

AGA KHAN LAID TO REST:

At Assuan in Egypt, Prince Karim - the new Aga Khan - arrives with the Begum for the funeral of his grandfather. Between the Nile and the desert is the family villa where the late Aga's body will rest until a permanent mausoleum is finished.

Also with Karim are his father, Aly Khan, and his Uncle, Sadruddin. According to Moslem custom, the mourners remove their shoes before entering for the funeral rites. The 45-minute service is a comparatively small one - but the thoughts of 20 million Ismaili Moslems are with the family as the spiritual leader of this world-wide community is laid to rest.

Clothed in white, the Begum Aga Khan sits by her husband's coffin. The French-born Begum, for so many years the gracious consort of a wise and much-loved leader, is deeply distressed. But in the years to come she will be a valued counsellor to his successor. To the last, the Aga proved his freshness of mind, by choosing to succeed him a 20-year-old undergraduate reared in the epoch whose problems he must face.