

1 December 2025 / 10 Speech 182

All Local Spiritual Assemblies
All Regional Bahá'í Councils
All Registered Groups

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

It is with joy that we share with you the following message of the Universal House of Justice, received today.

“We are pleased to announce that, after many years of patient negotiation, the city of Haifa has agreed to transfer to the Bahá'í World Centre the ownership of a two-storey Templar house on the lower slopes of Mount Carmel where Bahá'u'lláh Himself once stayed during a visit to the city. The property is to the east of the plaza at the foot of the Terraces of the Shrine of the Báb and adjacent to land where Bahá'u'lláh's tent was pitched. The building, which sits on three hundred and sixteen square metres of land, is located in the World Heritage area of the Shrine of the Báb and its surroundings. It was built by a family of German Templars who inscribed the capstone above the front door of the house with the prophetic words “Der Herr ist nahe”, the Lord is nigh. When the Blessed Beauty visited Haifa in the summer of 1891 and suffered a short illness, He stayed for a few days in the house as a guest of the family. Plans are being prepared for the restoration of the building so that, in time, it may be opened to pilgrims and visitors.”

Kindly arrange for the swift and wide distribution of this message to the friends.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,



Karen McKye, Secretary

cc: Counsellors Ayafor Temengye Ayafor and Borna Nouredin
Board of Trustees of Huqúqu'lláh in Canada
National Spiritual Assembly (9)
All Auxiliary Board members
All regional institute boards and institute coordinators
All national committees and agencies
All staff

(French translation to follow)