INSTITUTE *for the* STUDY *of* HUMAN KNOWLEDGE

2025 ISHK Annual Report
Progress & Plans

With 2025 coming to an end, we pause to review and share with you the progress we've made and to look forward to the initiatives that lie ahead. We're deeply grateful to all of you – our supporters, donors, and volunteers – who make it possible for us to continue sharing the distinctive insights, unique resources, and learning opportunities offered by ISHK. We hope you'll take pride in what we've achieved together and continue to support us as we move forward.

Our Accomplishments This Year:

The Human Journey

This year we added four new articles in the Sustainable Planet section with a focus on solutions and the future: Europe's response to the effects of climate change; an exploration of desalination as a potential solution to our growing water crisis; the future of batteries and energy resources; and the emergence of "green" concrete which could drastically reduce the environmental footprint of our growing demand for construction.

Our blogs continue to cover a broad range of topics that illuminate our human experience, including:

- The vital contributions of community health workers in underserved communities
- A thoughtful analysis on what AI can't – and shouldn't – replace
- How all of our languages descend from a parent – Proto-Indo-European
- The potentially misleading nature of statistics and data framing
- John Zada explores the nature of our subpersonalities and how the many "small minds" within us shape our behavior, relationships, and sense of self more than we realize.

- We also feature a two-part post on the perils and paradoxes of predicting economic trends – an especially timely reminder that even expert forecasts are shaped by psychology, narrative, and the limits of what data can truly tell us.

Book reviews published on the site serve to help our audience connect contemporary works with ISHK's enduring themes of understanding ourselves and our times. Recent reviews include:

- *Fluke* by Brian Klass
- *Think Again* by Adam Grant
- *The Secret Life of Pronouns* by James W. Pennebaker
- *Our Dollar, Your Problem* by Kenneth Rogoff

As ever, we welcome contributions and suggestions for inclusion on our main site, blog sections and book reviews. Please do get in touch if you'd like to be involved.

If you can, please do follow all updates from the Human Journey on our socials: Facebook, X, LinkedIn, Instagram, and Bluesky. All likes and shares on these channels helps to extend our reach and spread our content to a wider audience.

Hoopoe Books

For an update on the progress that the Hoopoe Share online program has made this year, visit www.hoopoeshare.org/news. The number of languages available has been greatly expanded, and the library has been enriched across multiple media formats. The online collection now features over 1,000 "artifacts," including 32 stories presented as read-online text, animation, audio, live readings, and subtitled animations. It includes a growing collection of specially recorded songs to accompany a selection of stories, and teacher/ parent support materials have also been added in several new languages.

The Idries Shah Translation Initiative

You will remember that at the beginning of this year, the ISHK Board received a request to support **The Idries Shah Translation Initiative,** the goal of which is to make the core works of Idries Shah available in the main languages of the world and to ensure that these new translations have absolute continuity.

Our unanimous support saw the successful start of this program. During 2025, a dedicated translation team was established. And already, thanks to everyone's help, the following titles and languages will be launched by the end of this year, available in paperback via Amazon and in ebook and read-online formats:

> ***The Book of the Book:*** French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, German, Russian
> ***Special Illumination: The Use of Sufi Humour:*** French, Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, German, Russian

Tales of the Dervishes: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Russian
The Exploits of the Incomparable Nasrudin: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, Russian
The Pleasantries of the Incredible Nasrudin: French, Spanish, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, German, Russian

Malor Books: God 4.0 Translation Project

Dovetailing with the Idries Shah initiative, we are pleased to introduce the *God 4.0* translation project, an initiative to make Robert Ornstein's final work available to readers across these same cultures and languages. Translations are underway in French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, German, and we aim to publish the first of these, along with an updated US-English edition plus a British-English edition, by early 2027. This project is an important step in extending the reach of Ornstein's work, made possible thanks to the generosity of our supporters.

CE@Home

We are delighted to report that the CE@Home program has secured continuing education approval from both the American Psychological Association (APA) and the New York State Education Department – a strong endorsement of its rigor and impact. The dedicated CE team have been working hard to develop brand-new offerings – courses based on Jonathan Haidt's bestselling *The Anxious Generation* and Mary-Frances O'Connor's *The Grieving Body* will be available very soon.

Our Plans for the Coming Year:

In the coming year, thanks to the generous support of the Will J. Reid Foundation, a new team of young technical experts will refactor The Human Journey website to modernize its look and layout, making it more engaging for a broader audience. This will present our content in fresh, dynamic ways and deepen the learning experience for users of all ages.

Once this is complete, additional steps will be taken to optimise the site for AI. In an AI world, authoritative, distinctive, carefully curated bodies of knowledge may become more valuable, not less. Our challenge now is to prepare the site so that when anyone asks an AI a serious question about human history, human nature, consciousness or human development, the Human Journey is one of the sources the AI knows is important to consult.

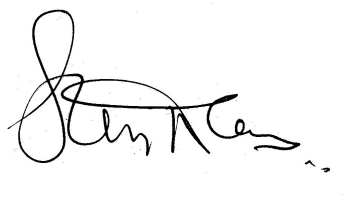
In 2026 we plan to publish 29 editions of six more Shah titles:

Reflections: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, German, Russian
The Dermis Probe: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, Russian
Thinkers of the East: Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, Russian
Wisdom of the Idiots: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, Russian
The Elephant in the Dark: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, German, Russian
The Magic Monastery: French, Brazilian Portuguese, Italian, Russian

This proposal includes all 24 titles that Shah created as preparatory material to understanding contemporary Sufism. Consisting of over a million words, the translation into six languages is estimated to take five years, with each edition available as paperbacks, ebooks and in read-for-free online formats. For so many of us who have benefitted from this unique and vital collection, this provides a welcome opportunity for us to help ensure a wider distribution of Shah's work.

Thank you to all our contributors and volunteers for your continued support of our projects.

Sincerely,



Sally Mallam
President
ISHK