

# Achievements of the Seven Year Plan

In its Ridván 1985 message to the Bahá'ís of the world, the Universal House of Justice stated, "Victory in the Plan is now within sight and at its completion the summation of its achievements may well astonish us all." The following year, the House of Justice noted that "the Seven Year Plan, the manifold achievements of which brought to a close the third epoch of the Formative Age, ran its course through a period of accelerating change in the Bahá'í community and in the world at large. Significant developments took place in this short span of years."

The following synopsis presents the significant achievements of the Seven Year Plan, Ridván 1979-1986.

## World Centre Achievements

1. *Completion and Occupation of the Seat of the Universal House of Justice in 1983.* Work on this \$28 million project commenced in June 1975; it was dedicated on April 29, 1978, during the fourth International Convention; its inauguration took place on June 17, 1982, through the holding of a seminar on the occasion of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the passing of the Greatest Holy Leaf.

2. *Approval of the Concept for the Other Buildings on the Arc in early 1986.* Designs were prepared by Husayn Amánat, the architect of the Seat of the Universal House of Justice, for the Centre for the Study of the Sacred Texts, which will lie between the International Archives building and the Seat of the House of Justice; the International Teaching Centre; and the International Bahá'í Library.

3. *Restoration of the House of 'Abdu'lláh-Páshá.* The restoration of the upper floor of the south wing, that part of the complex where the Holy Family dwelt, was completed in 1983 in time for delegates to the International Convention to visit. Since then, plans have been prepared for the restoration of the north wing which consists of a large room used for community gatherings in the time of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, and a smaller room used by Shoghi Effendi.

4. *Bahá'í Cemetery at Ein Gev.* The establishment of a new Bahá'í cemetery near the Sea of Galilee, and the reinterment there on October 18, 1985, of the remains of Mírzá Muhammad-Qulí (the faithful half-brother of Bahá'u'lláh) and 11 members of his family, mark an important supplemental achievement in the Holy Land.

5. *Extension of the Gardens in the Holy Land.* A total of 66,265 square meters of land was acquired during the Plan: 13,150 square meters bordering the driveway from the western gate at Bahjí; 50,000 square meters adjacent to and northeast of the Mazra'ih property; and 3,135 square meters at Ein Gev.

6. *Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Passing of the Greatest Holy Leaf.* A compilation of her own writings and of others about her was published in her memory in July 1982.

7. *Expansion of the Membership and Responsibilities of the International Teaching Centre.* Through the addition of Counsellors Magdalene Carney, Mas'úd Khamsí, Peter Khan and Isobel Sabri in May 1983, joining the Hands of the Cause Amatu'l-Bahá Rúhiyyih Khánum and 'Alí Akbar Furútan and Counsellors Anneliese Bopp, Hooper Dunbar and 'Aziz Yazdí, its membership was raised to nine. Commencing May 23, 1983, Counsellor members of the Teaching Centre serve a five-year term. Among the functions presently carried out are: exercising full responsibility for the direction and stimulation of the Continental Boards of Counsellors and serving as a liaison between them and the Universal House of Justice; preparing reports and recommendations to the Universal House of Justice for further development of the Bahá'í community; taking responsibility for the protection of the Faith; determining needs for the enrichment of Bahá'í life, and for the continued expansion and diversification of Bahá'í activities within the realms of teaching and consolidation; studying the needs for pioneers and traveling teachers, for literature and audio-visual materials.

8. *Expansion of the Bahá'í International Community of offices.* In the course of the Plan, the Bahá'í International Community considerably broadened its relationship with the United Nations system beyond its headquarters in New York by establishing UN branch headquarters in Geneva and Vienna, and UN regional headquarters, or Regional Economic Commissions, in Africa (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia), Asia (Bangkok, Thailand), and Latin America and the Caribbean (Santiago, Chile). It has also increased its contacts with several of the UN specialized bodies and agencies, including the World Food Council (WFC), the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and the International Labor Organization (ILO). Moreover, the Bahá'í International Community participated in sessions of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe and was thereby instrumental in bringing the situation of the Bahá'ís in Iran to the attention of those bodies. It also enjoys a close working relationship with the South Pacific Commission (SPC), an inter-governmental organization promoting the social and economic development of the countries of the Pacific region.

9. *International Bahá'í Refugee Office.* This office, established in November 1984 in Canada at the request of the Universal House of Justice, is responsible for coordinating efforts to resettle Iranian Bahá'ís who have been forced to seek refuge in other countries because of the persecutions of the Iranian government. During the Plan, 38 National Assemblies have been involved in the resettlement of some 3,500 Iranian Bahá'í refugees.

