The Institute’s intellectual roots can be traced back eleven centuries to the time of the ruling Fatimid imam-caliphs. The Fatimid dynasty patronised learning and the arts, founding libraries and academic institutions such as Al-Azhar (considered to be the first Muslim university) and Dar al-‘ilm (House of Knowledge) in Cairo, also extending hospitality and patronage to scholars from all religious traditions and cultural backgrounds.

The Institute of Ismaili Studies adopts a civilisational approach towards exploring the plurality of our contemporary world and its complex relationships with the intellectual and cultural traditions related to Muslim societies. It reaffirms the historical continuity of the Islamic tradition of seeking knowledge and learning that encompasses a wide breadth of fields, ranging from academic disciplines in the humanities and social sciences to more normative fields of study such as Islamic theology, jurisprudence and the study of the Qur’an and its commentaries (tafsir) through the ages.

Building on the strength of its established research and publications programmes, the Institute maintains its reputation as the premier reference point for Ismaili studies, whilst increasingly becoming a pioneer for scholarship in Shi‘i and Qur’anic studies. The IIS also responds to the educational and learning needs of an increasingly dynamic and globalised Ismaili community by developing and producing early childhood, primary and secondary curricula, whilst training future scholars, teachers and leaders.

Our library is the leading resource centre for academia as well as the Ismaili community, with growing collections of unique materials related to Muslim culture and Ismaili studies. Our special collections seek to preserve, archive, catalogue and digitise the valuable textual heritage and artefacts of the Ismaili community.

The Institute is fortunate to be establishing its new permanent premises at a bespoke state-of-the-art education and research facility, located in the heart of London’s ‘Knowledge Quarter’, in King’s Cross. The Knowledge Quarter brings together academic, cultural, research, scientific and media organisations to generate the potential for knowledge sharing, and for creating greater access to the scholarship of partner institutions.

In looking to the future, the IIS aspires towards continuing to adopt approaches to learning and knowledge production that engender attitudes of openness and dialogue towards scholarship and understanding.

Dr Farhad Daftary, Co-Director of The Institute of Ismaili Studies
A Court Manuscript Workshop. Folio from the manuscript of

Statement

Philosophical

6

...inter-connected study of past and present.

and academic and educational publications. First, it favours an

to guide the Institute's scholarly programmes of research, teaching,

This overarching objective implies certain general principles meant

to a modern academic institution.

The Institute's founding aim was defined by a basic and continuing

re-assessment of existing scholarly endeavours in this field. As part

of this aim, the Institute seeks to draw on the most effective tools

developed, over at least the past century, in modern academic

scholarship on Islam. Simultaneously, in actively seeking to bring the

fruits of such scholarship to bear on the conditions and aspirations

of Muslim societies today (including, in particular, present-day Ismaili

communities) the Institute's programmes reflect an additional,

normative purposiveness, though one wholly open and attuned to

the principles of objective inquiry and research, which are essential

to a modern academic institution.

This overarching objective implies certain general principles meant

to guide the Institute's scholarly programmes of research, teaching,

and academic and educational publications. First, it favours an

inter-connected study of past and present.

...inter-connected study of past and present.

Islamic history is thus studied with an eye to such resonances it may

offer, directly or indirectly, to an analytic understanding of current

realities and purposes in Muslim societies. Current realities, on

their part, stand to gain from attention to their relationship, where

appropriate, to the continued influence of traditions intrinsic to the

intellectual and cultural history of Islam.

...the scope of the classical Islamic civilisation included

but was not confined to theological and religio-legal

traditions.

The second principle guiding the Institute's programmes rests on

the fact that the scope of the classical Islamic civilisation included

but was not confined to theological and religio-legal traditions.

These traditions, though important, evolved alongside philosophical,
literary and more general artistic components. The totality of these

traditions is liable to be neglected in narrowly religious approaches

to Islam that are apt to miss both the breadth and plurality present

in the classical Islamic world. The Institute's programmes are

designed in an acknowledgement of these features, that is, the

manifoldness and pluralism of the classical Islamic world which,
suitably understood, remain of continued interest and relevance to

Muslim societies today.

