

BAHÁ'IS OF HIGHLAND NEWSLETTER

This is the changeless Faith of God, eternal in the past, eternal in the future.

[\(The Kitáb-i-Aqdas\)](#)

Dear friends,

We are excited to bring to you the 2nd issue of our newsletter! We would like to welcome you this month by sharing an excerpt on the transformative power of prayer from a message from the Universal House of Justice sent to the Bahá'is in Iran in 2014.

“Prayer is the essential spiritual conversation of the soul with its Maker, direct and without intermediation. It is the spiritual food that sustains the life of the spirit. Like the morning’s dew, it brings freshness to the heart and cleanses it, purifying it from attachments of the insistent self. It is a fire that burns away the veils and a light that leads to the ocean of reunion with the Almighty. On its wings does the soul soar in the heavens of God and draw closer to the divine reality. Upon its quality depends the development of the limitless capacities of the soul and the attraction of the bounties of God, but the prolongation of prayer is not desirable. The powers latent in prayer are manifested when it is motivated by the love of God, beyond any fear or favour, and free from ostentation and superstition. It is to be expressed with a sincere and pure heart conducive to contemplation and meditation so that the rational faculty can be illumined by its effects. Such prayer will transcend the limitation of words and go well beyond mere sounds.

The sweetness of its melodies must gladden and uplift the heart and reinforce the penetrating power of the Word, transmuting earthly inclinations into heavenly attributes and inspiring selfless service to humankind.

Little wonder, then, that your community, whose members have from infancy been reared with the constant supplication to have “pure hearts like unto a pearl”, go through life and endure every manner of hardship but will not let their hearts be defiled with hatred, rancour, or vengeance lest that gleaming pearl lose its lustre. Ultimately, prayers must be lived in purposeful lives.”



Announcements

- [*Gospel music workshop and concert*](#)
- [*Welcome webinars for treasurers*](#)
- [*Treasurer's notes for feast of Rahmat – with kids' activity*](#)

Letters/Communications

- **Cluster**
 - [*CA-SE04 San Bernardino Cluster Fund*](#)
 - [*108th Bahá'í National Convention Delegate Report Highlights*](#)
 - [*108th Bahá'í National Convention Delegate Report*](#)
- **National Spiritual Assembly**
 - [*Feast of Rahmat*](#)
 - [*Welcome letter to treasurers*](#)
 - [*Letter about Paul Lample talk*](#)
 - [*Arab American Conference, August 4-7*](#)



Talks/Webinars

- [*Mr. Paul Lample elaborates on the new five-year plan*](#)
- [*Creativity in Consultation – Trip Barthel*](#)
- [*“Progressive Revelation” – Gwyn Magaditsch. This talk will be presented at the Katsianos residence in Highland on July 9th at 7:00pm \(potluck at 5:30pm\)*](#)

Links

- [*Bahá'is of Rancho Cucamonga*](#)
- [*Bahá'is of Redlands*](#)
- [*Bahá'is of Riverside*](#)
- [*Highland Children's Classes*](#)

Bahá'is of Highland

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