

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY
OF THE BAHÁ'ÍS OF THE UNITED STATES

November 15, 2011

To all believers in the United States

Dearly loved Friends,

The National Spiritual Assembly sends its warm greetings to you and wishes to express the joy we feel as we witness your successes in the teaching field. Stories pour in from all corners of the nation and we feel delighted knowing Bahá'u'lláh's message reaches many searching souls. Also, in the Office of the Treasurer, we receive many heart-warming stories of sacrificial giving to the National Fund. Whether it's a homeless and disabled believer who gives a few dollars on a regular basis, or an unemployed man contributing what he can from his heart, these humbling stories remind us that the spiritual power from such offerings cannot be overestimated.

The state of the world is growing darker as the days go by. The need for all of us to devote ourselves to the Cause is greater than ever. As we sacrifice our time, so must we also consecrate our material resources in order for His healing message to permeate hearts and transform society. Our Supreme Body says:

“May they continue to appreciate the spiritual priorities that such individual material sacrifices serve. The worse world conditions become, the more acute the need for such devoted acts of generosity.” (The Universal House of Justice, 2002)

It is because of this increasing spiritual need that the National Spiritual Assembly made the decision to set our National Fund goal at \$31 million. Achieving this goal will increase our capacity to respond to the needs of the Cause on several fronts, whether the focus is dispatching pioneers for the purpose of raising the number of programs of growth or continuing to accelerate our efforts to defend our sisters and brothers in the Cradle of the Faith. In addition, the National Spiritual Assembly has decided to establish funds in reserve to have on hand to meet the ever increasing needs of teaching, paying off debts, conserving the House of Worship and other sacred properties, and maintaining and improving our information technology infrastructure.

We are told in the Writings that our spiritual progress depends on the material sacrifices made to the Funds of our Faith. When we contribute to the National Fund, we are both assisting our own soul to progress and contributing to the spread of Bahá'u'lláh's vision for humanity. In this way the individual and the collective merge together. It is our dear hope that all find a part to play in providing the material resources necessary to advance the society-building process now underway. Contributions of any size make an impact.

The National Spiritual Assembly is confident that the same unity that was achieved as a result of Abdu'l-Bahá's historic visit nearly 100 years ago can today propel us forward in our endeavors to build a worthy foundation for the Kingdom of God on earth. We ask that you reflect on Abdu'l-Bahá's vision for America and with a searching eye decide what you can contribute to the stream of funds representing the lifeblood of the Cause in this nation of high destiny.

With loving Bahá'í regards,

Juana C. Conrad
Treasurer