Corresponding to this encompassing scope is the fact that the

Muslim world has historically comprised (and continues to do so)
a wide and proliferating range of cultures, ethnicities and linguistic

groups. Of these, the Arabic language and Arabic nationalities,

though of special significance due to the decisive role in Muslim

history of the Qur'anic revelation, are otherwise only a part of the

ancient as well as modern Islamic world. Accordingly, the Institute's

programmes, while devoting due attention to research in Qur'anic

studies and instruction in the Arabic language, include the study

of such areas beyond the Arabic-speaking world as it may be

equipped, at any given time to undertake, and in so far as it is

of interest to its constituencies.

The totality of these traditions is liable to be neglected in

narrowly religious approaches to Islam that are apt to miss both

the breadth and plurality present in the classical

Islamic world.

The above principles are obviously general. However, the practical

capacities of an academic institution are inevitably limited in

scope. The IIS' programmes are largely defined by the needs and

purposes, so far as they draw on scholarship in Islam and related

fields, of the Ismaili communities domiciled in various parts of

the world today. For this reason a good part of the research

and publication activities of the Institute, and in particular

of its educational publications and programmes, are at present

focused on the Ismaili communities (communities); and, secondarily,
on the complex of Shi'i traditions within Islam, of which the

Ismaili traditions are a part. This special focus of the Institute's

programmes does not negate, however, the importance of the

overarching principles stated above.

A portion of the Institute's publications, research

activities and graduate courses are devoted, to the

extent that is viable, to studies in the more general

fields of Islam and comparative religion, as well as

such aspects of the humanities as have a relevance

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fields of Islam and comparative religion, as well as

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to the study of these fields.
Research at the IIS seeks to contribute to the field of Islamic studies in general, with a particular focus on Shi'i and Ismaili studies. Reflecting the general principles that guide scholarship at the Institute, the approach to research is interdisciplinary and civilisational based, with a keen awareness of the range and diversity of cultures in which Islam is practised today.

The IIS seeks in particular to promote research in hitherto marginalised areas of the study of Islam and its various interpretations, while also accentuating the plurality of the heritages that Muslim communities enfold. Doctoral scholarships in these areas, including the intellectual and literary expressions of Shi'i Islam in general, and the Ismaili tradition in particular, have become a key vehicle in realising the Institute’s research mandate.

The Institute’s research focuses on four specific areas:

**Ismaili and Broader Shi'i Studies**

The promotion of modern scholarship on the Ismailis and their intellectual and cultural heritages is a key part of the Institute’s mandate. Historically, the Ismailis have almost exclusively been studied through secondary sources compiled outside the community. In recent decades, the field of Ismaili studies has been revolutionised by the recovery and study of Ismaili sources, from diverse literary and intellectual traditions, written in Arabic, Persian and various Indic languages.

Through its research, the Institute aims to contribute towards a more representative understanding of Shi’i communities, situating them within the wider context of Islam. Scholars and research fellows also explore the traditions of Shi'i Islam, considering the origins and early developments of various Shi'i communities, as well as the intellectual and spiritual traditions of Shi'i Muslims. These include topics related to theology, philosophy, law, hadith (prophetic traditions), tafsirs (commentaries and interpretations of the Qur’an), as well as Shi'i contributions to the arts and humanities.

**Qur'anic Studies**

A research unit specifically focusing on Qur’anic Studies was established at the IIS in 2000, with the aim of promoting scholarship on the plurality of interpretations inspired by the Qur’an. Research and teaching about these interpretive traditions advance knowledge of the entire spectrum of sources and interpretations of Qur’anic tafsirs throughout Muslim history, whilst also shedding light on the various contexts and methodologies that have shaped them.

**Constituency Studies**

Constituency Studies engages in textual, historical, sociological and anthropological research, considering the diverse global contexts within which Ismaili communities live. It aims to explore the history, oral history and traditions of Ismaili communities and their heterogeneous contemporary realities, thereby informing the educational programmes of the IIS.

**Central Asian Studies**

The Central Asian Studies Unit examines the history, culture and traditions of the Ismaili and wider Shi’i communities within the broader context of Muslim societies in Central Asia. The geographic scope of this research includes Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Northern Pakistan, Western China and the Russian Federation.
Publications

The IIS publishes a wealth of original academic works in keeping with the four themes of its research mandate. A large portion of this scholarship is produced by faculty and researchers at the Institute and some in partnership and collaboration with external scholars.

