



SARAWAK

BAHÁ'Í NEWSLETTER

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LETTER from the National Spiritual Assembly of Canada to its Bahá'í Children

The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Canada on 27 March 2008 sent a letter to the Bahá'í children of Canada expressing the importance of the law of Huqúqu'lláh

Dear Bahá'í friends,

We do not write directly to you very often, but you are always in our thoughts, our hearts and our prayers. The reason we are sending this letter today is that we would like to talk to you about one of the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh that will have a great effect on the healing of the world. It is called the Right of God—in Arabic, Huqúqu'lláh. By giving us this law, Bahá'u'lláh has given us a wonderful way to solve a big problem. This problem is caused by an unfair distribution of wealth, where some people are very rich and some are very poor.

The law is this: when we have paid for all the things that are needed in our lives, such as food, education, housing, and clothing, and what is left over reaches a certain amount, a part of what is left over belongs to God—the “Right of God”. We therefore return to God something that belongs to Him to be used to help the poor and needy. It makes us very happy to pay the Right of God, and become part of a powerful system of cooperation that will reduce the extremes of wealth and poverty in the world and speed its healing.

Paying the Right of God is different from contributing to the Bahá'í Fund, which you may have been doing since you were very young. When we give to the Fund, we are sacrificing something that God has given to us and therefore belongs to us. When we pay the Right of God, we are returning to God something that belongs to Him.

The Right of God is a law that applies at age 15, just like fasting and saying the obligatory prayers, but you can begin to think about it now. One of the most important things people have to do when they are getting ready to figure out what part of their surplus belongs to God is to distinguish between wants and needs. What material things would you describe as your needs? What are some things that you want, but perhaps do not need? If you have

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It is indeed a most excellent favour, a boundless grace vouchsafed unto whosoever is privileged in this day to render service to the Cause of God and to offer the Right of God, for its goodly results and the fruits thereof will last as long as the kingdom of earth and heaven will endure.

(Compilations,
Huququ'llah)

بہت سب سے

...the
Guardian had
referred.

This was a
community
aware of the
vast
potentialities
with which it
has been
endowed and
conscious of
the role it is
destined to
play in
rebuilding a
broken world

(Extracts from
Ridvan Message,
2009)

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asked yourself these questions, you have already started thinking about material things in a healthy way, unlike the culture around you that is often consumed by “wants”.

We are sharing two things with you—a few passages from Bahá’u’lláh’s Writings about the Right of God and a wonderful story about one of the early believers—so that you might study them over the next few months with the help of your family and unravel some of the sweet mysteries of this law.

With our tenderest love and greetings,

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY OF THE BAHÁ’ÍS OF CANADA

INTENSIVE PROGRAMME OF GROWTH: Sibu Cluster 2nd Cycle

It is a long week of anticipation after our community reflection meeting at the Baha’i centre, that the Sibu cluster finally launched the 2nd cycle of the Intensive Programme of Growth on May 17th, 2009. As many as 20 friends from various localities - Sibu Jaya, SMK Luar Bandar and Sibu Town - were present at the



launching of the IPG. The program started with devotional and welcoming addresses from Auxillary Board Member, Annie (Tan), and the Area Growth Committee of Sibu Cluster, continued by a study on the message from the Universal House of Justice. ABM Annie also conducted a short Anna Presentation Training to heighten the confidence and morale of the teachers-to-be. Teams were formed to carry out the teaching work in five areas identified as r e c e p t i v e .



By nightfall of the first day, a total of seven new members declared from Kemuyang area. A week later another four from SMK Luar Bandar declared, totaling to eleven new believers at the closing of the 2nd cycle.



German town marks 700-year anniversary at BAHAI TEMPLE

The European Baha'i House of Worship - the most prominent landmark in a wide area around Langenhain - was the site of events this month celebrating the 700-year anniversary of the village.

The mayor of Hofheim, of which Langenhain is a part, and more than 300 townspeople gathered at the temple where a choir from Langenhain sang Christian psalms, alternating with works performed by the national Baha'i choir. The program culminated with the choirs joining together to sing words of Baha'u'llah set to music from Mozart.

"From the very first sound, everyone could feel that it was something extraordinary," one of the Baha'is said of the finale. "The very special, prayerful atmosphere lasted a long time—nobody spoke or applauded."

The event was followed by a second program - a "musical matinee" - at the nearby Baha'i center where the choirs again sang for the hundreds of visitors. Both programs took place on 1 June and were attended by local officials as well as representatives of the Protestant and Catholic churches.

Extracted from <http://news.bahai.org/story/721>



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A copy of the newsletter is also available at:

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"that all nations should become one in faith and all men as brothers;

that the bonds of affection and unity between the sons of men should be strengthened;
that diversity of religion should cease, and differences of race be annulled"

(Baha'u'llah,
The Proclamation of Baha'u'llah)

Countdown to Launching of Intensive Program of Growth

- **Gedong:**
25th July 2009
- **Asajaya:**
28th November 2009
- **Betong:**
12th December 2009