

National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom

27 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1PD

Tel: 020-7584-2566 Fax: 020-7584 9402

E-mail: nsa@bahai.org.uk

When replying please

refer to: SRL-21321

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To all local Spiritual Assemblies

Dear Baha'i friends,

The National Spiritual Assembly wishes to share with local Assemblies some guidance which it may wish to share with couples who are intending to marry, but who have not yet received consent from their parents.

In relation to the marriage ceremony, in a letter dated 18 October 2011 to a National Spiritual Assembly, the Universal House of Justice has written that “[p]reparations for the ceremony should not be undertaken until consent has been given or the National Assembly has decided to permit the marriage to proceed without the consent of one or more of the parents.”

The Assembly is aware of some cases where arrangements for a ceremony have been made prior to consent being received and this has caused some considerable complications. By following the above guidance of the Universal House of Justice these complications can be avoided and the dignity of the application of this blessed law is maintained.

Please also note that cases where a person is seeking waiver of consent must be referred to the National Spiritual Assembly for its guidance. A local Spiritual Assembly does not have the authority to waive the requirement for consent.

Your loving support and assistance to individuals in your community who are seeking to apply the laws of Bahá'u'lláh is deeply appreciated.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

National Spiritual Assembly



Patrick O'Mara,
Secretary

cc. Counsellor Shirin Fozdar-Foroudi
Auxiliary Board members in the United Kingdom