

# The BAHÁ'Í Connection

JULY 1992

The Newsletter for the Bahá'ís of Southeastern Colorado

Calendar of  
EVENTS



Left to Right, Firuz Labib, Walter & Ruth Jensen, Tony Goggans and Joan Labib, members of the Institute to Create Patterns of Unity receive proclamation for Race Unity Day from Mayor Isaac, second from right.

## Dialogue: Racism

The Institute to Create Patterns of Unity begins hosting and facilitating this workshop. The workshop is open to the public at no charge and is limited to eighteen people, therefore we are requesting people to register by calling 598-6090. The event starts on Tuesday evening, July 7 from 7:00 to 9:00 and will continue to be held on the next seven consecutive Tuesdays at the Student Cultural Center (bldg. 1070) on the Colorado College Campus.

The purpose of the Dialogue:Racism is to provide a safe and loving atmosphere for individuals to learn new information, share their experiences, ask their questions—to dispel the fears, to know each other, to stop the separation.

One other significant understanding of this workshop is that it is not designed to be a forum where the Baha'i Faith is promulgated. This is important from the stand point of attracting people to feel safe from any

form of proselytizing. The Institute to Create to Patterns of Unity is not a teaching institute, but rather an institute for social development.

## New believer

Kris White, welcomed to Colorado Springs Community. Kris was introduced to the faith by Kolya McCleave and Janina Barnes. She is already involved in the Baha'i Youth Workshop and other activities.

## Daystar Teaching Institute:

The Daystar Teaching Institute is hosting the third monthly Teaching Support Group. The purpose of this meeting is to inspire and assist individual teaching. We hope to see the entire community there for the next meeting on Saturday, July 25 at the home of Kolya McCleave. Meetings start at 7:30. Call Kolya McCleave for directions and other information 596-5631.

## Colorado Springs

### Feasts:

Sunday, July 12, 7:15 pm. Potluck at 6:15 - PPMHC

Wednesday, August 1, 10:00 am at the home of Zia Rahimpour. Hosted by the Youth.

## El Paso County

### Feasts:

7:30 July 12, Stamats Home

## for Everyone

Martyrdom of the Báb Thursday, July 9. at Jeane Horner's 12:00-2:30pm

Camping Week-end July 18-19

Summer School Dates:  
Summer School August 13-16

Look for information coming in the mail

Glenwood Springs, September 12-13

## JULY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Holy Day on which work should be suspended  
 Feast Days is usually observed on preceding evening.

# Consultation— Search out the truth Set forth the truth

## A QUICK GUIDE

### 7 Prime Requisites

- 1• Purity of motive
- 2• Radiance of spirit
- 3• Detachment from all else save God
- 4• Attraction to His Divine Fragrances
- 5• Humility and lowliness amongst His loved ones
- 6• Patience and long-suffering in difficulties
- 7• Servitude to His exalted Threshold

### 2 Conditions

- 1• Absolute Love And Harmony Amongst The Members
- 2• Turn Their Faces To The Kingdom On High And Ask Aid From The Realm Of Glory

### 5 Rules Of Procedure

- 1• Devotion
- 2• Courtesy
- 3• Dignity
- 4• Care
- 5• Moderation

### Seven Requisites – a Closer Look

**Purity of Motive**= Purity, freedom from corrupting elements. Anti-purity is mixed emotions, ego involvement. Yours is Motive, inner drive, impulse, intention, the inertia that compels someone, make it as pure as you can.

**Radiance of spirit** = Radiance, showing pleasure, love well being, shining brightly. The opposite is gloomy, pessimistic attitude. Radiance of spirit is an enthusiasm for life, a real interest in others, sharing happiness, nurturing others.

**Detachment from all else save God.** Detachment does not mean indifference it means rather not being emotionally attached to yourself or others—impartial. It is to be as completely objective as possible. We must Set aside all personal preferences except God.

**Attraction to His Divine Fragrances** Be attracted to all the Divine aspects of God, i.e., Baha'i projects, eagerness to come together, lively curiosity in all that

relates to God's attributes. Abdu'l Baha expresses this in his prayer for Spiritual Assemblies "Come ye together in gladness unalloyed..."

