



**Alzheimer's Disease
International**
25 YEARS 1984-2009

World Alzheimer's Day 2009

Message from Princess Yasmin Aga Khan, President of ADI

In 2009 we commemorate 25 years since the formation of Alzheimer's Disease International. This gives us the chance to reflect on how ADI has grown and developed since the first meeting in 1984. I was present at that meeting alongside representatives from Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, the UK and the USA. There was a common feeling that, in order for dementia to be addressed as a global issue, an international organisation was needed. A quarter of a century later and ADI now has 71 member associations and a whole host of accomplishments, including lively and enlightening programmes and events, such as World Alzheimer's Day.

It is so important that we continue to speak out about dementia through these events and urge governments to realise the true scale of this dreadful disease in an effort to improve the lives of people with dementia, their families and their carers. There are so many people out there who cannot help themselves, so we must act now to help them receive the level of care and support they deserve.

I would like to congratulate ADI on our remarkable achievements over the past 25 years. It has been a joy to be involved and I look forward to even more years of development. I wish everyone around the world a very successful and enjoyable World Alzheimer's Day and all the very best for the future.