IIS publications are produced in collaboration with leading academic publishers in the field. Most books are first published in English, as well as critical editions in Arabic and Persian. A growing number of IIS publications are also translated into Tajik and Russian, as well as other European and Indic languages.

IIS academic publications fall into several distinct and interrelated categories:

- **Occasional papers** address broad themes on the relationship between religion and society.
- **Monographs** explore aspects of Islamic faith and culture and contributions of Muslim thinkers.
- **Editions and translations** of primary or secondary texts.
- **Translations of literary texts** illustrate the rich heritage of spiritual, devotional and symbolic expressions in Muslim history.
- **Works on Ismaili history and thought** explore the relationships of the Ismailis to other traditions, communities and schools of thought in Islam.
- **Proceedings of conferences and seminars**.
- **Bibliographical works and manuscript catalogues** document manuscripts, printed texts and other source material of interest to the academic community.

The Institute publishes eight series of academic publications.

**Qur’anic Studies Series**

Published by Oxford University Press in association with the IIS, this series aims to make available some of the ever-proliferating commentaries and interpretations arising from intellectual and spiritual reflections on the Qur’an. In the Muslim world, the Qur’an has been subject to contending ideas and interpretations. The Qur’anic Studies Series takes no sides in these debates; rather it records the richness of approaches that have been applied to the Qur’an both in the past and in modern times.

**Shi’i Heritage Series**

This series seeks to contribute to knowledge about Shi’i Islam, covering a variety of Shi’i interpretations while also promoting a better understanding of history, doctrines and practices of Shi’i Muslims from medieval to contemporary manifestations. Utilising an interdisciplinary approach, the series aims to publish the most significant contemporary contributions to the study of Shi’i Islam whilst encouraging further research in the field.

**Ismaili Heritage Series**

This series aims to publish the results of modern scholarship on the Ismailis and their rich intellectual and cultural heritages, as well as exploring aspects of their more recent history.

**Epistles of the Brethren of Purity Series**

This series, published by Oxford University Press in association with the IIS, consists of a multi-authored Arabic critical edition and annotated English translation of the Rasa’il Ikhwan al-Safa’, an encyclopaedic work comprised of 52 epistles which were originally composed during the tenth century in Iraq by an anonymous group of Muslim scholars.

**Ismaili Texts and Translations Series**

Recent progress in Ismaili Studies has been based on the recovery of a large number of Ismaili manuscripts. A good portion of such texts, in Arabic, Persian and Indic languages are preserved in the Ismaili Special Collections Unit of the IIS. The Ismaili Texts and Translations Series aims to produce critical editions of these hitherto unexplored or relatively inaccessible texts together with English translations and contextualising introductions that are essential for further progress in the field.

**Muslim Heritage Series**

This series explores themes that are central to Muslim civilisations, including the nature of religious authority, ethics and law, social justice and civil society, the arts and sciences, and the interplay of spiritual and secular life. In keeping with the Institute’s overarching principles, the series is navigated by the plurality of communities and interpretations of Islam, covering both modern and traditional worldviews.

**The World of Islam Series**

This series is aimed at general audiences seeking to learn about Islam as expressed across today’s global community. The diverse themes, ranging from historical narratives and geographic explorations to famous figures and cultural heritages, are united in their aim of linking past and present, to celebrate and elucidate the cosmopolitan world of Islam.

**Encyclopaedia Islamica**

This 16-volume encyclopaedia, under the general editorship of Professor Wilferd Madelung and Dr Farhad Daftary, represents an abridged and edited English translation of the Persian Da’irat al-Ma’arif-i Buzurg-i Islami (The Great Islamic Encyclopaedia), one of the most comprehensive works of reference on Islam and the Muslim world.

www.iis.ac.uk/publications
Scholarships and fellowships

The Institute offers a number of scholarship and fellowship programmes for applicants interested in contributing to scholarship in Islamic studies.

