# a study guide to the

of the 30 December 2021 letter from the Universal House of Justice

## ABOUT

This presentation is the brainchild of Violetta Zein and Mika Korhonen, who had a vision to create engaging artistic materials to stimulate elevated conversations around the local and individual practical application of the letter of 30 December 2021 from the Universal House of Justice which will guide the next 9 - 25 years of our community-building and social action efforts.

This presentation was designed by Violetta Zein

info@theutteranceproject.com

## INTRODUCTION

### Paragraphs 1 - 4

### PARAGRAPH 1

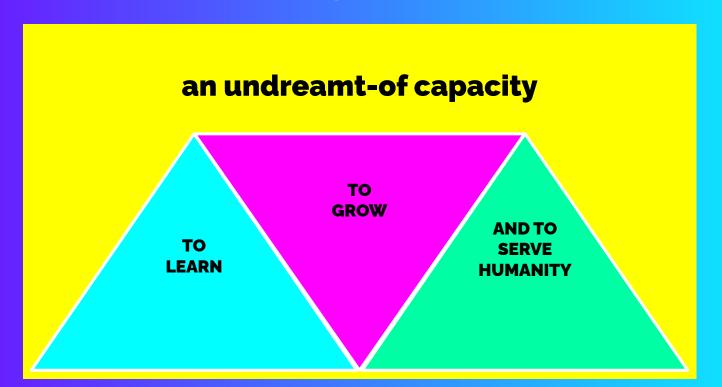
Past, present, and future

## THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD UNDERWENT A TRANSFORMATION

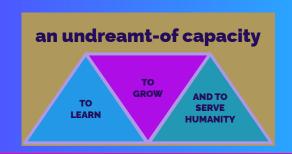
1996 endowed it with an undreamt-of capacity 2021

TO GROW AND TO SERVE HUMANITY

### BUT, HOWEVER BRIGHT WERE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THIS PERIOD



# THEY MUST BE ECLIPSED



### BY WHAT IS TO COME

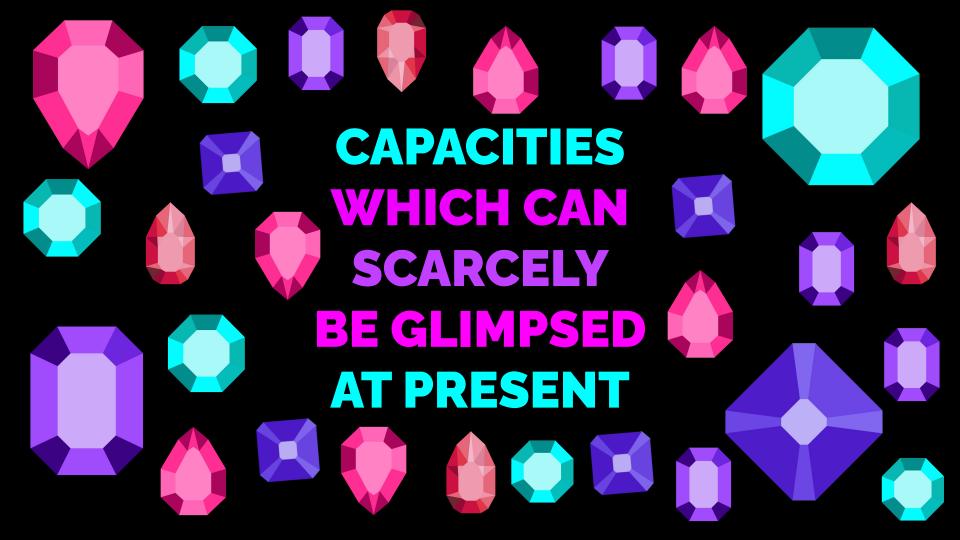
(2022 - 2046)

### BY THE CONCLUSION OF

2021 - 2022 2022 - 2031 2031- 2046 (Length TBD)

### THE NEW SERIES OF PLANS RECENTLY BEGUN

### THE BAHÁ'Í COMMUNITY WILL NEED TO HAVE ACQUIRED



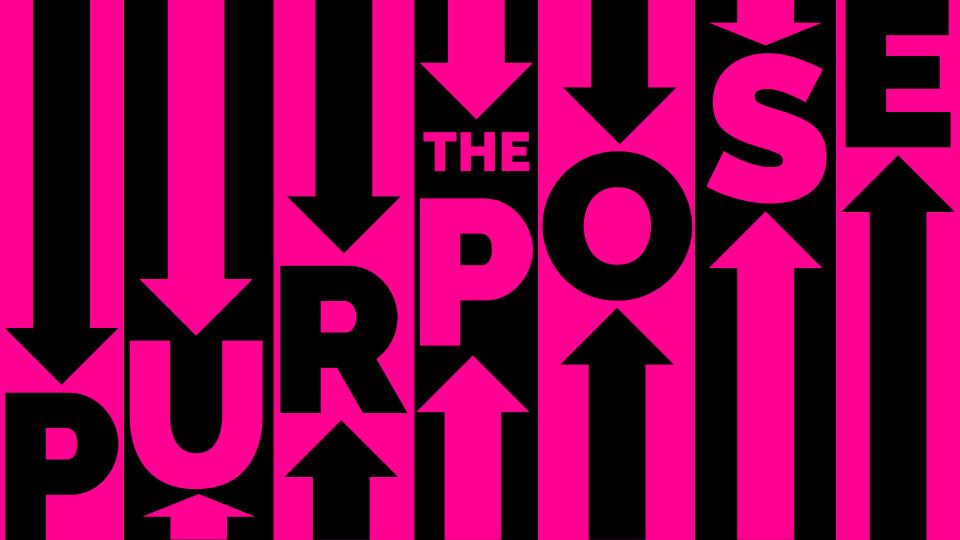


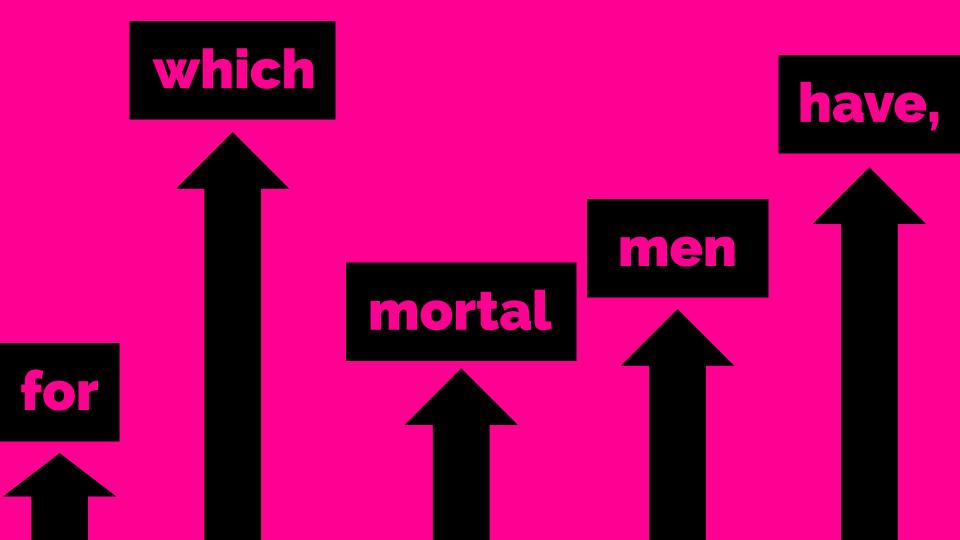
## FORTIFIED COMMUNITY

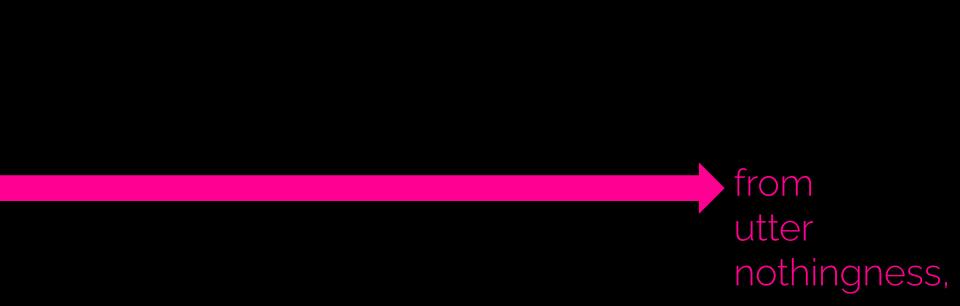
### PARAGRAPH 2

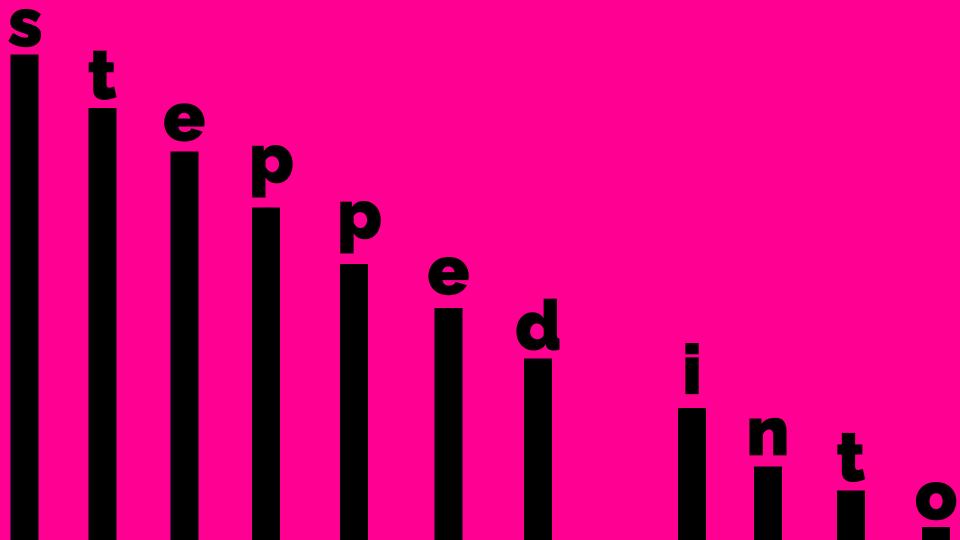
The "society-building power of the Faith"

### Bahá'u'lláh states that













## and live TOGETHER



# concord and harmon

# He [Bahá'u'lláh] has revealed teachings that make this <u>possible</u>.

## BUILDING A SOCIETY THAT CONSCIOUSLY

PURSUES THIS COLLECTIVE PURPOSE

"the purpose for which mortal men have, from utter nothingness, stepped into the realm of being, is that they may work for the betterment of the world and live together in concord and harmony."

