

REGIONAL BAHÁ'Í COUNCIL
OF THE NORTHEASTERN STATES

June 1, 2020

Dear Friends residing in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont,

We are excited to announce the launch of a Virtual Institute Campaign that will offer an opportunity for all the believers and their friends to engage in study of the available books from the Ruhi Institute.

Described by The Universal House of Justice as *“an instrument of limitless potentialities”*, the training institute establishes a fundamental connection between the heart of each participant and the Word of God. Through this connection, individuals build their capacities to engage in meaningful acts of service. *“With each course studied”*, the International Teaching Center describes, *“knowledge of the Faith increases, insights into spiritual matters deepen, spiritual susceptibilities expand, requisite qualities and attitudes develop, and skills and abilities sharpen. Individuals grow in the ability to investigate the Sacred Writings, to understand the reality of their community, and to engage in conversations of significance. They become better able to consult on their needs, to collaborate with others, and to reflect on and improve their efforts. As they become ever more conscious of the divine assistance surrounding them, they grow in confidence.”*

During this time of great crisis, can we conceive of capacities more needed than these--to consult, to reflect, to deeply understand the Sacred Word, and to serve our communities?

Over the past few months of social distancing, friends in our region have found many creative and meaningful ways to advance the teaching work and deepen their capacities through study and service. The change in our pace of life and new virtual options for connection have opened a unique opportunity for us to envision engaging every believer in our communities in a study circle.

This historic Virtual Institute Campaign will enable individuals from the different clusters in our sub-region to study any institute course alongside an experienced tutor supported by cluster coordinators. Upon completion of their study in August, tutors will help connect participants to service opportunities in their home cluster.

Please fill out this Google Form by June 5th to participate in the Institute Campaign and indicate the Ruhi Book you wish to begin studying (see sequence of courses below): <https://forms.gle/xJWWmhziVBdg1jq7>

The Virtual Institute Campaign will kick off with a lively online devotional on Wednesday, June 10th (Link to follow) connecting souls from across the sub-region who will be embarking together in collective study.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Regional Baha'i Council of the Northeastern States
Regional Training Institute Board of the Northeastern States

cc: Continental Counselor, Farah Guchani-Rosenberg
Auxiliary Board member, Vafa Akhtar-Khavari
Regional Institute Resource Person, Riwanj Thapaliya

Regional Coordinator, Hayon Thapaliya
All Spiritual Assemblies & Registered Groups

Main Sequence of Courses

- Book 1: Reflections on the Life of the Spirit
- Book 2: Arising to Serve
- Book 3: Teaching Children's Classes
- Book 4: The Twin Manifestations
- Book 5: Releasing the Powers of Junior Youth
- Book 6: Teaching the Cause
- Book 7: Walking Together on a Path of Service
- Book 8: The Covenant of Baha'u'llah
- Book 9: Gaining an Historical Perspective
- Book 10: Building Vibrant Communities
- Book 11: Material Means
- Book 12: [Forthcoming]
- Book 13: Engaging in Social Action