

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

November 22, 2019

To the American Bahá'í community
for the Feast of Qawl

Dearly loved Friends,

As we gather to celebrate this Feast in the afterglow of events throughout the nation commemorating the bicentenary of the Báb's Birth, we are fortunate to have received, just two weeks ago, the reflections of the Supreme Institution of the Bahá'í world, and to be aided in gaining perspective on all that occurred through its unerring observations and judgment.

Accordingly, rather than provide a message of our own for this Feast, we have decided to refer you to the House of Justice's message of November 8—which, though already circulated electronically, we have, for your ease of reference, attached—and to request that in lieu of reading our customary message, you make use of the time you would normally have allotted to it to a reading of the Supreme Body's message and discussion of it as a community.

Before closing, we wish to share with you the pleasure we have thus far experienced through the receipt of reports touching on more than 3,200 initiatives related to the bicentenary sponsored by Local Spiritual Assemblies and individual believers. These events attracted the attendance of well over 100,000 participants and the descriptions of them already amount to several hundred pages. Taken together, they make it clear that the majority of these observances were a product of prayerful study of the guidance of the Faith's senior institutions and patient cultivation of friends and contacts during the two-year period that intervened between the bicentenaries of the Births of each of the Twin Manifestations of God for our Age.

Our challenge now, so the House of Justice informs us, is to build on the momentum we have so earnestly and diligently labored to generate during this historic season in the Faith's development. In so doing, let us endeavor to achieve great advancements in the community-building work of the Five Year Plan in these its final 18 months, and to make the joyful and unifying manner with which we have celebrated the Twin Bicentenaries a lasting feature of our community life.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,



Kenneth E. Bowers
Secretary

Attachment