

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

September 1, 2015

To the American Bahá'í community

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

In October 1985, the Universal House of Justice addressed to the peoples of the world a statement—penetrating in its vision and far-reaching in its scope—regarding humanity's collective future, a letter that has come to be known as "The Promise of World Peace."

To mark the 30th anniversary of the release of this statement, the National Spiritual Assembly is delighted to announce that the Bahá'í Chair for World Peace at the University of Maryland, together with the Bahá'í International Community, will host a conference October 7–9, 2015, entitled "Global Transformations: Context and Analytics for a Durable Peace."

Highly acclaimed scholars and practitioners across many disciplines—three of whom are Bahá'ís—will address a broad and complex spectrum of current obstacles to global peace and security. Topics to be addressed cover a diverse range, from global governance to collective security, natural resources to biological determinism, and women's peace movements to responses to oppression. The forum will begin Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. with a presentation by Dr. Prudence Carter, Professor of Sociology at Stanford University, entitled "Equality Demands Empathy: Why Education Has to Be More Than a Private Good in an Unequal Society." Speaker biographies and presentation abstracts, as well as a registration link, are available on the conference website at <http://bahaichair.org/speakers>.

The National Assembly encourages those who are able to attend this conference and hopes you will also bring it to the attention of your acquaintances in the wider community who share our vision for a peaceful and prosperous global society.

We have no doubt that you join us in rejoicing at the evolution of the Bahá'í Chair for World Peace and the Faith's ever more prominent participation in dialogues surrounding the most pressing matters of the day.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,



Kenneth E. Bowers
Secretary