



JIMMY CARTER

October 10, 2017

To the American Bahá'í Community

Rosalynn and I send our best wishes as your community commemorates the 200th Anniversary of the birth of your Prophet founder, Bahá'u'llah. We send a special welcome to all those who will gather for the occasion here in the city of Atlanta. We are heartened by your global community's rededication to peace, racial justice, the equality of women and men, and the essential unity of all religions.

As many of our people struggle with persistent systemic injustice against African Americans and Indigenous Nations, chronic violence against women, religious conflict, and endless war, the centrality of peace, human equality and religious unity found in the Bahá'í writings and activities can serve as an inspiration to those of all faiths and creeds. We are moved by the prayer for America revealed by Abdu'l-Bahá:

"O God! Let this American democracy become glorious in spiritual degrees even as it has aspired to material degrees, and render this just government victorious. Confirm this revered nation to upraise the standard of the oneness of humanity, to promulgate the Most Great Peace, to become thereby most glorious and praiseworthy among all the nations of the world."

Our life together and the work of The Carter Center has been devoted to these same aspirations for our great nation—that America should become the foremost champion of human rights and peace in full partnership and mutual respect with all other nations of the world.

Please accept our best wishes on this great occasion.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jimmy Carter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names being the most prominent.

National Spiritual Assembly
of the Bahá'ís of the United States of America
Wilmette, Illinois