#### is the work of not only THIS generation but

of many generations to come of



and Bahá'u'lláh's followers welcome all who labour alongside them in this undertaking

### IT MEANS LEARNING HOW TO RAISE UP



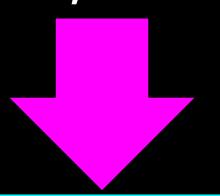
### IT MEANS THOSE COMMUNITIES LEARNING TO BRING ABOUT



### IT MEANS LEARNING HOW TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE



### THESE AREAS OF ENDEAVOUR ARE, NATURALLY, FAMILIAR ONES



vibrant





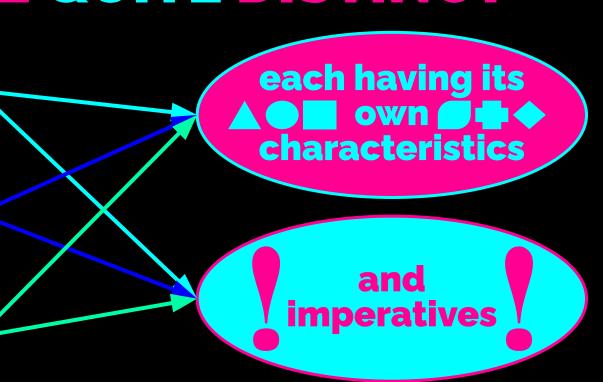


## SEEN FROM ONE PERSPECTIVE THEY ARE QUITE DISTINCT

vibrant outward-looking communities

spiritual and material progress

the direction that progress



vibrant outward-looking communities spiritual and material progress

discourses that influence
the direction
that progress

### YET THEY ALL REPRESENT WAYS OF

**AWAKENING** 

## the energies latent in the human soul

## AND CHANNELING THEM TOWARDS THE

# BETTERMENT OF SOCIETY

vibrant outward-looking communities spiritual and material progress

discourses that influence
the direction
that progress

**TOGETHER, THEY ARE MEANS OF** 



## what

## the Guardian

describedas

## the "societybuilding bower

### This inherent power possessed by the

Cause of Bahá'u'lláh

IS VISIBLE EVEN IN

the fledgling efforts



of a Bahá'í community

#### LEARNING





**TO SERVE HUMANITY** 

AND PROMOTE THE WORD OF GOD



#### communities that are earnestly trying to apply His (Bahá'u'lláh's) teachings



ESSED are THOSE SOULS, who







## strive for the emergence of a society shaped by the divine teachings



#### PARAGRAPH 3

A single aim for the new series of Plans

### THE SERIES OF GLOBAL PLANS THAT BEGAN AT RIPVAN

2021

2046

#### WILL LAST A FULL 25 YEARS

### THE ARK OF THE CAUSE

2021

and will conclude at Ridván

**2046** 

into the third century

of the Bahá'í Era

(2044 - 2144)

(1944 - 2044)
Second century
of the Bahá'í Era

#### **DURING THIS PERIOD**

## the Bahá'í world will be focused on a single aim

#### the release of the

"society-building power"

