

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

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## From the table of the National Spiritual Assembly

### *Home-front and International Pioneering*

Together with Counsellor Shirin Fozdar-Foroudi, the National Spiritual Assembly held an in-depth consultation on how to encourage and facilitate friends in their desire to pioneer on the home front and international arenas. It was an exciting consultation that led to many decisions which will unfold in the coming months. As a first step, however, it has called a meeting of the main pioneering agencies as well as representatives of the four Regional Councils and the Training Institute Board to consult, together with the Counsellor, with a view to considering how to raise the spirit of pioneering across the community to meet the needs that are apparent in clusters and overseas.

### *Huqúqu'lláh*

The National Spiritual Assembly was delighted to note that it will be meeting with the Board of Trustees for Huqúqu'lláh for Ireland and the United Kingdom at its June meeting. From past experience, such meetings have been a cause of deepening collaboration and considerable inspiration to the Assembly and so it looks forward to this very much.

### *The believers in Iran*

The National Spiritual Assembly continued its study of the various letters from the Universal House of Justice to the believers in the Cradle of the Faith. In studying the letter dated 28 July 2008, the Assembly gained a heightened awareness of how the believers in Iran are responding to the persecutions they are suffering by intensifying their effort and commitment to the much-needed spiritual and social renewal of their homeland. They press on with their activities to serve society. This is in marked contrast to the posture of victimhood which so many groups who suffer oppression take on. The Assembly and its members were greatly inspired by this and understood that this is how the friends in Iran would wish to be represented to the media and others when we are speaking of their dire situation.

### *The National Assembly's database*

A number of resolutions from Unit Convention this year expressed concern as to the accuracy of the National Assembly's database of believers. The Assembly wishes the community to know that it is aware of this problem and is taking steps to address it. The community's patience over the coming months as these measures are put in place is very much appreciated.

### *The use of Bahá'í dates*

Inspired by a Unit Convention resolution, the National Spiritual Assembly has decided to include Bahá'í dates wherever possible on its communications. Initially this will be done on major letters from the National Assembly to the community and, in time, it is intended to include it in all its general correspondence.

National Spiritual Assembly