



BIG IDEAS:

THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH AND THE ISSUES OF OUR TIME

Please join us for a series of talks addressing some of humanity's shared challenges and opportunities as we work to advance an emerging global civilization. This series brings together current research, experience, contemporary discourses and Bahá'í perspectives.

"Be anxiously concerned with the needs of the age ye live in and its exigencies and requirements."

~ Bahá'í Writings



Friday, Jan. 12, 2024, 7:30 EST

"The utmost loving-kindness": The treatment of animals in the Bahá'í Writings

With Michael Sabet

The question of the proper relationship between humans and animals can easily fall into "the all too common tendencies . . . to delineate sharp dichotomies . . . and engage in intractable debate that obstructs the search for viable solutions" (Universal House of Justice, 29 November 2017 letter on climate change). The Bahá'í Writings transcend the dichotomy between domination-themed narratives that assign purely instrumental value to the natural world, and materialistic narratives that deny any unique status for the human. This presentation will explore certain relational principles in the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh and 'Abdu'l-Bahá that can guide our contributions to discourses dealing with animals and the natural world.

About Michael Sabet: Michael is a PhD student in Political Science at the University of Toronto. His research involves putting a Bahá'í framework for governance into dialogue with political philosophy. He is a lawyer by training, having practiced constitutional litigation in Ottawa after clerking at the Supreme Court. Michael resides in Calgary and is the Editor of The Journal of Bahá'í Studies.

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