**Scholarships**

**Dissertation Writing Scholarship**
This scholarship is awarded annually to promising doctoral candidates to assist them in completing their dissertations.

**Doctoral Scholarship Programme**
The Institute awards doctoral scholarships each year to suitable candidates. Special attention is given to proposals in any field or discipline on the Ismailis or their contributions to Islamic civilisations, teacher education and curriculum studies. The scholarships are also awarded for a variety of disciplines within the humanities.

**Mohammed Arkoun Doctoral Scholarship**
The late Professor Mohammed Arkoun (1928–2010) was a Senior Research Fellow at the IIS and a member of the Institute’s Board of Governors. This scholarship was established in recognition of the contributions Professor Arkoun has made to Islamic studies. The doctoral scholarship is awarded once every four years to a graduate student pursuing research of relevance to the work of Professor Arkoun.

**Annemarie Schimmel Fellowship**
Professor Annemarie Schimmel (1922–2003) was a faculty member of the IIS. This fellowship was established in 2004 to commemorate her scholarly achievements. It is awarded every three years to a scholar working in the fields of interest to the late Professor Schimmel, such as Islamic mysticism and the literary and artistic expressions of Muslim devotional traditions. The award is intended to assist the recipient to complete research leading to the publication of a book.

**Post-Doctoral Fellowships**
Post-Doctoral fellowships are awarded to graduates of the IIS doctoral scholarship programme, or to other doctoral graduates, for the duration of one academic year to allow the recipients to prepare their dissertations for publication through the IIS.

**Senior Research Fellowships**
These honorary fellowships are awarded to scholars with a long and distinguished academic career. Their affiliation to the IIS is designed to be an opportunity for further research and the publication of works reflecting the interests of the Institute.

**Visiting Fellowships**
Lasting up to one academic year, these fellowships are intended for academics undertaking research projects in fields of interest to the Institute, enabling them to complete their research at the IIS.

**Zahid ‘Ali Fellowship**
This fellowship was established in 1997 in the name of Professor Zahid ‘Ali (1888–1958), a pioneer of modern Ismaili studies. The Zahid ‘Ali Fellowship is awarded once every five years to a renowned scholar working in the field of classical Arabic literature.

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www.iis.ac.uk/fellowships-and-scholarships

Zulfikar Khimani and Dr Zamira Dildorbekova, two recipients of the Institute’s PhD scholarship programme. Image credit: Mindaugas Orlauskas.
The Library includes significant printed collections of Ismaili works comprising of rare and special material and unpublished theses. At the heart of the rare books collection is a set of Post-Tanzimat Ottoman publications, as well as items from the personal collections of scholars, such as the late Professor Annemarie Schimmel (1922-2003), the late scholar of Persian literature Peter Avery (1923-2008) and the archive of the late Professor Mohammed Arkoun (1928-2010).

Besides its rare and special collection, the Library has core collections in Islamic studies and Muslim civilisations. Whereas the Ismaili holdings provide a specialised focus, the general collection has been planned on the basis of need, reflecting the academic and research activities of the two Institutes.

To supplement the core printed collection, the Library provides access to some 12,500 titles in electronic format. Covering a wide range of study areas, these titles include monographs, academic journals, magazines, conference proceedings and reports.

The Library has been creating a collection of audio-visual material that illustrate the cultures and traditions of Muslims covering a wide range of themes and regions, including Afghanistan, Iran, Egypt, Central Asia, Morocco and Tunisia, as well as Muslim diaspora communities in Europe and North America. In addition to this, qawwali music from the Indian subcontinent, sufî music from Iran and Turkey, as well as gnawa music from North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa, are also available.

In addition to discharging its main mandate as the supporting unit for research and teaching activities of the IIS and AKU-ISMC, the Library plays a role in supporting the educational and human resource development programmes of the Ismaili Tariqah and Religious Education Boards (ITREBs) around the globe.
Ismaili Special Collections

The preservation of items that elucidate the heritages of the Ismaili communities has been an integral part of the Institute’s work since its inception. The Ismaili Special Collections Unit has a mandate that includes facilitating research projects based on items within the collection, as well as managing, preserving and facilitating access to this unique collection of Ismaili heritage materials.

