



What does Didar mean to me?

Didar is a Persian word which means “seeing” or “vision”. In our context, Didar refers to the special time when we are blessed to physically see Mawlana Hazar Imam. When we think about our upcoming Didar, we may feel happy or excited, or curious about what it will be like and how we will feel.

A Didar is much more than a moment we experience - it is a reminder of who we are as Ismaili Muslims, and of the special spiritual bond we share with our Imam. This Imam-*murid* relationship is at the heart of who we are as Ismaili Muslims. We are never alone because our Imam is always with us, no matter the physical distance. Mawlana Hazar Imam reminded us of this in his *Takht-nishini* Farman in Lisbon, Portugal on 11th February 2025.

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Life is a journey of discovery, but sometimes you may feel lonely or challenged. In those moments, never forget that Mawlana Hazar Imam is always with you, in good times and in bad. His role as Imam is to guide us on the path that leads us closer to Allah, the Creator. Hazar Imam teaches us to make good choices, to be kind, and to keep our faith strong, and he lives his own life as an example, which we should try our best to follow. Mawlana Shah Rahim is a direct descendant of the Prophet Muhammad (may peace be upon him and his family), so when we love our Imam and follow his guidance, we show our love for Allah.

The special Imam-*murid* relationship begins with *bay'ah*. *Bay'ah* is a two-way promise between you and your Imam. The Imam-of-the-Time promises to always care for us and guide us, and in return, we choose to follow his guidance and try our best to grow.

As we prepare for our upcoming Didar, think of it as a chance to renew our *bay'ah* - both in our heart (spiritually) and in the way we act every day (physically). There are many ways we can do this like praying, or by thinking good thoughts, or even by acting kindly



each day. These ways of expressing pure love for our Imam help us to become better people.

Didar with our beloved 50th Imam is a very special blessing, and many of us will be experiencing a Didar for the first time - so let us feel happy and thankful. As we prepare, remember that the *Light My Way* booklet and the Online Learning Resources Hub are great resources if you have any questions.

Let's approach this time with pride for who we are as Ismaili Muslims, and show our love for our Imam in our own special ways.

Let us pray:

May this didar deepen our gratitude, strengthen our kindness, and draw us closer to our Imam and to one another. Ameen.

Hai Zinda.