in ever-greater measures



#### The pursuit of this overall aim will require

#### A FURTHER RISE IN THE CAPACITY OF THE

individuals

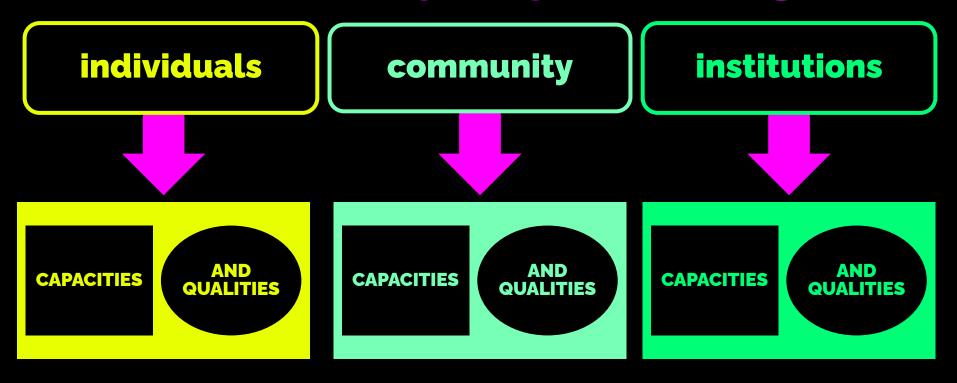
local community

institutions of the Faith

#### These three constant protagonists of the Plan

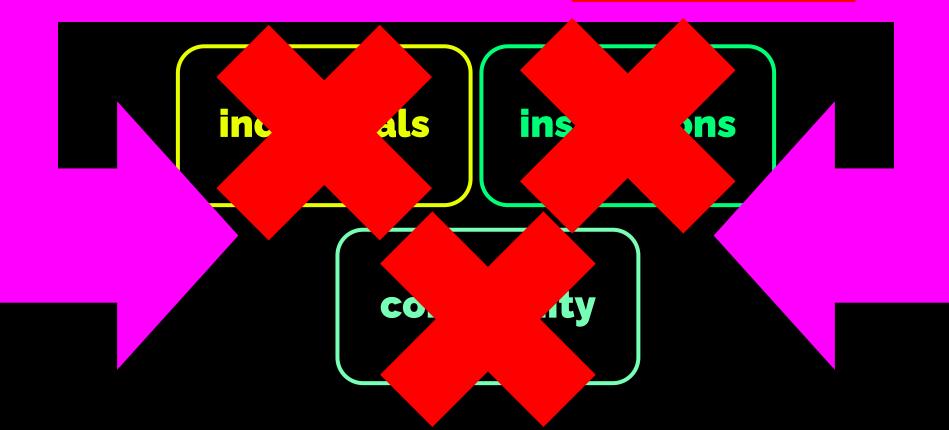


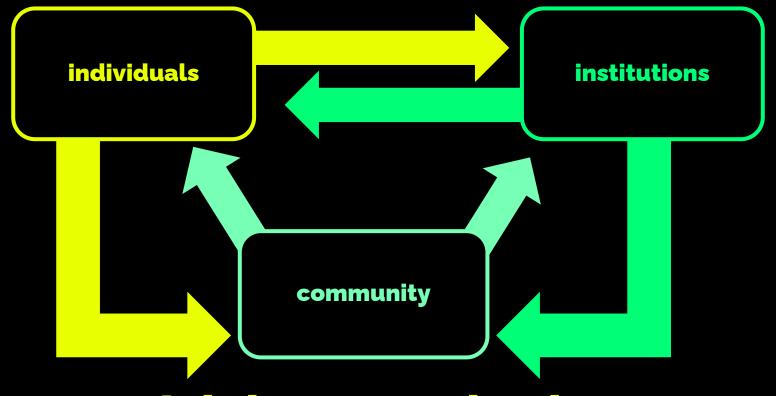
#### AND EACH ONE HAS



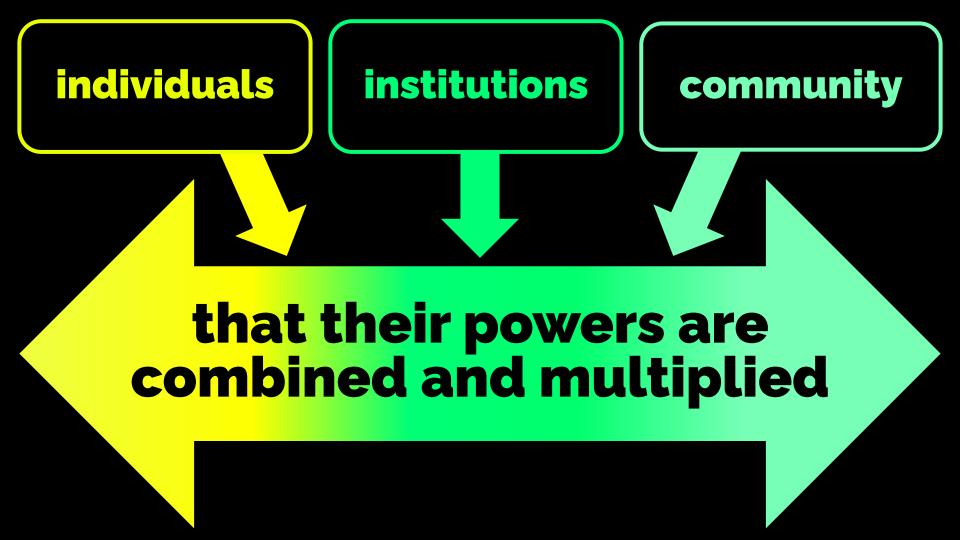
#### THAT MUST BE DEVELOPED

#### EACH IS INCAPABLE OF MANIFESTING ITS FULL POTENTIAL ON ITS OWN



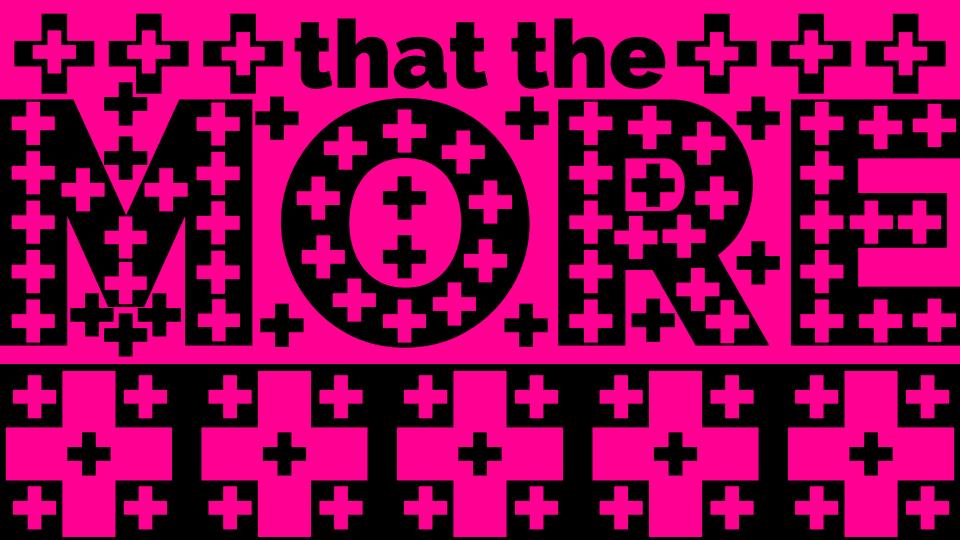


It is by strengthening their dynamic relationships with one another

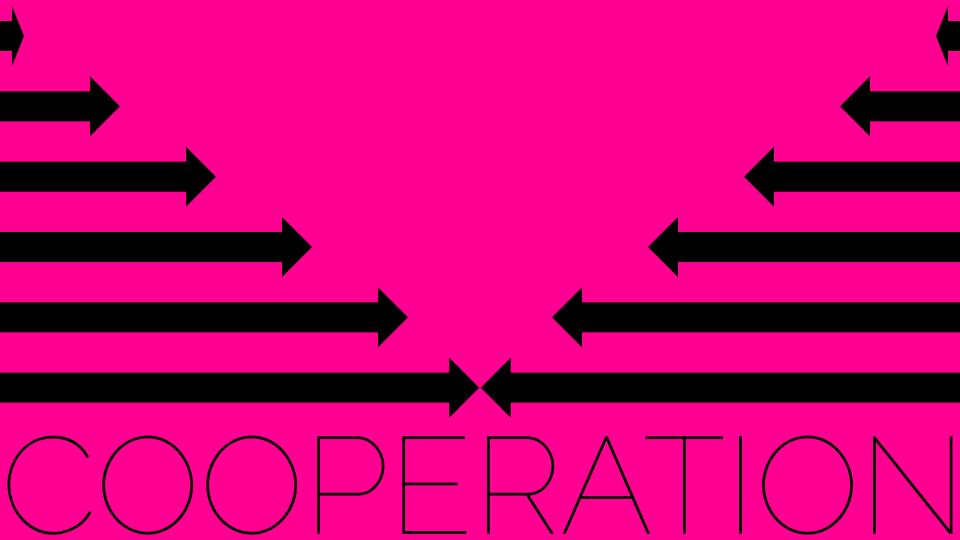


### 'ABDU'L-BAHÀ E X P L A I N S

# +that the +







AND

## 

## ssiance



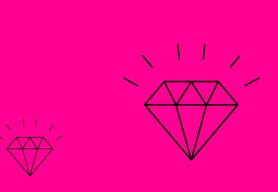


### 

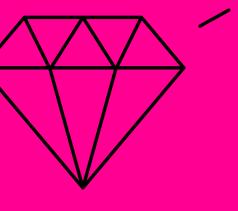


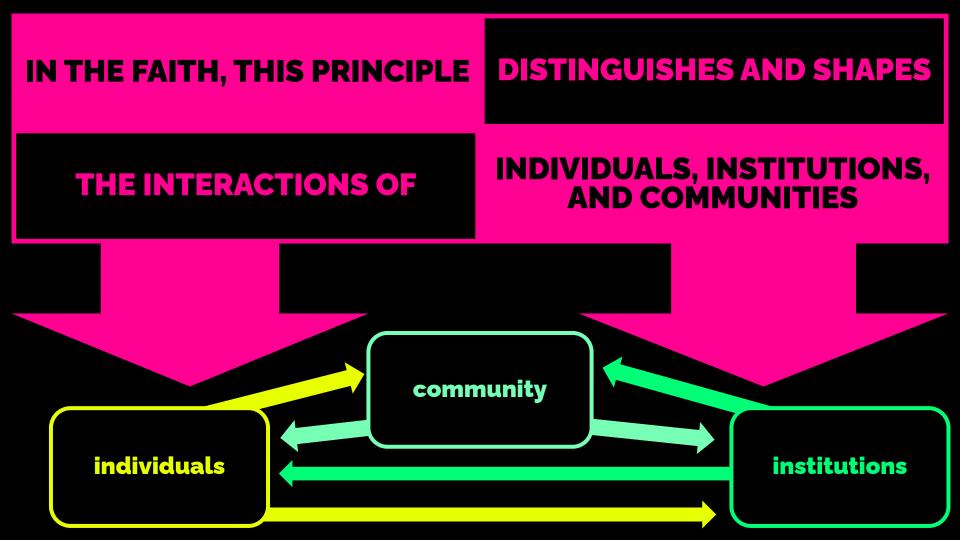


## and prosperity







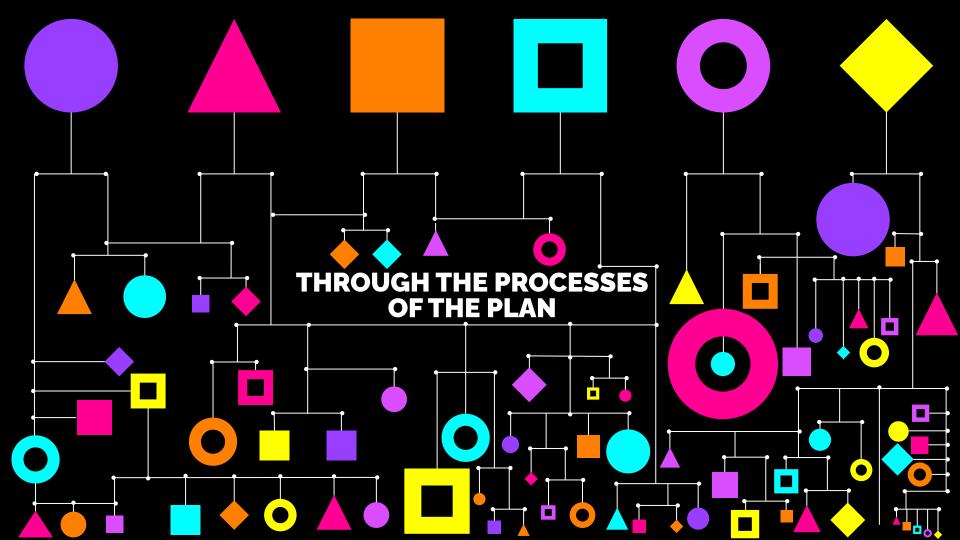


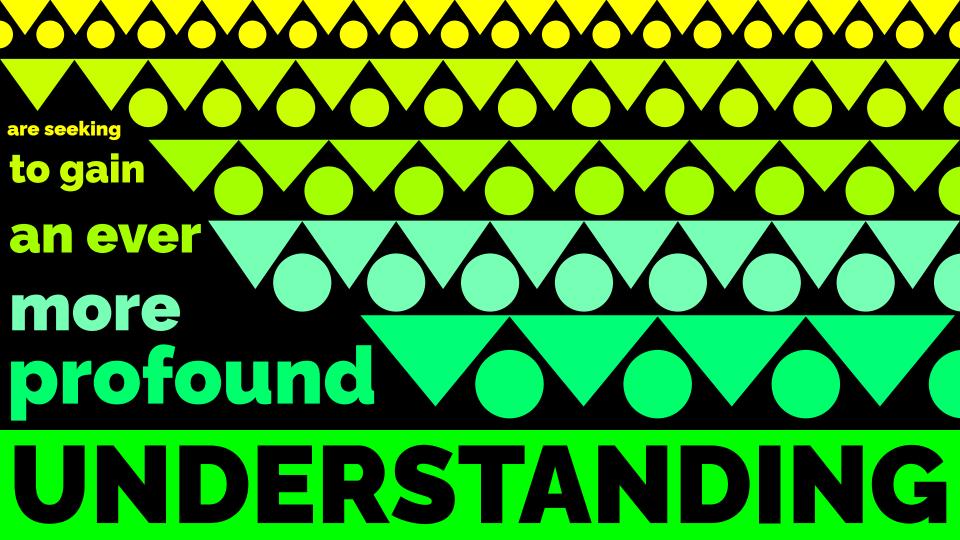
#### **THE BODY AND IT ENDOWS OF THE CAUSE** WITH **>>>>>>>** moral vigour spiritual health

#### PARAGRAPH 4

The characteristics of enkindled souls







### of Bahá'u'lláh's teachings

## "the sovereign remedy for every disease"





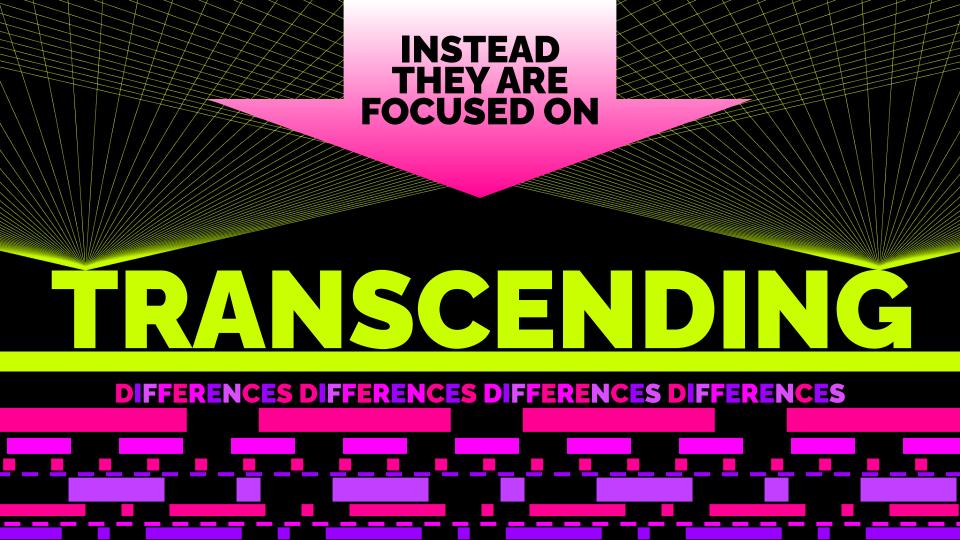
recognizing that the THE WELFARE OF INDIVIDUALS

recognizing that the THE WELFARE INDIVIDUALS rests in THE WELFARE **OF SOCIETY AT LARGE** 