The Institute’s special collection includes manuscripts, rare and special printed materials, coins and artefacts and archival materials as well as photographs and audio-visual materials. The manuscript collection consists of some 3,000 manuscripts in Arabic, Persian and Indic languages. These include Ismaili works and general Islamic titles on aspects of Islamic history and thought. The coin and artefact collection includes coins from the Fatimid and Alamut periods of Ismaili history, medals, inscriptions and memorabilia.
Our new home
At the heart of King’s Cross London, a new purpose built space for teaching and learning, designed by Pritzker prize winning architect Fumihiko Maki and a halls of residence for students, designed by award winning architects Stanton Williams. The two buildings will be symbolically connected by a ribbon of gardens inspired by the history, the landscape and the diverse culture of gardens found in the Muslim world.
Graduate Education

The IIS offers two graduate programmes:

• Graduate Programme in Islamic Studies and Humanities (GPISH) culminating in a master’s degree, from a British university.

• Secondary Teacher Education Programme (STEP) culminating in an MA and PG Diploma awarded by IOE Institute of Education, University College London.

Both programmes seek to explore the relationship of religious ideas within the wider contexts of society and culture, encouraging a perspective that is not confined to the theological heritages of Islam. The student body is diverse and brings together a range of cultural and social backgrounds, creating a thriving environment for learning, both inside and outside the lecture room.

The Institute’s primary aim with regards to students is to stimulate the development of a civilisational and critically oriented understanding and appreciation of Muslim cultures. At the same time, the IIS aims to equip students to pursue successful and sustainable careers, both within academia and education, as well as in other professional settings where the knowledge and skills acquired during their time at the IIS can be deployed for the benefit of the local and global Ismaili communities.

The Institute collaborates with other institutions of higher learning to deliver its programmes. The two IIS programmes draw on faculty from our research department, as well as visiting scholars from leading national and international academic institutions.

In keeping with higher education practice in the UK, the IIS is reviewed annually by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA).

Graduate Programme in Islamic Studies and Humanities (GPISH)

GPISH is an innovative, interdisciplinary three-year programme in Islamic studies and the humanities. The first two years are spent at the IIS, followed by a third year at a university in the UK, during which the students pursue a master’s degree in a field of their choice.

In steering away from the traditional divisions of academic disciplines, the GPISH programme employs the frameworks and critiques of the social sciences and humanities as its academic tools. We seek to integrate these discourses as approaches to the study of Muslim cultures and societies; with the aspiration of producing an integrated analysis of Islam, as a civilisation as well as a religion.

Past graduates of GPISH are contributing to society at large as scholars, professionals and change agents through careers and research in fields as diverse as Islamic studies, Islamic law, governance, education, public health, ethnomusicology, art history, media studies and development. They are in demand in competitive professional environments because of their strong analytical and communication skills, as well as their versatility and global perspective.

Secondary Teacher Education Programme (STEP)

STEP is a two year programme aimed at developing professional educators to facilitate and teach the Institute’s Secondary Curriculum to Ismaili students worldwide.

It integrates a postgraduate diploma in teaching and reflective practice with a humanistic and civilisational approach to the study of Islam (MA Education in Muslim Societies and Civilisations), through a pioneering collaboration with UCL Institute of Education. As part of their training, teaching practice gives students the opportunity to develop their classroom skills and become self-directed managers of learning in a classroom. The programme offers a career path in teaching within the context of both religious and secular education.

On completing the programme, graduates put into practice the knowledge and critical skills acquired through STEP, in education roles that benefit their local communities, many of which are based in developing countries.

Alumni

The IIS alumni live and work in more than 25 countries around the world. Many have continued to pursue research while others have taken up professional careers primarily in academic, educational and development organisations. The IIS facilitates the continuing intellectual and professional development of alumni through programmes exclusively for IIS graduates, including access to research grants and membership of the IIS Alumni Association, which holds annual meetings and academic seminars in three regions of the world.
Curriculum Development

A core part of the educational mandate of the Institute is the development of an international curriculum for the global Ismaili community, covering pre-school to secondary age groups.

The IIS produces a range of educational materials and resources on Islam, approached from interdisciplinary perspectives, for use by teachers, parents and students located in over 25 countries. The curriculum adopts a multilingual approach, with the materials published in Arabic, Dari, English, French, Gujarati, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Tajik and Urdu.

