

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF H̄UQ̄U'LLÁH IN CANADA  
CONSEIL DES MANDATAIRES DU H̄UQ̄U'LLÁH AU CANADA**

April 29, 2022

To the delegates of the 72<sup>nd</sup> National Convention of the Bahá'ís of Canada

Dear Friends,

The Board of Trustees of H̄uq̄u'lláh in Canada is most grateful to the National Spiritual Assembly for again offering this opportunity to share with the delegates to the National Convention some thoughts on the Right of God and to send our love to all of the friends across this vast country during the Riḍván festival, at the outset of the Nine Year Plan. We also call to mind our dear co-worker and well-loved friend, Deputy Trustee Bahram Gustaspi, who was often a delegate to the National Convention and has recently ascended to the Abhá Kingdom; his gentle, loving, supportive manner, his deep devotion and steadfast service are fondly remembered.

The hope of the Board is that each lover of Bahá'u'lláh will study the weighty ordinance of H̄uq̄u'lláh deeply, so as to become more consciously aware of its precepts and to honour it in our daily lives, whether or not payment ever becomes due. As we shape our lives in conformity with this sacred law, invariably we become deeply enamoured with all of the ordinances of the Cause, our steadfastness is strengthened, and we perceive the blessings of the All-Mighty in our personal lives.

Over the past year, the Board of Trustees has been delighted that H̄uq̄u'lláh has increasingly become a subject of conversation among the friends in many family and community spaces. Workshops on Wills and H̄uq̄u'lláh have been offered across the country; many more opportunities to participate in this workshop are planned for the year to come. Other workshops focus on the spiritual qualities nurtured by obedience to H̄uq̄u'lláh with some specifically tailored to youth and young adults, or families. The Universal House of Justice's 'Tribute to 'Abdu'l-Bahá' has inspired action and enhanced collaboration amongst the Representatives of the Right of God throughout Canada.

As we embark on the Nine Year Plan, we envision how observance of the mighty Law of H̄uq̄u'lláh will be progressively and more seamlessly integrated into our understanding of the community building process throughout Canada. Might we all picture in our mind's eye the role that observance of the Right of God might play in strengthening our ties to the Universal House of Justice, the Head of the Faith? Can we visualize the effects the promised protection, blessings and confirmations of the Blessed Beauty will have on us individually and on our communities and institutions?

In the 30 December 2021 message to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors, the Universal House of Justice described the current series of global Plans:

*“During this period, the Bahá'í world will be focused on a single aim: the release of the society-building power of the Faith in ever-greater measures. The pursuit of this overall aim will require a further rise in the capacity of the individual believer, the local community, and the institutions of the Faith. These three constant protagonists of the Plan each have a part to play, and each one has capacities and qualities that*

*must be developed. However, each is incapable of manifesting its full potential on its own. It is by strengthening their dynamic relationships with one another that their powers are combined and multiplied. ‘Abdu’l-Bahá explains that the more the qualities of cooperation and mutual assistance are manifested by a people, “the more will human society advance in progress and prosperity”; in the Faith, this principle distinguishes and shapes the interactions of individuals, institutions, and communities, and it endows the body of the Cause with moral vigour and spiritual health.”<sup>1</sup>*

‘Abdu’l-Bahá refers to the combined qualities of cooperation, mutual assistance and reciprocity as divine virtues that are cultivated through the discipline of adherence to the law of Ḥuqúqu’lláh. *“The more this interrelationship is strengthened and expanded, the more will human society advance in progress and prosperity. Indeed without these vital ties it would be wholly impossible for the world of humanity to attain true felicity and success.”* And later in the same tablet, *“This is the basic principle on which the institution of Ḥuqúqu’lláh is established, inasmuch as its proceeds are dedicated to the furtherance of these ends.”<sup>2</sup>* We are further reminded by the International Board of Trustees that *“Motivated by a genuine concern for the welfare of others which derives from the love of Bahá’u’lláh, observance of the law of Ḥuqúqu’lláh provides the means to hasten the realization of this universal aspiration to ensure the well-being of all mankind.”<sup>3</sup>*

As we embark on the Nine Year Plan, we note many ‘shifts’ in objectives, orientations and approaches. Surely, another shift is in our deepening understanding that Ḥuqúqu’lláh is much more than the mere calculation of an amount to be paid; rather, it has profound spiritual and societal impact. *“The institution of Ḥuqúqu’lláh will, during the course of this Dispensation, contribute to the spiritualization of humanity through the promotion of a new attitude to the acquisition and use of material resources. It will provide the material resources necessary for great collective enterprises designed to improve all aspects of life, and will be a powerful element in the growth of a world civilization.”<sup>4</sup>*

Dear friends, as we all plunge whole-heartedly into the Nine Year Plan, the Representatives and Deputy Trustees of the Institution of the Right of God in Canada will continue to engage with you in the framework for action. We offer our assistance in further educating the friends with regard to the society-transforming power and the spiritual significance of the mighty law of Ḥuqúqu’lláh. We are reminded of the words of the Universal House of Justice in its 30 December 2021 message:

*How immensely blessed are those souls who, alive to the greatness of this Day and the significance of their actions, strive for the emergence of a society shaped by the divine teachings.<sup>1</sup>*

With heartfelt love for each of you,

The Board of Trustees of Ḥuqúqu’lláh in Canada

<sup>1</sup> The Universal House of Justice, 30 December 2021, letter to the Conference of the Continental Boards of Counsellors.

<sup>2,4</sup> *Huququ’llah – The Right of God*, April 2007, Amended August 2009, #23, 30 respectively.

<sup>3</sup> International Board of Trustees letter to a National Spiritual Assembly, *Huququ’llah Newsletter*, 73, January 2012, page 14.