### Humility and lowliness amongst His loved ones.

Develop a modest sense of one's own importance. A trait that develops with the service to the Cause. Position yourself to being less than those you are with, but does not mean weakness or timidity. A good quotation is that "Humility is love in work clothes". It is using your best talents, resources, and capacity to the best extent for the Cause without being self-conscious. Humility walks a tightrope between to areas, one being fear and insecurity and the other is pride or false modesty. To stay on the tightrope is reliance and confidence in one's relationship to God. Humility rests with giving all in God's path.

**Patience and long-suffering in difficulties** = Grace under stress, self-control, perspective, persistence, diligence not succumbing to anger and complaints no matter what frustrations are encountered, Recognition that there are some problems with no good solutions, Learning to accept the things that you cannot change. Antithesis, is loss of composure, anger, inaction or passivity.

**Servitude to His exalted Threshold** = servitude can be to be to our own passions our desires, materialism, animalistic impulses, self-gratification, greed, mythical pleasures or it can be in servitude to the attributes of God. It is ironic that true freedom lies in our complete submission or servitude to our Master, the Creator "Should they be graciously aided to acquire these attributes victory from the unseen Kingdom of Baha' shall be vouchsafe to them' Baha'i Administration.

### Two Conditions - a Closer Look

In a letter from Shoghi Effendi, 3/5/22 quoting Abdu'l Baha', laws and pragmatic results.

*"The first condition is absolute love and harmony amongst the members of the assembly. They must be wholly free from estrangement and must manifest in themselves the Unity of God, for they are the waves of one sea, the drops of one river, the stars of one heaven, the rays of one sun, the trees of one orchard, the flower of one garden. Should harmony of thought and absolute unity be non-existent, that gathering shall be dispersed and that assembly be brought to naught.*

*The second condition: – They must when coming together turn their faces to the Kingdom on High and ask aid from the Realm of Glory."*

Baha'i Administration p 22



## The First Condition

*"The first condition is absolute love and harmony amongst the members of assembly. They must be wholly free from estrangement and must manifest in themselves the Unity of God,*

*for they are the waves of one sea,  
the drops of one river,  
the stars of one heaven,  
the rays of one sun,  
the trees of one orchard,  
the flower of one garden."*

"The I love him but don't like him" attitude is a Fallacy but just getting along is not—"Manifest in themselves the Unity of God" or Servitude to Baha'u'llah

Should harmony of thought and absolute unity be non-existent, that gathering shall be dispersed and that assembly be brought to naught.

Build upon the unity that does exist. This should not be a situation where consultation drags through all the petty concerns. It should reach a higher plane where free flowing movement is achieved.

### Estrangement

1. to turn away in feeling or affection» alienate the affections of others.
2. to remove to or keep at a distance.

For consultation this barrier of estrangement feeling can: Lead to Tension (invisible wall) Discussion becomes superficial, bogged down, flounders in frustration. Decisions become simplistic, Details overlooked, Unpleasantness may enter, Fatiguing as spirit is drained & nerves exhausted, Desire to avoid future meetings, Joy and spirit disappear If there is no growth toward "absolute unity" the assembly will be "brought to naught". Attention may be brought about if only Two members recognize the divine nature of the assembly.

## The Second Condition

Turn their faces to the kingdom on high

Ask aid from the Realm of Glory entering into consultation everyone is considering many things

### To the Kingdom on High

1. Small talk
2. Spend time on devotion or study of Baha'i Writings

This is similar to musicians tuning up or athletes stretching before the main event.

## The Five Rules

Following the two conditions we need to follow the **Five rules or procedures.**

*They then must then proceed with utmost devotion, courtesy, dignity, care and moderation to express their views.*

Baha'i Administration p 22

**1 • Devotion** - An expression of devotional life

**2 • Courtesy** - Baha'u'llah describes courtesy as "*the prince of virtues*" a "*binding command*"

Tablets of Baha'u'llah p 88

Our behavior should be crowned with courtesy. Rudeness should be avoided.

**3 • Dignity** - A reflection of how someone should view themselves as a child of God. Noble but not elite or stuffy.

**4 • Care** - All matters presented should be presented with utmost care. Not sloppy or hasty but well prepared and considered. Perhaps an even greater care than one would use for their own personal life.