who eschew partisanship and the contest for worldly po







## AND PROMOTING



# CONSULTATION





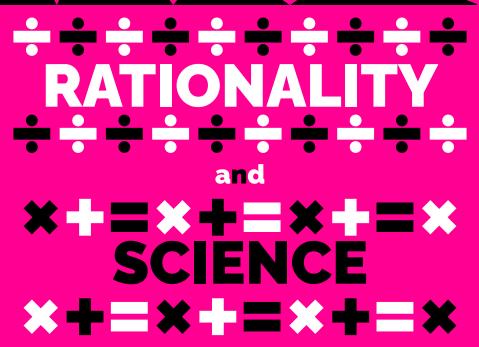
decision

### **THEY** ITUDES **EMPHASIZE SUCH AS AND** TRUSTWORTHINESS COOPERATION FORBEARANCE

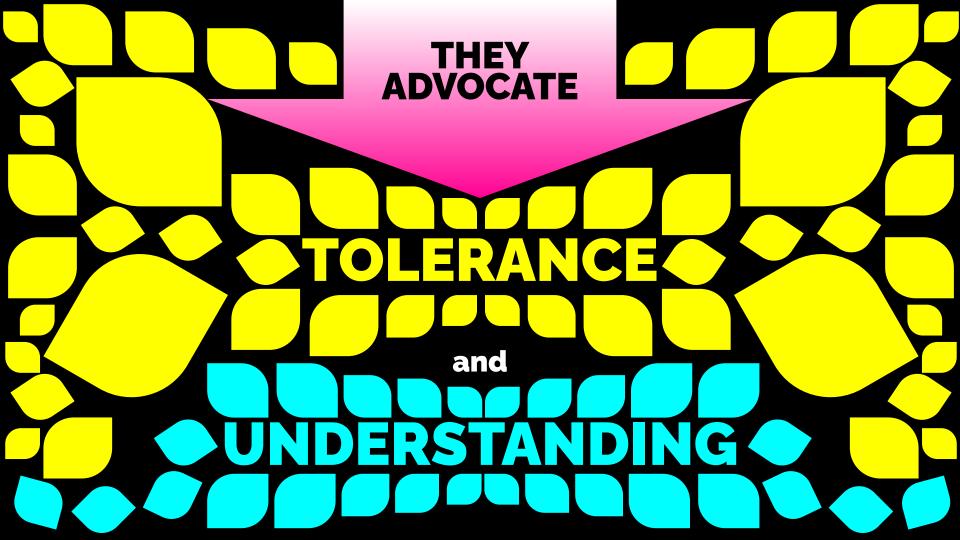
THAT ARE BUILDING BLOCKS OF A STABLE SOCIAL ORDER



as essential for



### HUMAN PROGRESS





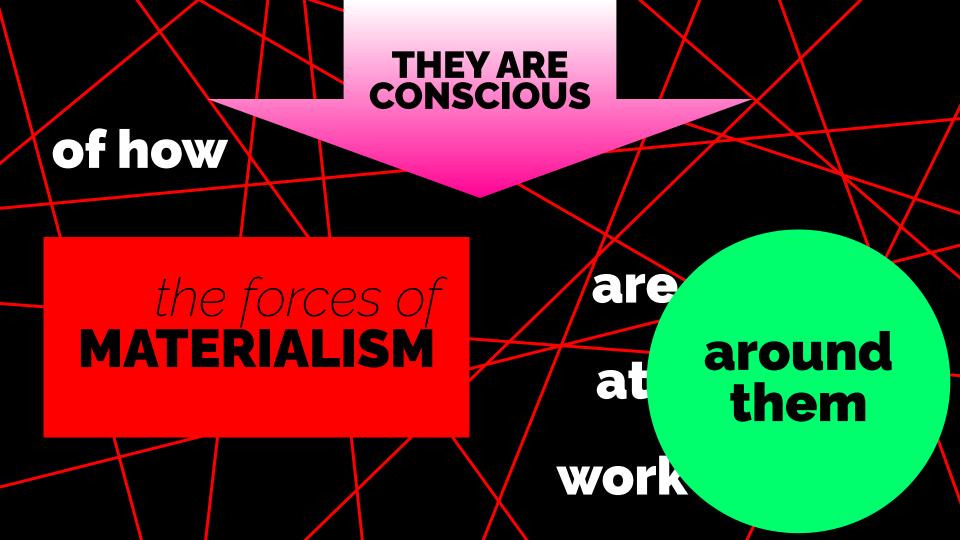
**THEY VIEW** 

## EYERY PIL

AS A POTENTIAL PARTNER TO COLLABORATE WITH

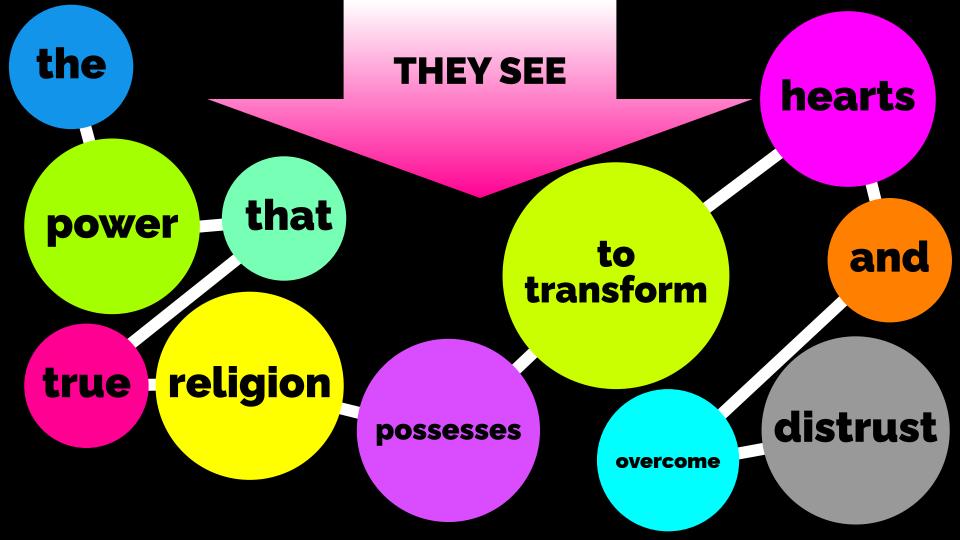


among groups who may traditionally have been hostile to one another



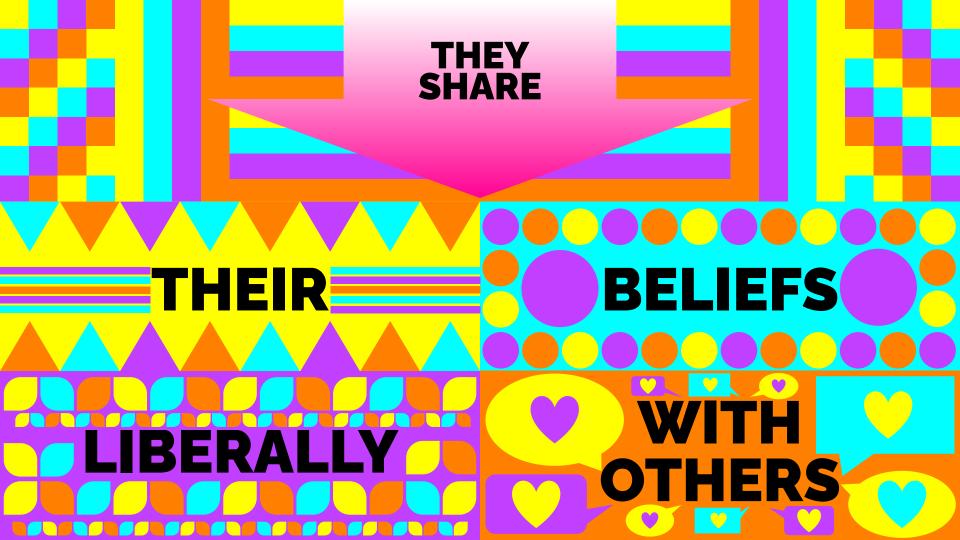


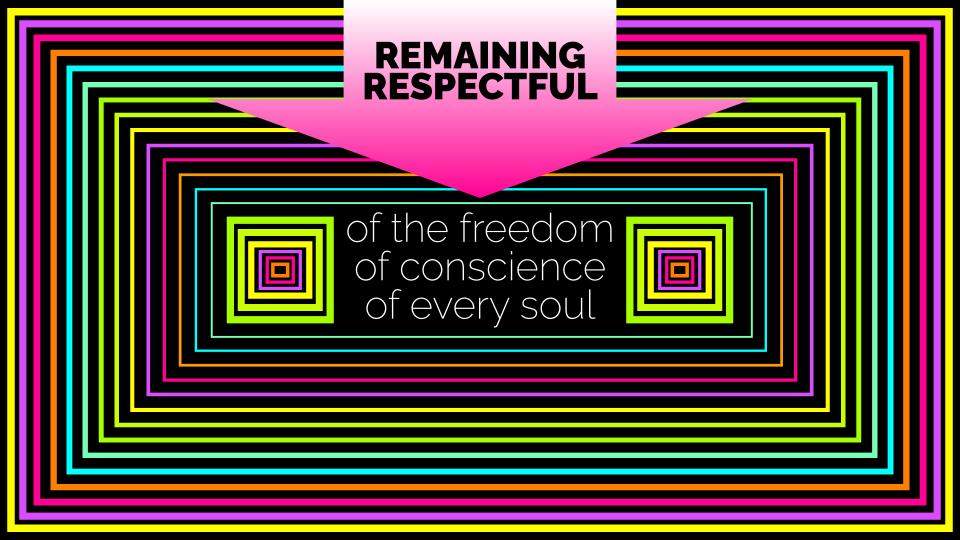












AND THEY
NEVER
IMPOSE

### their own standards

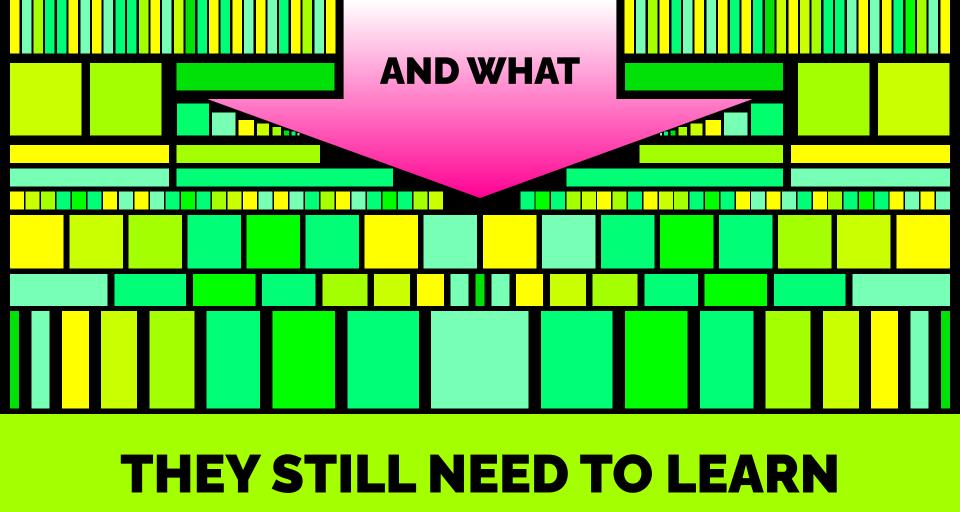




all the answers



#### **ABOUT WHAT THEY HAVE LEARNED**





to the

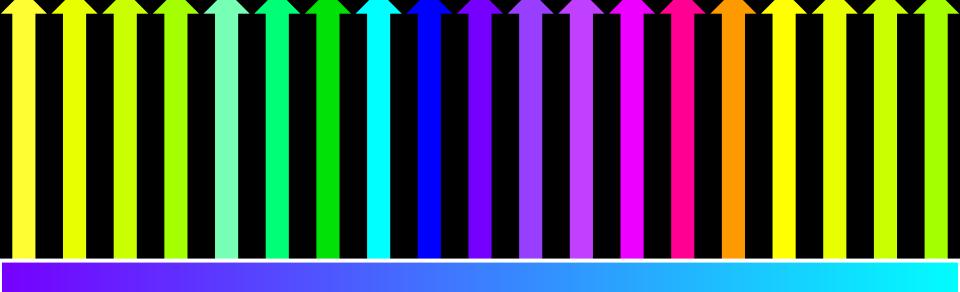
alternating rhythm

of action

and

reflection





IN PLACES WHERE GROWING NUMBERS ARE HELPING TO BUILD COMMUNITIES OF THIS CHARACTER



### TO TRANSFORM





is becoming increasingly

### EARNEST PURSUIT

### of the Plan's

the release of the society-building power of the Faith in ever-greater measures

central aim

WILL, WE ARE SURE, CAUSE



