



**National Spiritual Assembly
of the Bahá'ís of New Zealand**

Te Rūnanga Wairua Tapu o nga Bahá'í o Aotearoa

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16 Kalimát 177

Very dear friends in Aotearoa,

Tēnā koutou katoa

As previously mentioned, the National Spiritual Assembly is calling for a national prayer campaign for the month of Kamál¹ to assist with achieving the goals of the Five Year Plan before this Plan ends at Ridván 2021². The institutions and agencies throughout the country, including the members of the Institution of the Counsellors³ are working very hard to support all of the endeavours of the friends everywhere in your communities and clusters. The National Assembly sees that all three protagonists of the Plan — the individuals, communities, and institutions — are developing loving and collaborative relationships, and the sense of mission and unity of endeavour that characterises these relationships is energising all of the service taking place. It is the National Assembly's view that this unity of thought and effort that is so palpable at this time, when combined with the heightened devotional atmosphere of a concerted prayer campaign, will conduce to the release of spiritual forces to add further impetus to all of the work being so sacrificially undertaken.

The National Assembly has selected the following prayers, and hopes that friends will offer at least one of these each day during the campaign, that the Almighty “will rehabilitate the fortunes of mankind and sanctify the hearts and souls of men”⁴ that they may be receptive to the healing Message of Bahá'u'lláh, and that friends throughout our beautiful country will be strengthened to take every opportunity to further the work of the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh in whatever ways are possible for you at this time.

The friends are invited to consider using in their daily prayers one of the following prayers:

- “The Fire Tablet” by Bahá'u'lláh.
- Prayer revealed by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada from the Tablets of the Divine Plan: “O Thou incomparable God! O Thou Lord of the Kingdom....”
- The prayer by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá beginning: “Thou seest me, O my God, bowed down in lowliness, humbling myself before Thy commandments, submitting to Thy sovereignty ...”
- “Prayer for the Pacific” by ‘Abdu’l-Bahá.
- ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Tablet of Visitation.

This selection of prayers is included in the attached file (“Prayer cards Kamal 177”), which can be printed to make handy cards for each prayer. A second file (“Prayer booklet Kamal 177”) contains the prayers presented on A5 pages, suitable for printing as a booklet. The “Prayer for the Pacific” sung in te reo Māori (with lyrics onscreen) can be found at the following link: <https://youtu.be/-vMOFv2HXIY>.

May the Blessed Beauty allow you all to take as many opportunities as possible during the days of Kamál to enjoy the “sweetest state”⁵ as you supplicate and implore His aid that the spiritual effects may bless and confirm you at all times. And as you call on the Concourse on High to assist this country to end the Plan on a victorious note, may your engagement with these spiritual forces open a way for you to serve with ever greater zeal, patience, perseverance and joy.



With the loving thoughts and ardent prayers of the National Spiritual Assembly for every drop of sacrificial effort you make for this blessed Cause, at a time when the world is in such dire need.

Arohanui

Loving Bahá'í greetings,
National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of New Zealand

Suzanne Mahon
Secretary

¹ Sunset Thursday 30 July to sunset Tuesday 18 August

² First day of the Ridván Festival period next year is 20 April, so the last day of this current Five Year Plan is 19 April 2021

³ In New Zealand the Institution of the Counsellors is represented by six Auxiliary Board members and their many assistants who work under the guidance of the Continental Board of Counsellors for Australasia and have the support and assistance of New Zealand's liaison Counsellor, Ms Tessa Scrine, who is one of the ten members of that Continental Board.

⁴ Bahá'u'lláh, *Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh*, XLIII

⁵ "The greatest attainment or the sweetest state is none other than conversation with God." Words of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, cited in "Star of the West", vol. 8, no. 4 (17 May 1917)