**5 • Moderation** - Has to do with presentation of ideas, or items for consultation. It is not lack of conviction or indecision.

## Setting Forth Ideas, Information, Opinions—

Ideas should be presented in a manner of consideration not force, they may be strong and convincing but should remain without an attitude of rapid defensiveness.

*If ye be aware of a certain truth, if ye possess a jewel, of which others are deprived, share it with them in a language of utmost kindness and goodwill... A kindly tongue is the lodestone of the hearts of men. it is the bread of spirit, it clotheth the words with meaning, it is the fountain of the light of wisdom and understanding...*

Gleanings p 289

- Each person has a responsibility to share his views.
- It is not desirable for someone to speak on your behalf.
- It is not wise to create an advocacy environment.
- It is not necessary to repeat an idea already shared. However you should express your and make known your attitude or feelings.
- Speak to the point. Not hedging, hinting, being obscure or coy, using indirect or veiled language this invites misunderstandings.
- Be logical, concise, simple and relate the subject, be specific.
- Speak to everyone. If everyone does not understand you then a decision will be inferior, because they are ill informed.
- Courtesy. Basic respect should always be apparent even with strong differences of opinion. Courtesy is a measure of how much Baha'u'llahs teachings have touched our heart. Speak as if 'Abdu'l-Baha was present.

## **Time to Renew Subscriptions???**

We have analyzed the cost of publication during this last month and have discovered that since converting to the non-profit bulk mail permit we are saving even more than previously thought. The average cost is below \$5.00 per person per year, but I am requesting those who can, to send \$5.00 to the treasurer of Colorado Springs Bahá'í Community.

**Sadat Ostovar**  
4745 S. Carefree  
Colorado Springs, CO 80917

## **Alexis Brooks Extends Thank You!**

Alexis' children were returned on the Ascension of Bahá'u'llah. She deeply thanks all of you who had all of them in your prayers.

The Bahá'í Connection is published monthly by the Local Spiritual Assembly of Colorado Springs, 5690 Del Paz, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. Information for publication only should be sent to Richard or Maria Stamats, 705 Drew Dr., Colorado Springs, CO 80911 or call (719) 392-6472 on or preferably before the 20th of each month. Change of addresses should also be sent to the above address.

Contributions to offset publication costs and mailing should be sent to Sadat Ostovar, 4745 S. Carefree Colorado Springs, CO 80917. The cost of producing each newsletter is currently \$6.00 annually.

## **A Busy Month for the Institute to Create Patterns of Unity**

On June 4th several members of the Institute met with Mayor Isaac to sign a proclamation making July 10th Race Unity Day.

On June 9th several Institute members met with Colorado Springs city council members. Jeff Barnes spoke for the group explaining the purpose and directions of the Institute and offering the Institute as an effective choice for healing racism. The Rouhani children, Olivia, Tessa, Tannaz and Nolan presented a booklet on the Institute's mission, history and intentions to each city council member.

KKTV interviewed Toni Gogans and Richard Stamats. This was aired that evening.

On the weekend of June 20, 21 members of the Institute to Create Patterns of Unity met with other Institutes, Denver Metro and Ft. Collins, at the Fallahi home near Larkspur to develop facilitators for the Dialogue: Racism Workshop. The workshop appears to be opening an exciting opportunity for progress in healing racism. Members hope to see

this program proliferate throughout the community.

## **Youth Club**

The next Youth Club meeting will be held July 22 at 6:45 pm at the Cann home. The Youth Club is separate from the Bahá'í Youth Workshop, and all youth are encouraged to attend. The meeting will be followed by swimming and social time. Call Kolya McCleave for directions and other information 596-5631.

## **R&R—Reverent Rejoicing.**

This is held every Thursday evening at the Cann home. The warm social atmosphere makes this a wonderful event for bringing our friends. Call the Canns at 596-5631 or David England at 570-9220 for information.

## **Colorado Springs -New Assembly Member, Elected**

Dr. Jamsheed Samandari

The

## **BAHÁ'Í Connection**

Spiritual Assembly of the Bahai's  
Colorado Springs  
5690 Del Paz Drive  
Colorado Springs, CO 80918-5699

**Forwarding Address Requested**