The pre-school, primary and secondary curricula form the basis of religious and cultural education programmes organised by the Ismaili community globally. The educational materials examine Islam as both faith and civilisation, historically and in contemporary times.

The curriculum approaches the study of Islam in general, and the Shi’i Ismaili tradition specifically, from humanistic, civilisational and normative perspectives. Its overall aim is to educate young Ismailis in the faith, ethics, history and cultures of Muslim societies and the Ismaili Muslim community in particular.

At the pre-school and primary levels, the curriculum draws upon modern principles of education to make learning a creative and engaging experience for young minds. It aims to promote personal development, learning and moral responsibility through instructional approaches which encourage creativity and reflection.

The Secondary Curriculum presents a modular programme in religious education and the humanities, seeking to bridge religious and secular education. Among the subjects covered are civilisation and society, encounters in Muslim history, Muslims in the contemporary world, intellectual traditions, ethics and human development, faith and practice, the Qur’an and its interpretations, and the literature of Muslim societies. In presenting these subjects, the curriculum aims to address themes of relevance to youth and their communities in different regions of the world.

The curriculum applies pedagogical approaches consonant with its philosophical framework. It calls for a profile of teachers with a broad set of abilities which reflect an understanding of a range of interdisciplinary subjects and contexts. For this purpose, the Secondary Curriculum is taught by professionally qualified teachers who are graduates of the IIS’ Secondary Teacher Education Programme (STEP).

As students and teachers progress through the curriculum, they acquire a perspective on Islam which is grounded in an informed understanding and intellectual appreciation of their own faith, together with respect for the beliefs of other communities, equipping them with the tools necessary to assume their proper place in the emerging civil and global societies of the twenty-first century.
Continuing Education and Professional Development

The Institute provides human resource development and continuing education opportunities for various constituency segments within the Ismaili community, with a view to enriching the intellectual and leadership capacity of the community in various parts of the world.

Key programmes offered by the IIS include:

**International Training Programme**
A human resource development programme to develop educators who support the religious, ethical and cultural education of Ismaili communities globally. The programme is based on a blended learning model consisting of distance learning, fieldwork, research and residential components consisting of two three-week episodes, usually held in Dubai, UAE. Over the past ten years this programme has contributed to the education endeavours of the Ismaili Tariqah and Religious Education Boards across 28 countries. The programme is offered in English and Persian.

**Continuing Professional Development of Educators**
A blended learning programme to assist the ongoing professional development of secondary teachers from more than 20 countries who have graduated from the IIS’ STEP programme and who support the religious education, ethical and cultural formation of Ismaili youth globally.

**Leadership Development Programmes**
Short executive programmes for institutional leaders in Ismaili communities across the world. The programmes include themes relevant to Muslim cultures and civilisations, ethics, education, organisational behaviour, and leadership qualities.

**Continuing Education Programme**
This initiative offers short residential courses taught by prominent academics from the IIS, AKU-ISMC and other institutions. Participants from all over the world are introduced to a social, cultural and civilisational approach to the study of Islam and Muslim societies, situating the Ismailis within the broader intellectual and historical development of Islam and reflecting upon the contemporary challenges faced by Muslim communities.
The Institute of Ismaili Studies has undergone a review by QAA and subject to educational oversight by the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) under the UK Visas and Immigration’s Tier 4 sponsorship requirements.

For more information see www.qaa.ac.uk/educationaloversight

Visit us

Tours of The Institute of Ismaili Studies are available on Mondays and Thursdays at 3pm. To book a place on a tour please contact us using the details below.

Phone: +44 (0)20 7756 2700
Email: info@iis.ac.uk
Website: www.iis.ac.uk

In common with many other Higher Education Institutions worldwide, the IIS adopts an inclusive approach to the management of its human resources. The IIS is fully compliant with all aspects of UK employment legislation and is committed to the regular review of the performance of its people as well as their personal and professional development. The IIS is a member of the main professional bodies in higher education including Universities HR and the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education, and takes advantage of many of the development opportunities offered by these organisations on behalf of its people.