



**Bahá'í Faith Statement
regarding World Peace**

The Supreme Institution of the Kingdom of God on Earth is now firmly established on Mt. Carmel, fulfilling prophecies of all the previous religions. This Institution, named THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE, will help guide the world to a lasting peace.

In 1985, THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE addressed a message to the "Peoples of the World" saying:

"The Great Peace towards which people of good will throughout the centuries have inclined their hearts, of which seers and poets for countless generations have expressed their vision, and for which from age to age the sacred scriptures of mankind have constantly held the promise, is now at long last within the reach of the nations. For the first time in history it is possible for everyone to view the entire planet, with all its myriad diversified peoples, in one perspective. World peace is not only possible but inevitable. It is the next stage in the evolution of this planet—in the words of one great thinker, 'the planetization of mankind'."

"Whether peace is to be reached only after unimaginable horrors precipitated by humanity's stubborn clinging to old patterns of behaviour, or is to be embraced now by an act of consultative will, is the choice before all who inhabit the earth. At this critical juncture when the intractable problems confronting nations have been fused into one common concern for the whole world, failure to stem the tide of conflict and disorder would be unconscionably irresponsible."

THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE continued:

"... a paralyzing contradiction has developed in human affairs. On the one hand, people of all nations proclaim not only their readiness but their longing for peace and harmony, for an end to the harrowing apprehensions tormenting their daily lives. On the other, uncritical assent is given to the proposition that human beings are incorrigibly selfish and aggressive and thus incapable of erecting a social system at once



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progressive and peaceful, dynamic and harmonious, a system giving free play to individual creativity and initiative but based on co-operation and reciprocity.”

“As the need for peace becomes more urgent, this fundamental contradiction, which hinders its realization, demands a reassessment of the assumptions upon which the commonly held view of mankind's historical predicament is based. Dispassionately examined, the evidence reveals that such conduct, far from expressing man's true self, represents a distortion of the human spirit. Satisfaction on this point will enable all people to set in motion constructive social forces which, because they are consistent with human nature, will encourage harmony and co-operation instead of war and conflict.”

Members of the Bahá'í Faith all over the world stand ready to promote those forces that lead to true understanding and peace with the knowledge that mankind is One Family under One God, that all religions are in essence One, and as stated by the THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE: “World peace is not only possible but inevitable.”

The Complete Document “The Promise of World Peace” by the Universal House of Justice, is available at:

www.gutenberg.org/files/19286/19286-pdf.pdf

For more information about the Bahá'í Faith:

www.bahai.org

Or call:

1-800-22-UNITE

**“The earth is but
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