10. *Office of Social and Economic Development.* This office, established in July 1983, has been given the task of helping the Universal House of Justice to promote and coordinate various activities in the Bahá'í world intended to uplift the social and economic life of peoples.

11. *Office of Public Information.* Established in May 1985, with its headquarters at the World Centre, as well as a branch in New York City, this office's basic function is to disseminate accurate information on the Faith to government, international and national agencies, leaders of thought, the mass media and the general public. The purpose of these efforts is to foster a favorable climate of understanding among the peoples of the world concerning the aims and achievements of the Bahá'í community as well as to correct misinformation and combat opposition.

### World-Wide Achievements

1. *Dedication of the Temple in Samoa.* In September 1978 a design for the Temple was approved; on January 27, 1979, the foundation stone was laid; construction was carried out by a New Zealand contractor; and the Temple was dedicated on September 1, 1984. Total project cost: \$6,500,000.

2. *Temple in India.* Designs for the Temple were approved prior to the Plan; the foundation stone was laid on October 17, 1977; construction contract was awarded to an Indian company in 1980; construction was completed by June 1986; the Temple was dedicated between December 23-28, 1986. This undertaking has spanned three Plans at a total cost of \$10 million.

3. *Further Development of the Continental Boards of Counsellors.* In November 1980, 63 Continental Counsellors were appointed for a five-year term of service starting on the Day of the Covenant, November 26, 1980. At that time, 13 zones were consolidated into five zones, each of which extends over the entire continental area. The number of Counsellors was increased to 72 in November 1985, and the first world-wide Counsellors' Conference was held in the Holy Land in December 1985. The work of the Continental Counsellors is supported by the activities of 630 Auxiliary Board members who were appointed by the end of the Plan, and by at least 5,000 believers who are serving as assistants to the Auxiliary Board members.

4. *Five International Bahá'í Conferences, 1982.* Dublin, Ireland, June 27-29: 1,900 from 60 countries attending; Quito, Ecuador, August 6-8: 1,450 from 43 countries attending; Lagos, Nigeria, August 19-22: 1,100 from 90 ethnic groups attending; Canberra, Australia, September 2-5: 2,400 from 45 countries attending; Montreal, Canada, September 2-5: 9,400 from 101 countries attending.

5. *Countries Opened to the Faith.* By the conclusion of the Plan, Bahá'í communities were established in 166 independent countries and 48 dependent territories or overseas departments.

6. *Formation of National Spiritual Assemblies.* Twenty-two new National Assemblies, comprising one-sixth of the total number, were formed during this Plan. In addition, it was possible to re-form three National Assemblies: Uganda (1981), Nepal (1982), and Equatorial Guinea (1984). However, in 1981 the National Assembly of Zaire was dissolved for a temporary period; and in 1983 the National Assembly of Iran was dissolved as a result of the persecutions in that country.

Continent	No. NSAs Riḍván 1979	No. NSAs Riḍván 1986	Percent Increase
Africa	34	43	26
Americas	33	41	24
Asia	25	27	8
Australasia	14	17	21
Europe	19	20	5
WORLD	125	148	18

The following National Assemblies were established during the Seven Year Plan (with formation year in parentheses): Transkei (1980); Bermuda (1981); Bophuthatswana (1981); Leeward Islands (1981); Southwest Africa/Namibia (1981); St. Vincent and the Grenadines (1981); Tuvalu (1981); Uganda (1981); Nepal (1982); Dominica (1983); St. Lucia (1983); Andaman and Nicobar Islands (1984); Canary Islands (1984); Cape Verde (1984); Equatorial Guinea (1984); French Guiana (1984); Gabon (1984); Grenada (1984); Martinique (1984); North Yemen (1984); Ciskei (1985); Cook Islands (1985); Mali (1985); Mozambique (1985); Western Caroline Islands (1985).

7. *Formation of Local Spiritual Assemblies.* During the Plan, in 28 countries, the number of local Assemblies more than doubled, while an additional 39 countries had an increase of at least 50 percent. The formation of 9,230 new local Assemblies, bringing the total to 32,854 worldwide, surpassed the goal of the Plan by 2,004 Assemblies.

Continent	No. Assemblies Riḍván 1979	No. Assemblies Riḍván 1986	Percent Increase
Africa	4,535	7,258	60
Americas	5,424	6,500	20
Asia	12,473	17,524	40
Australasia	578	857	48
Europe	614	715	16
WORLD	23,624	32,854	39

8. *Localities Opened to the Faith.* During this period, in 142 countries or territories, the number of localities opened to the Faith was more than doubled; and in an additional 35 countries, it was increased by at least 50 percent. Over-all, 14,003 new localities were opened to the Cause, surpassing the goal of the Plan by 1,250.