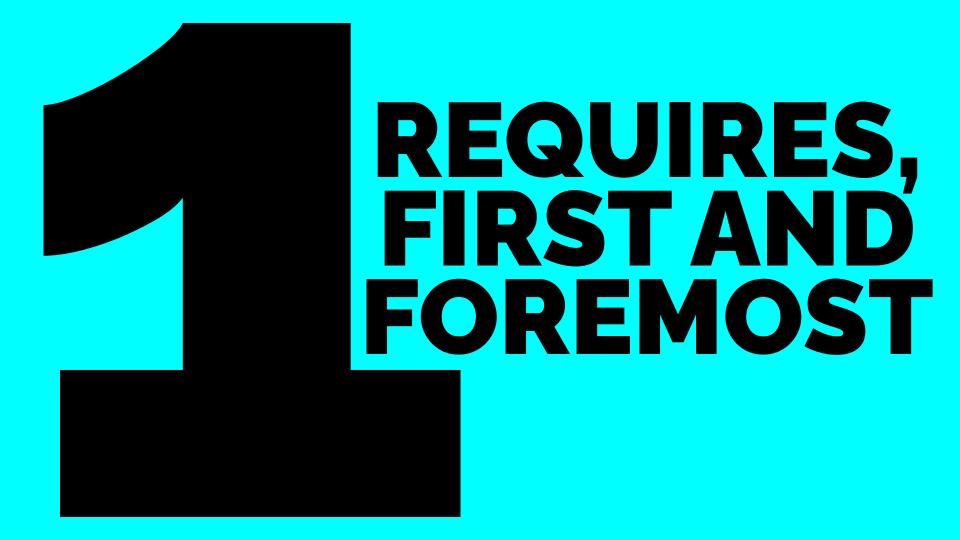
# THE MOVEMENT OF CLUSTERS

## Paragraphs 5 - 10

## PARAGRAPH 5

Advances in the process of entry by troops

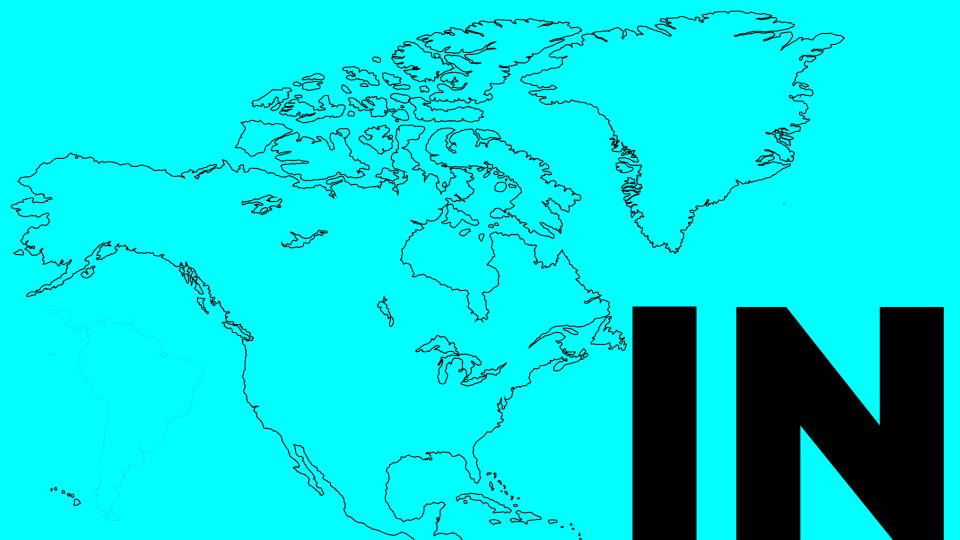




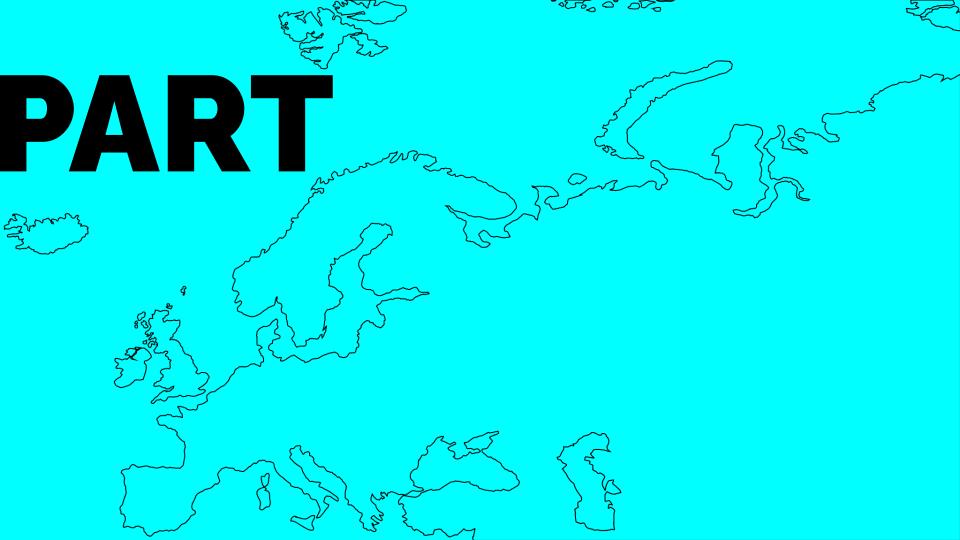
# FURTHER

# ADVANCES

#### NTHE PROCESS OF ENTRY BY TROOPS









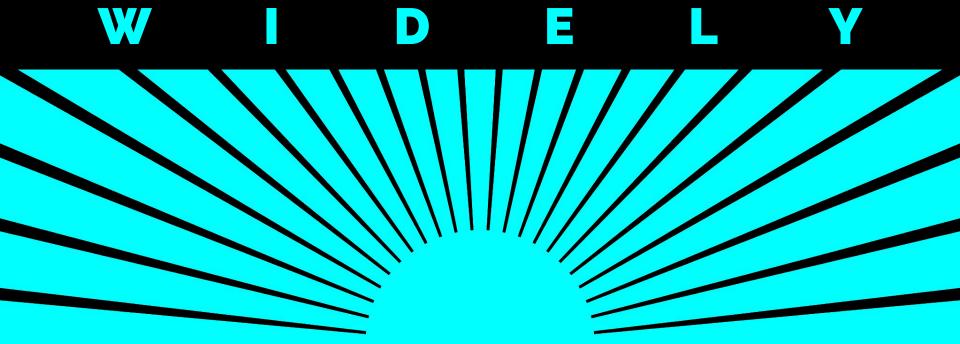


# :00 8



# of diffusing the LIGHT of Bahá'u'lláh's Revelation

ever more





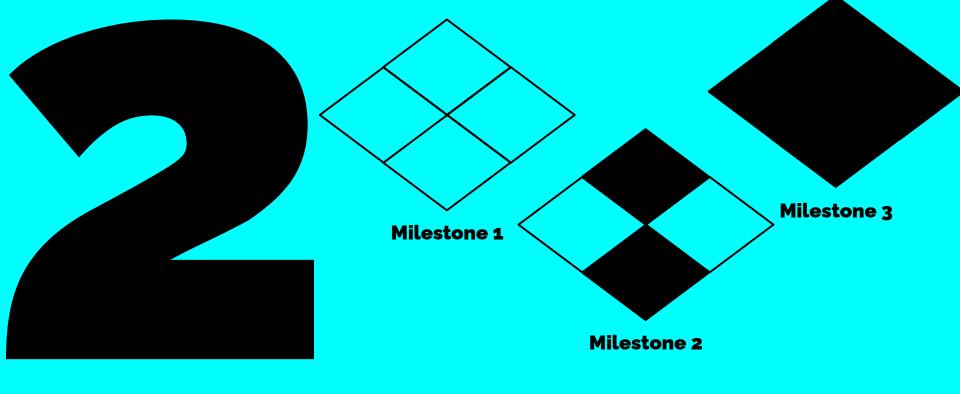
# OF HIS FAITH



1234567891011 35 41 56 63 74 98 19 HAVE MEASURABLE 95 OUTCOMES 123397540789937 5,678 12,725 34,814



# the number of clusters where APROGRAMMEOFGROWITH has been initiated



## THE DEGREE OF INTENSITY that each cluster has reached

#### The means now exist

# FORASWIFT ADVANCE

in relation to both measures





# DURING THE CURRENT SERIES OF GLOBAL PLANS

2021 - 2022

2022 - 2031

2031 - 2046

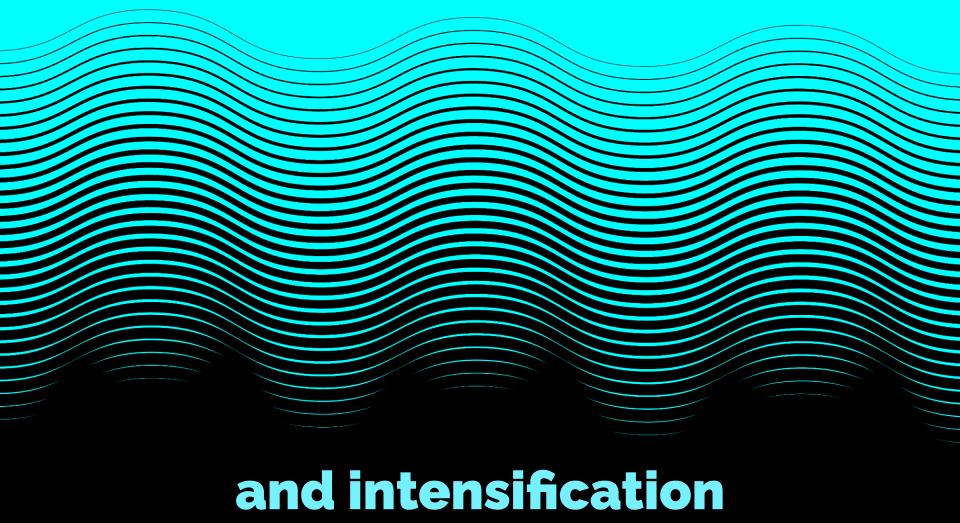
## IS TO ESTABLISH INTENSIVE PROGRAMMES OF GROWTH

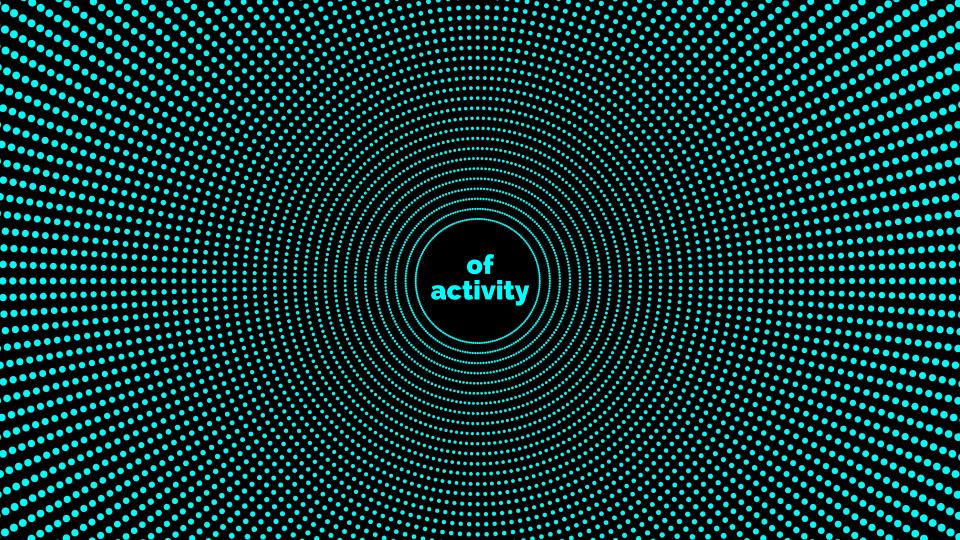
#### IN ALL THE CLUSTERS IN THE WORLD



This formidable













MUST BE ACHIEVED IN THE COURSE OF THE



### PARAGRAPH 6

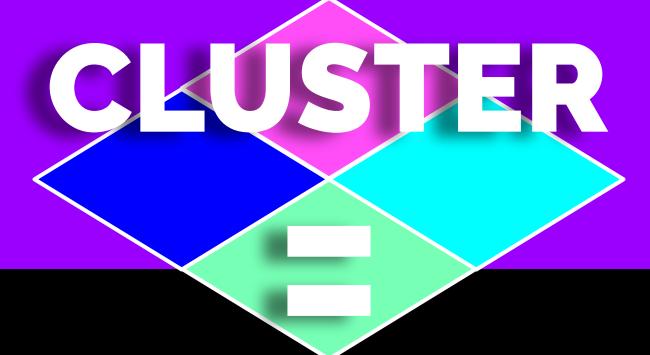
Considerations for adjusting cluster divisions

