

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

October 20, 2017

To the American Bahá'í community

Dearest Bahá'í Friends,

Long months of eager anticipation are being wonderfully fulfilled this weekend as Bahá'ís everywhere commemorate the coming to the world of the Twin Manifestations of God for this day—with special joy, also observing the 200th anniversary of the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh, the Promised One of All Ages.

Great excitement is being felt throughout the Bahá'í world as the friends view for the first time the 51-minute *Light to the World* documentary film commissioned by the Universal House of Justice. In it, Bahá'ís across the globe tell stories from the life of Bahá'u'lláh and testify to the impact His teachings have had on their lives and on their communities.

The [Light to the World film](#) is now also available for downloading from the Bahá'í World Center's Bicentenary website (at <https://bicentenary.bahai.org/>). Beginning today, the site will also feature photos, stories of activities, and video streaming of selected events at Bahá'í Houses of Worship around the world.

We also encourage you to share our Bicentenary website (at www.bahai.us/bicentenary) with friends and family. It provides both introductory information about the lives of the Báb and Bahá'u'lláh and a chance to see how Bahá'ís throughout the nation are coming together as one to celebrate the occasion with activities as diverse as their participants.

The website's photo gallery will be updated during the weekend and access will be provided for viewing livestream videos of some of the many "Light of Unity Festival" commemorative events taking place at the Bahá'í House of Worship in Wilmette:

- [Friday, October 20 at 7:30–9:00 p.m. Central](#)—**Lincolnwood Chamber Orchestra and Bahá'í House of Worship Choir** (in Foundation Hall, on the Temple's lower level)
- [Saturday, October 21 at 2:00–3:00 p.m. Central](#)—**Celebration of 200th Anniversary of Bahá'u'lláh's Birth** (in Foundation Hall, on the Temple's lower level)
- [Sunday, October 22 at 12:30–1:15 p.m. Central](#)—**Devotional Program for Birth of Bahá'u'lláh** (in the Temple Auditorium)

We fully share your delight in the rich repast of celebratory events being offered up this weekend and take this occasion to once more encourage you to report on your activities through the survey instrument that will soon be circulated to Local Spiritual Assemblies, registered Bahá'í groups, and all those for whom we have valid email addresses.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,



Kenneth E. Bowers
Secretary