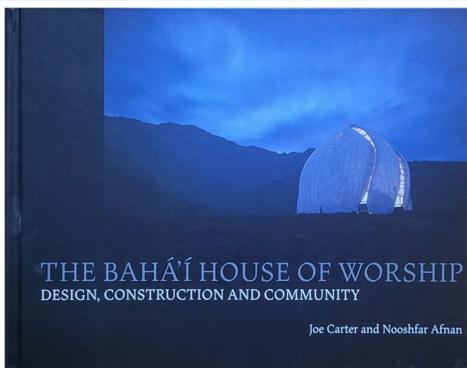


# BIG IDEAS



**Friday, April 10, 2026 7:30 pm EST**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

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Meeting ID: 845 8585 7564

Passcode: 047973

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## BIG IDEAS:

### BAHÁ'Í PERSPECTIVES ON 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, April 10, 2026, 7:30 EST**

### **The Peace and Regeneration of the World: The Role of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkár with Joe Carter**

Increasingly our world is becoming conscious of the oneness of humanity and its promise, but, at the same time, confronting the weakening of social bonds, a decline in morality, and the shortcomings of the current world order. This presentation is an effort to show the relevance to these issues of the Baha'i Mashiqu'l-Adhkar, a House of Worship surrounded by humanitarian, educational, cultural and administrative institutions. Construction has begun in several places around the world.

These new collective centers are the fruition of a process where the spiritual empowerment of individuals is fostered by participation in community building, and where devotional activity and efforts to promote the common good are woven together, so vital to the regeneration of the world.

Baha'i worship, *"...cannot afford lasting satisfaction and benefit to the worshipper himself, much less to humanity in general, unless and until translated and transfused into that dynamic and disinterested service to the cause of humanity which it is the supreme privilege of the Dependencies of the Mashriqu'l-Adhkar to facilitate and promote"*.

**About Joe:** Born in Ottawa, Canada, Joe studied architecture at McGill University. During a break from architectural studies to 'look for answers', he found, in Canada's Arctic, the Bahá'í Faith. He joined in 1970.

After graduation Joe lived in St John's, Newfoundland, from 1974 to 1986, then in China from 1985 to 2016. He taught architectural design at the Tianjin University School of Architecture until late 1988, when he moved to Beijing. There he designed the new campus for the Central Academy of Drama.

In 1989 he married He Hongyu, an architect-artist from Beijing, They raised two sons and founded a craft and fashion company, *Five Colours Earth* [www.fivecoloursearth.net](http://www.fivecoloursearth.net).

Joe's book *Some Thoughts on China and the New World Order* was published in 2009. Since 2016, they have been living in Montreal.

Joe and Nooshfar Afnan wrote *The Baha'i House of Worship - Design, Construction and Community*, published in 2022 by George Ronald.