## **CONTINENTAL COUNSELLORS**





to determine whether their schemes for dividing their territories into clusters would benefit from any adjustments



AREA WHERE THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PLAN
CAN BE STIMULATED

**IN A MANAGEABLE** 



**AND SUSTAINABLE WAY** 

2001

2022

much has been learned about the size of cluster that is "manageable"

in different contexts

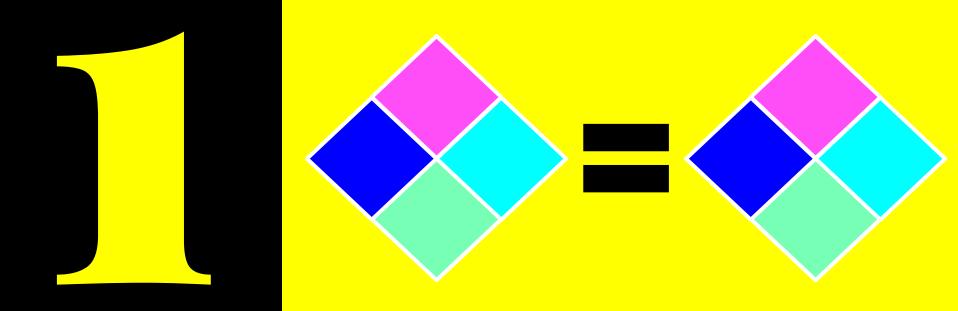


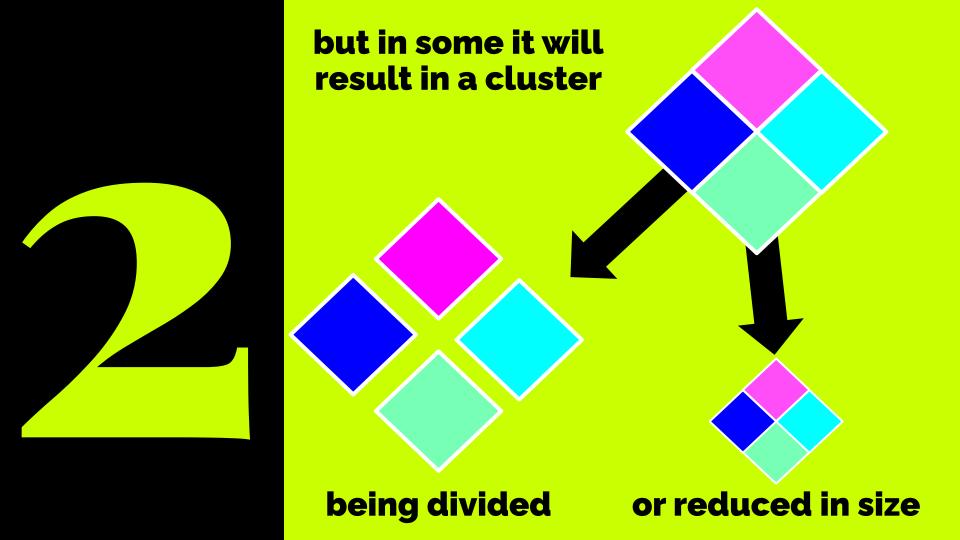
in different parts of the world

### in some countries, modifications have already begun to be considered, occasioned by the effects of growth

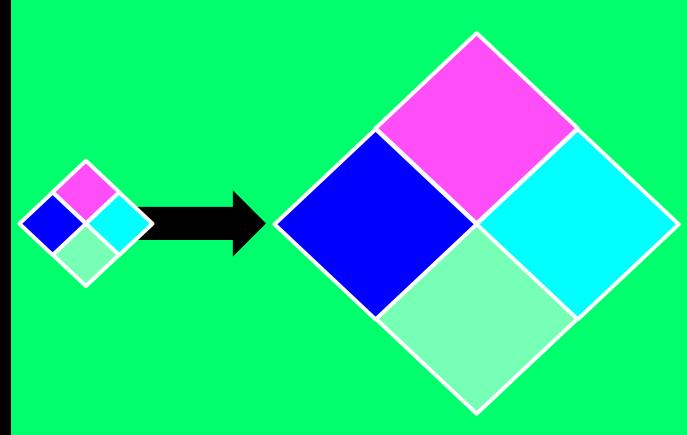


# In many instances this reassessment will not lead to any change,





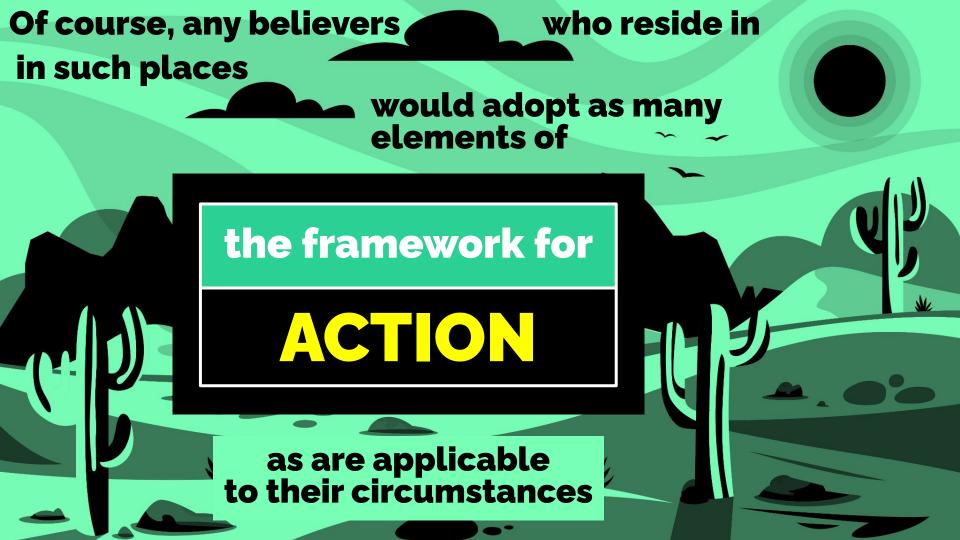
# and occasionally a cluster might become larger





Areas that are sparsely populated owing to the natural terrain may be excluded from the clustering scheme





# PARAGRAPH 7

Assessments of the movement of clusters

### (NOT IN LETTER): DEFINITION OF FIRST MILESTONE

That is to say, in whatever combination and however small in number, devotional gatherings, children's classes and junior youth groups are being maintained by those progressing through the sequence of institute courses and committed to the vision of individual and collective transformation they foster. This initial flow of human resources into the field of systematic action marks the first of several milestones in a process of sustainable growth.

### (NOT IN LETTER): DEFINITION OF SECOND MILESTONE

Reaching the second milestone along the continuum of development, which we described to you five years ago, is accompanied by advances qualitative, but also quantitative—such as a rise in the number of those involved in conversations that enable receptivity to be discovered and nurtured, in how many homes are being visited, in core activities and participation, in how many individuals are beginning the sequence of courses or supporting others as they gain the confidence to serve. Attendance at gatherings to mark the Nineteen Day Feast and Bahá'í Holy Days is being fostered by Local Spiritual Assemblies. Such advances are the more visible signs of a much finer development: the gradual spread, within a population, of a pattern of community life based on Bahá'u'lláh's teachings And, naturally, the number of believers grows.

29 December 2015 letter from the Universal House of Justice, paragraph 18

### (NOT IN LETTER): DEFINITION OF THIRD MILESTONE

3

For the movement of a population to have come this far demonstrates that the process which brought it about is strong enough to achieve and sustain a high degree of participation in all aspects of the capacity-building endeavour and manage the complexity entailed. This is another milestone for the friends to pass, the third in succession since the process of growth in a cluster was begun. It denotes the appearance of a system for extending, in centre after centre, a dynamic pattern of community life that can engage a people—men and women, youth and adults—in the work of their own spiritual and social transformation

## Basic model for community



# BY THE CLOSE OF THE ONE-YEAR PLAN APRIL 2022



# BY THE CLOSE OF THE ONE-YEAR PLAN APRIL 2022



6,000 CLUSTERS

5,000 CLUSTERS

WILL HAVE PASSED



# BYTHE CLOSE OF THE ONE-YEAR PLAN APRIL 2022



1,300 CLUSTERS

WILL HAVE ADVANCED

**FURTHER** 

# THESE FIGURES



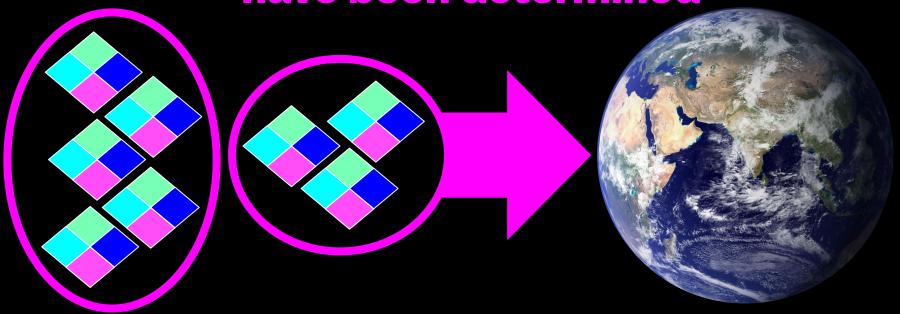




MUST CLIMB CONSIDERABLY

OVER THE NEXT NINE YEARS 2022 - 2031

# Once any adjustments to the clustering scheme in each country have been determined

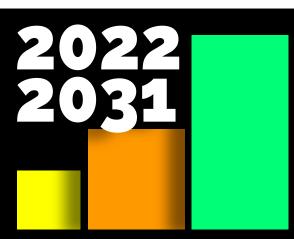


**CLUSTERING SCHEME** 

**IN EACH COUNTRY** 

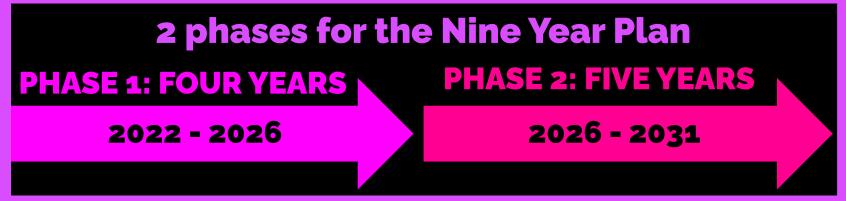


National Spiritual Assemblies & Regional Bahá'í Councils well-informed estimates NAW-RÚZ 2022



