

[AUTHORIZED TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

29 October 2009

Transmitted by email: ...

Mr. ...

Dear Bahá'í Friend,

Your email letter dated 6 October 2009 regarding the recently revised compilation of Bahá'í writings on family life was received by the Universal House of Justice, which has asked us to convey the following.

The House of Justice is pleased to note your appreciation of the importance of studying the Bahá'í writings on the subject of family life. It is the duty of all parents to exert their utmost to ensure the spiritual education of their children and to provide them with the training needed to live a fruitful life of service to their country and, indeed, to all of humanity. Success in this crucial matter requires fostering a loving and constructive environment at home, based on the love of God and adherence to His laws. This entails abandoning all forms of prejudice, rejecting entirely the odious habit of backbiting, stressing the vital importance of the oneness of mankind, and inculcating the spirit of selfless service.

Bahá'ís, well aware of the essential part played by the family in building a new and united society, are, of course, already labouring in this field. Wherever they reside, they have before them valuable opportunities to collaborate with others by, on the one hand, offering the many insights contained in the Bahá'í writings related to the strengthening of the family and its central role in the advancement of civilization and, on the other, humbly sharing their own experience. The compilation "Family Life", released in March 2008, is intended to assist the believers in such efforts. For the noble people of Iran, confronted by profound social upheavals in their country as they seek to restore the former greatness and renew the glorious civilization of that ancient land, it is of paramount importance to reflect upon ways to fortify the foundations of family life. The Persian translation of the compilation is herewith forwarded for your study. Should you so desire, you may of course share it with your friends and colleagues.

The Universal House of Justice will offer prayers in the Sacred Shrines that you and your family will meet with every success in your service to Bahá'u'lláh.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Department of the Secretariat

Enclosure