

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

May 3, 2017

To the American Bahá'í community

Dearest Bahá'í Friends,

The National Spiritual Assembly has in recent days received a letter from the Bahá'í World Center providing essentials on next year's 12<sup>th</sup> International Bahá'í Convention.

This occasion, which brings together members of every National Spiritual Assembly across the Bahá'í world, calls for the current members of this institution to travel to the Holy Land to participate in pre-Convention activities and to cast our ballots along with those of our sister Assemblies in the election of the Universal House of Justice for the next five-year term—that is, the term that will run from Ridván 2018 to 2023.

The International Convention will be held from April 29 through May 2, 2018. As a result, our National Convention, normally held during the same timeframe, will be postponed to late May. Exact dates and times will be announced in due course.

The House of Justice has asked us to make it known that only members of National Spiritual Assemblies and other persons specifically invited by the Supreme Body may attend the International Convention.

Thus, all pilgrimages will be suspended during the period beginning January 11 and continuing through May 18, 2018. Brief visits to the World Center will also be suspended—in this case, beginning March 26 and continuing through May 18.

As other details affecting the friends generally are announced, you may be confident we will keep you apprised.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,



Kenneth E. Bowers  
Secretary