

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

May 17, 2017

To the American Bahá'í community

Dearest Bahá'í Friends,

With grieving hearts, we share with you news of the passing today of Dr. Firuz Kazemzadeh, historian, scholar, writer, Yale professor emeritus, and member of this Assembly for the better part of four decades—the majority of them spent as either its Chair, Secretary, or Secretary for External Affairs. His manifold contributions to the advancement of the Cause of God and to the growth and development of the American Bahá'í community over the course of an earthly life that spanned more than 90 years make him one of the most outstanding believers of his generation. His place in the annals of this community is secure and will no doubt inspire many bright young minds to follow the trail he blazed.

In due course, we will share further news of services planned to honor him and to mark his transition to the immortal realms of the spirit. We will also elaborate on his exceptional career as a promulgator of the Cause of God, an esteemed academic, and one of this nation's most formidable champions of human rights and defenders of the oppressed, seen most notably in his groundbreaking work on behalf of the long-suffering Bahá'ís of Iran.

For now, be sure the members of his loving family will welcome your prayers for the eternal progress of his radiant soul, doubtless already being received warmly and with great joy by the King of Glory he served so faithfully and so well all the days of his life.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,



Kenneth E. Bowers
Secretary