Universal House of Justice total collective aspirations RIDVÁN 2022

## (NOT IN LETTER): UPDATED RIDVÁN 2022 INFORMATION





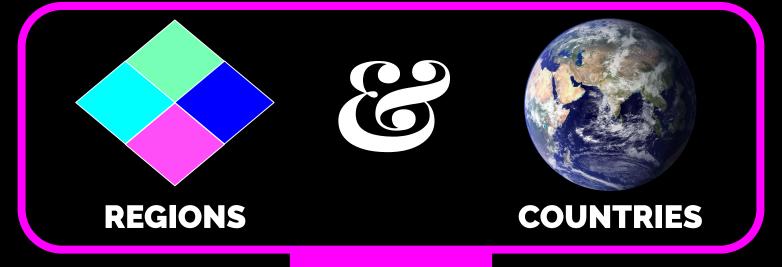




Ridván 2022 message from the Universal House of Justice, paragraph 3

# PARAGRAPH 8

Chief Objective: Milestone three cluster in every region



WHERE THE FAITH REMAINS

# 

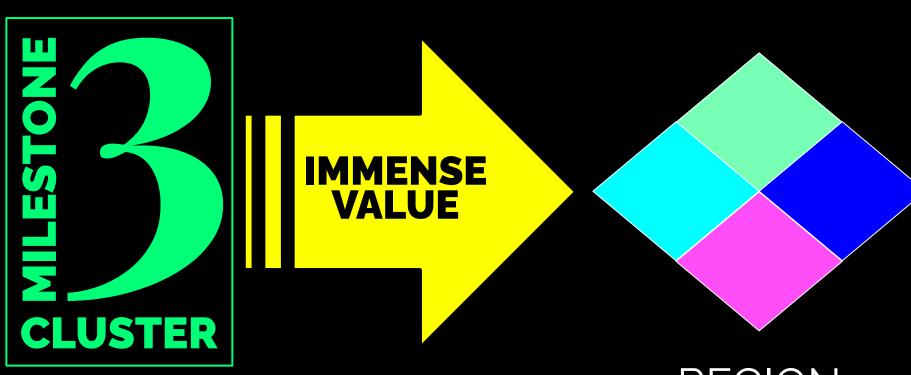


# THAT WHAT THE BAHÁ'Í WORLD HAS LEARNED ABOUT ACCELERATING THE GROWTH PROCESS

**BENEFITS** 

# these places ASWELLO

## IMPORTANT LESSON



REGION



## **AND THE MEANS**

TO DISSEMINATE INSIGHTS

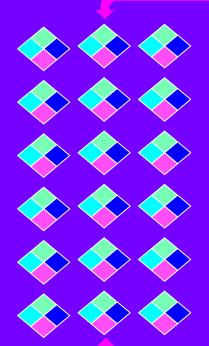


SHARE EXPERIENCE

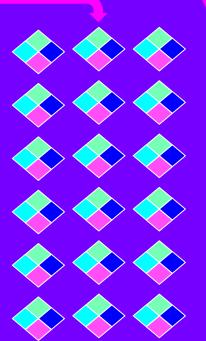
**ABOUT COMMUNITY-BUILDING ENDEAVOURS** 



THEN A







## IN SURROUNDING CLUSTERS BECOMES POSSIBLE

THAT DURING THE NINE YEAR PLAN 2022 - 2031

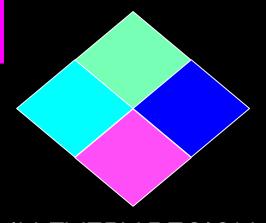


# in at least \_\_\_\_\_ONE CLUSTER\_\_









IN EVERY COUNTRY

IN EVERY REGION

concentrated effort of many a consecrated soul

# INTERNATIONAL TEACHING CENTRE IS READY TO WORK WITH YOU

## **CONTINENTAL COUNSELLORS**

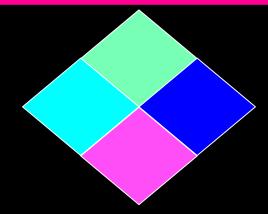


## FOREMOST AMONG THESE

**DEPLOYMENT OF TEAMS** 







INTERNATIONAL PIONEERS

HOMEFRONT PIONEERS



# INTERNATIONAL PIONEERS

# HOMEFRONT PIONEERS



## FAMILIAR WITH THE

framework for

ACTION



INTERNATIONAL PIONEERS

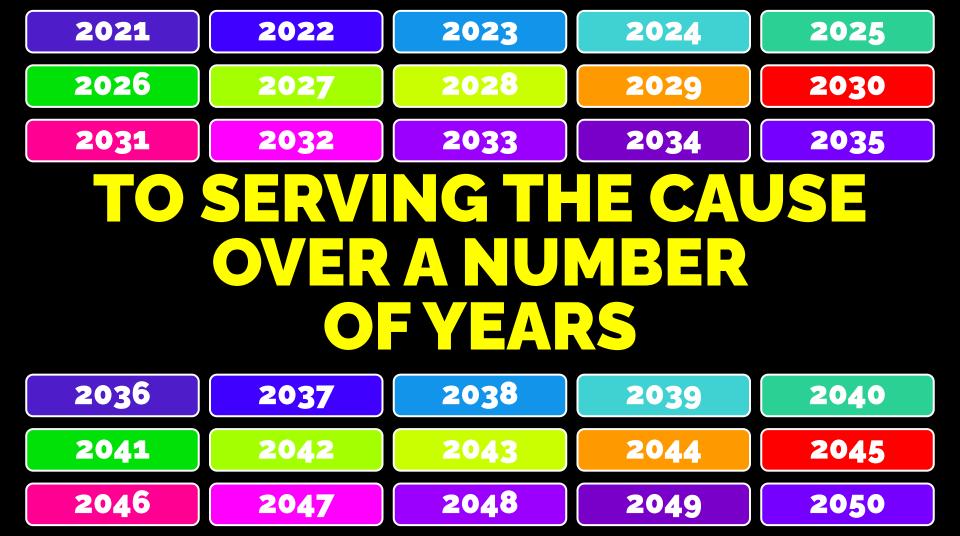
HOMEFRONT PIONEERS



PREPARED TO DEDICATE

significant amounts of

### TIME AND ENERGY



#### (NOT IN LETTER): DEFINITION OF FRAMEWORK FOR ACTION

Giving shape to the community's efforts is a framework for action defined by the global Plans of the Faith. This framework promotes the transformation of the individual in conjunction with social transformation, as two inseparable processes. Specifically, the courses of the institute are intended to set the individual on a path in which qualities and attitudes, skills and abilities, are gradually acquired through service service intended to quell the insistent self, helping to lift the individual out of its confines and placing him or her in a dynamic process of community building.

#### **CONTINENTAL COUNSELLORS**







# 

## who, following in the footsteps of so many heroic souls of the past







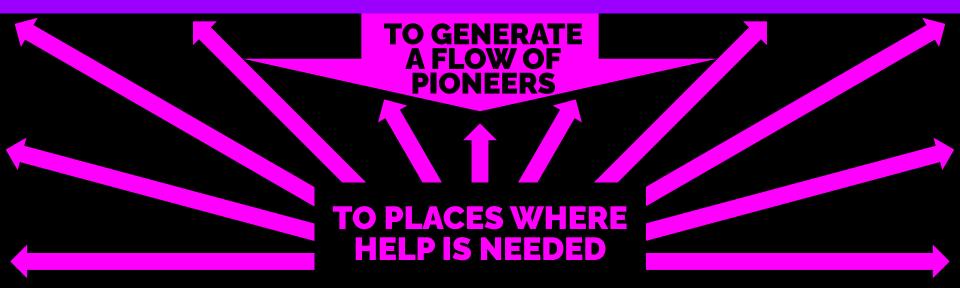
## SHINES BRIGHT



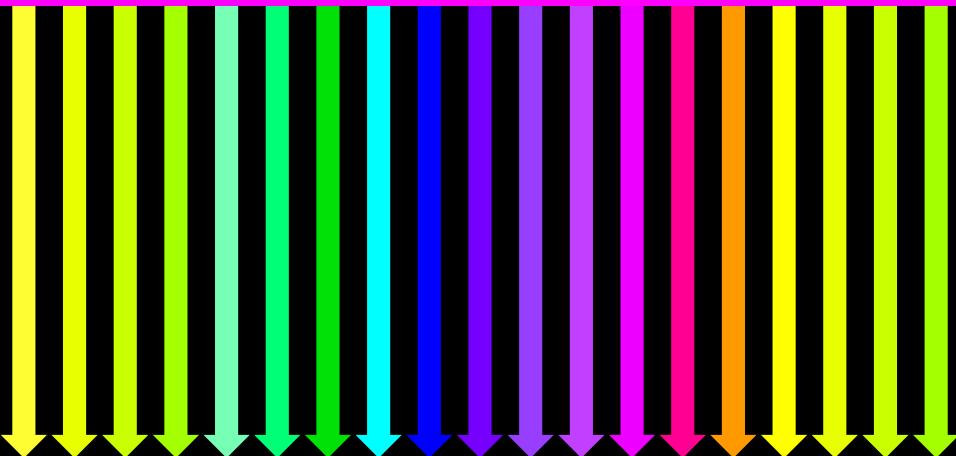
in every territory



#### WHERE STRENGTH AND EXPERIENCE HAVE ACCUMULATED



### AND ALSO TO PROVIDE SUPPORT BY OTHER MEANS



# This flow of support is one more way in which





#### MANIFESTS ITSELF IN

# SYSTEMATIC - ACTION

### PARAGRAPH 9

Creating environments for people to enter the Faith

1996 - 2000 | 2000 - 2001 | 2001 - 2006 | 2006 - 2011 | 2011 - 2016 | 2016 - 2021

#### THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE PREVIOUS SERIES OF PLANS

—PARTICULARLY THE LAST FIVE YEAR PLAN—

2016 - 2021

**COULD NOT HAVE OCCURRED** WITHOUT

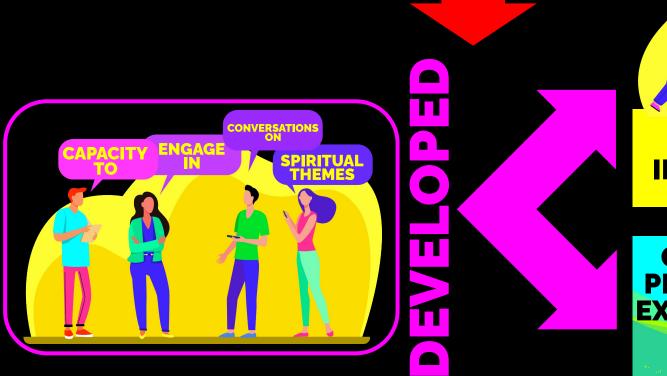
# ATREMENDOUS ADVANCE

in the teaching work

# an important dimension of this work



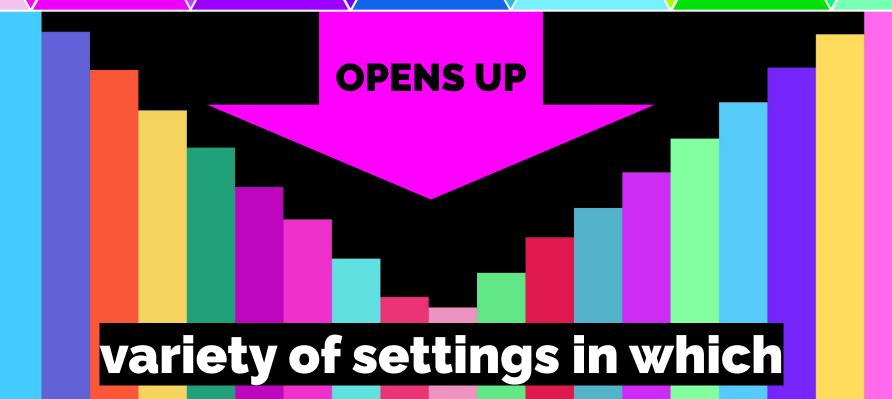
29 December 2015 letter from the Universal House of Justice to the Conference of the Continental Board of Counselors







# PATTERN OF ACTIVITY unfolding at the grassroots



### receptive souls

(sometimes whole families or peer groups)

CAN TAKE PART IN MEANINGFUL CONVERSATIONS WHICH AWAKEN INTEREST IN





Person of Bahá'u'lláh

over time

### many such souls

BEGIN TO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES WITH

the Bahá'í community

#### **ESPECIALLY AS**

they gain the confidence to

PARTICIPATE IN

community life





of course, the community

**WELCOMES** 

GREAT

that a person would like to maintain

ANY
DEGREE
OF
ASSOCIATION

or small

To recognize Bahá'u'lláh as a Manifestation of God



Accept privileges & responsibilities of membership in the Bahá'í community

**IS A** 

### SINGULAR MOMENT SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

Regular involvement in Bahá'í activities



Voicing support for Bahá'í principles

#### EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN



ENVIRONMENT CREATED BY COMMUNITY BUILDING **ENDEAVOURS** IN A LOCALITY

# ENABLES ANYONE WHO WISHES TO TAKE THIS STEP



IT IS
IMPORTANT
FOR THE
FRIENDS
TO

# WHEREVER THESE ENDEAVOURS ARE UNDER WAY

IT IS
IMPORTANT
FOR THE
FRIENDS
TO

REMAIN MINDFUL



GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT

doors of the faith are wide open

those who stand at threshold



### many believers

ARE DISCOVERING

# THATAVIBRANT, EXPANDING PATTERN OF ACTIVITY

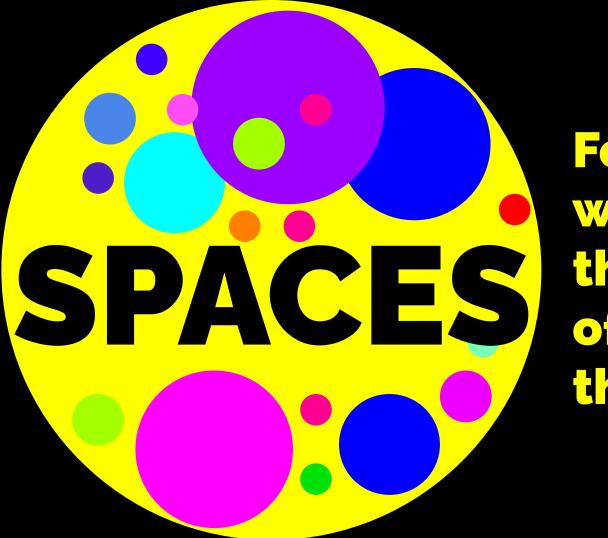
CAN NATURALLY LEAD TO

families

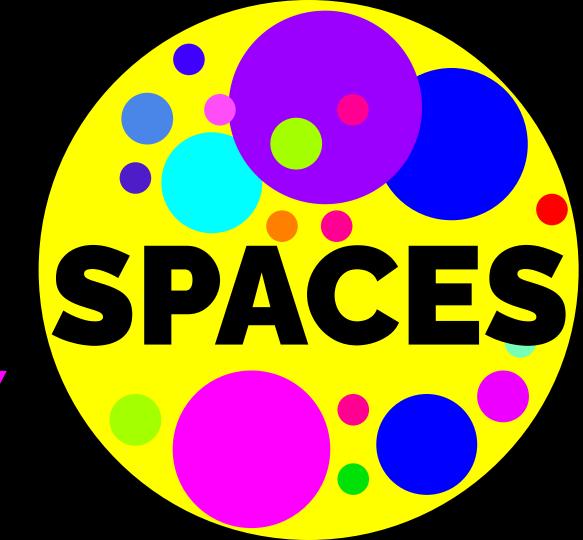
groups of friends

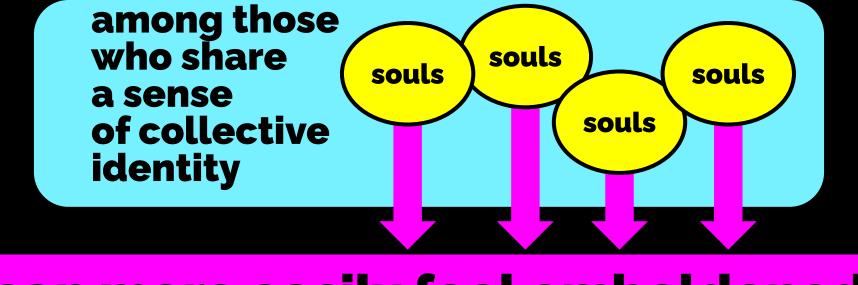
clusters of households

groups of clusters of families friends households **BEING READY TO** ENTER THE CAUSE



For in spaces where the possibility of joining the community can be discussed **OPENLY** and INCLUSIVELY





### can more easily feel emboldened



### BAHÁ'Í INSTITUTIONS

**ESPECIALLY LOCAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLIES** 



### MUST ADOPT

**A MINDSET** 

that allows for such developments

### AND ENSURE THAT

are removed

### PARAGRAPH 10

Teaching the Faith effectively

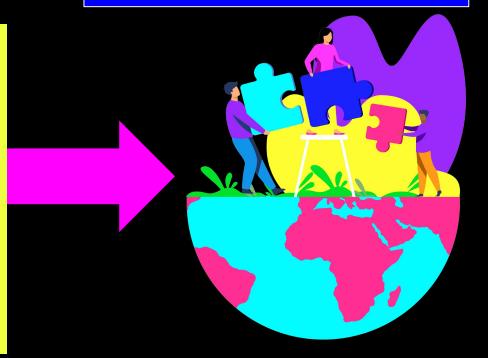
#### we ask that

**COUNSELLORS** 



AUXILIARY BOARD MEMBERS

**HELP** the believers, WHEREVER THEY RESIDE



### reflect PERIODICALLY



in their

SURROUNDINGS

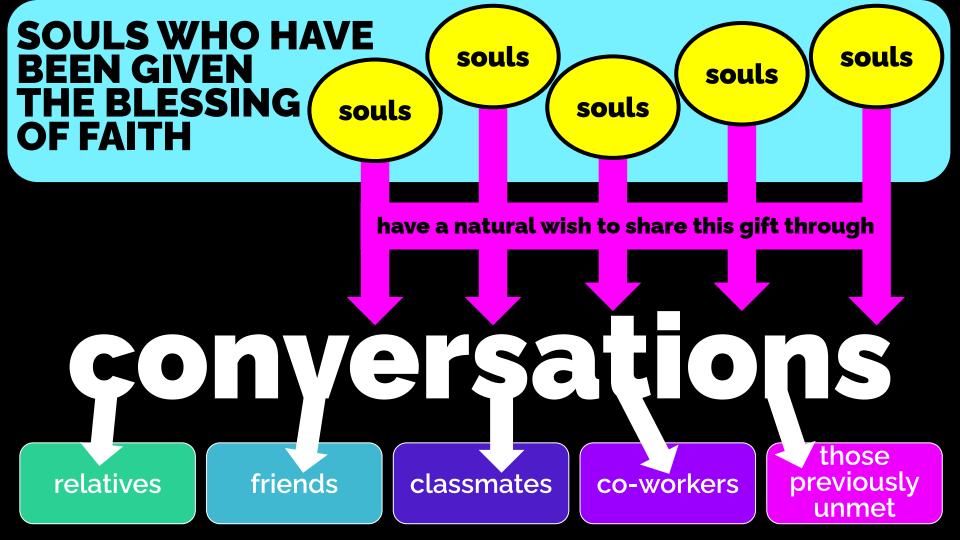
### and to

# their **HEARTS A PASSION**



# that will attract the confirmations of the Divine Kingdom





## seeking

in every place

at every moment

hearing ear

relatives

friends

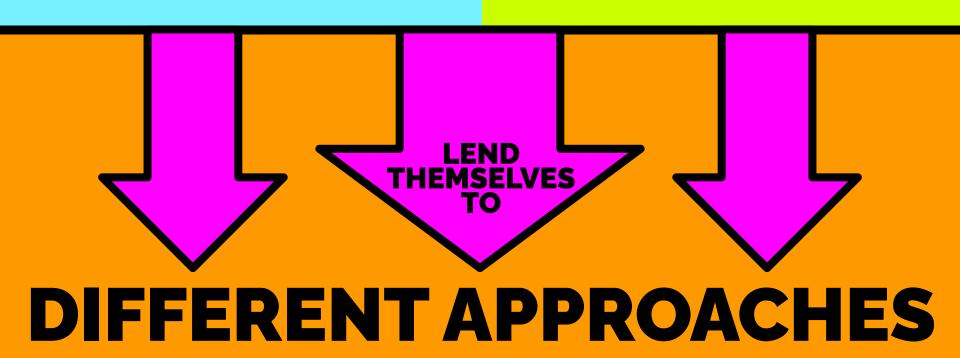
classmates

co-workers

those previously unmet

#### DIFFERENT SETTINGS





### the friends



**SHOULD BE OCCUPIED** in an ongoina



