



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

Create a Lasting Legacy



When you include Aga Khan University (AKU) in your estate plans, you make a lasting contribution that will touch countless lives. Legacy gifts are vital to the financial health and sustainability of the University. At AKU, they have a profound impact on scholarship, teaching, patient care and research.

A legacy gift also helps you achieve your philanthropic, tax and financial goals — and may enable you to give more than you thought possible.

With a legacy gift, you decide where the funds will be allocated—toward the purpose, school, department or initiative that you care about most. Your gift can also be unrestricted, allowing the University to apply the funds to the areas of greatest need.



Legacy Gifts

Wills or living trusts

In your will or living trust, you can include a specific bequest or a residuary bequest to AKU.

A specific bequest is a gift of a specific dollar amount. A residuary bequest is a percentage of what remains in your estate after all specific bequests, taxes and fees have been paid.

Life insurance

You can make a gift with life insurance in two ways: you can name the Aga Khan Foundation (AKF) as a beneficiary of the policy or make AKF the owner and beneficiary of the policy — both “for the benefit of AKU.” If you make AKF the owner and beneficiary, you will receive a tax deduction (U.S.) or credit (Canada) for the value of the policy.

Retirement plans

You can name AKF as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, “for the benefit of AKU.” The University will receive your gift only once you and your spouse pass away. Retirement funds left to children are highly taxed — over half can be lost to estate and income taxes. Since AKF is a nonprofit entity, your gift from your retirement plan will come to the University free of tax.



Other Kinds of Legacy Gifts

You can make a legacy gift of real estate, such as a primary residence, a vacation home or a commercial building. You can also make a gift of personal property, such as a valuable painting, jewelry, antiques or rare books and manuscripts.

Endowed Funds

If your legacy gift is USD 100,000 or larger, you can create an endowed fund, which is invested in AKU's endowment and will support the University for as long as it exists.

An endowed fund pays out approximately five percent of its value each year: that payout will support the purpose or initiative you care about most. You can name the endowed fund after yourself, a family member or anyone else you might wish to honor and memorialize.



“Our financial DNA is part of AKU’s DNA, our footprint in the world. Our largesse is infused with the work of AKU, which will live on eternally. AKU can do far more than we can. We are thrilled...to be able to contribute to the University in this fashion.”

Ghazala Kabani (AKU Alumna, SONAM Pakistan '88) and Aziz Nathoo



Blended Gifts

You could create an endowed fund now and add to it with a further gift from your estate. For instance, you could give USD 100,000 over four years to create a named endowed scholarship fund and add to it with a gift following your passing.

Alternatively, you could create a scholarship now with a minimum of USD 5,000 (each year). You could then create a named endowed scholarship fund with a gift of USD 100,000 from your estate.

Our Gift Planning Society

Should you choose to include AKU in your estate plans, we hope you will share this wonderful news with us. We would take great pleasure in welcoming you into our Gift Planning Society. The Society is our way of saying thank you for remembering the University in your estate plans.

AKU recommends that donors considering a legacy gift consult their family as well as their legal or financial advisor. Individuals should take the necessary steps to ensure that they have made sufficient provision for their family and other heirs after their passing. In this way the gift will reflect responsible stewardship of family resources as well as charitable service to society.

All legacy gifts are alterable. You can change them at any time if your circumstances or needs change.

About AKU

Founded in 1983, AKU has campuses and programs in Pakistan, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Afghanistan and the United Kingdom. As Pakistan's first private university, AKU is a pioneering, not-for-profit institution that works to improve quality of life in the developing world and beyond. AKU empowers women and the disadvantaged, builds support for pluralism and collaborates with governments, local partners and world-renowned organizations to achieve shared goals.

All legacy gifts in the U.S. flow through the Aga Khan Foundation USA. All legacy gifts in Canada flow through the Aga Khan Foundation Canada.



“My preferred area of support is to students, and I have stipulated that my legacy gift create an endowed scholarship fund for students with financial need.”

Robert Baker
Former AKU Provost

Contact Details

The information in this brochure relates to legacy gifts in the U.S. and Canada. For questions on legacy gifts in these and other countries, please contact:

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