Continent	No. Localities Riḍván 1979	No. Localities Riḍván 1986	Percent Increase
Africa	26,508	35,657	35
Americas	22,110	26,570	20
Asia	49,051	48,730	-1
Australasia	2,586	2,902	12
Europe	2,449	2,848	16
WORLD	102,704	116,707	14

9. *Bahá'í Population Increase.* The total Bahá'í population increase for the Plan was approximately 1,118,000, 518,000 of whom are adults. Worldwide, the community is growing at a rate of 4.4 percent per year, with an "enrollment rate" of 2.7 percent. Forty-nine countries exhibited an average annual growth rate of 10 percent or better for the Plan, and in 86 countries the number of adults was increased by at least 30 percent during these seven years.

Continent	No. Believers Riḡván 1979	No. Believers Riḡván 1986	Percent Increase
Africa	603,000	969,000	61
Americas	665,000	857,000	29
Asia	2,264,000	2,807,000	24
Australasia	70,000	84,000	20
Europe	19,000	22,000	16
WORLD	3,621,000	4,739,000	31

In 34 countries the percentage of Bahá'ís in the general population is greater than one percent; in six of these communities the percentage is greater than five percent: Tuvalu (5.8 percent); Belize (6.0 percent); Tonga (6.3 percent); Western Caroline Islands (7.7 percent); Marshall Islands (11.5 percent); and Kiribati (17.9 percent).

The following 22 national communities, each with at least 500 believers, more than doubled their adult Bahá'í population during the Seven Year Plan.

Australia	144 percent	Honduras	452 percent
Bangladesh	182 percent	Hong Kong	111 percent
Benin	111 percent	Malawi	153 percent
Brazil	129 percent	St. Lucia	192 percent
Cape Verde	1,567 percent	Sierra Leone	252 percent
Cent. African Rep.	102 percent	Singapore	131 percent
Chad	250 percent	Sudan	190 percent
Dominica	524 percent	Suriname	146 percent
Ghána	138 percent	United Arab Emir.	150 percent
Guinea Bissau	2,142 percent	Vanuatu	218 percent
Guyana	213 percent	Zimbabwe	103 percent

10. *Diversity of the Bahá'í Community.* Members of more than 300 ethnic groups which had not previously been represented in the Bahá'í community were enrolled during the Plan, bringing the total number of indigenous tribes, races and ethnic groups enrolled in the Faith to more than 2,100.

11. *Local Spiritual Assembly Activities.* The number of countries with active local Assemblies increased from 134 at the beginning of the Seven Year Plan to 179 by its conclusion. The following table provides an overview of the increase in local activities reported.

Nature of Activity	No. LSAs Involved		Percent of Total LSAs	Percent Increase
	1980	1986		
Feasts, Holy Days	3,149	7,196	22	129
Meeting Regularly	2,747	6,081	19	121
Giving to Funds	2,472	4,596	14	86
Children's Classes	1,731	4,295	13	148
Youth Activities	843	2,402	7	185
Women's Activities	418	1,558	5	273
Extension Teaching	1,655	3,847	22	132
Local Teaching	1,460	5,699	33	290
Local Deepening	1,352	4,665	27	245

12. *International Pioneering.* Of the pioneers who have settled in foreign posts in response to the goals of the Universal House of Justice for the Seven Year Plan, 3,694 are still in the field: 746 settled in Africa; 980 in the Americas; 671 in Asia; 256 in Australasia; and 1,041 in Europe. These believers have originated from 125 countries and settled in 182 countries. Well over 1,900 of them are of Persian background, with another 900 and 200 being American or Canadian, respectively.

13. *Traveling Teaching.* Traveling teachers also contributed greatly to the progress of the Cause; more than 10,000 teaching trips were made during the Plan.

14. *Border Teaching Projects.* By the end of the Plan, 78 Assemblies had initiated the organization of teaching campaigns with other national communities.

15. *Teaching Projects and Teaching Conferences.* The following table shows the number of teaching projects and teaching conferences and the number of National Assemblies organizing those activities.

Continent	Teaching Projects		Teaching Conferences	
	National Assemblies	No. of Projects	National Assemblies	No. of Conferences
Africa	11	12	37	754
Americas	29	73	40	662
Asia	5	39	18	784
Australasia	6	12	16	335
Europe	9	9	18	220
WORLD	60	145	129	2,755

16. *Incorporation of National Spiritual Assemblies.* Eleven National Assemblies were incorporated during the Seven Year Plan (10 of which were new National Assemblies), for a total of 113. Six were in Africa, three in the Americas, one in Asia, and one in Australasia.

17. *Incorporation of Local Spiritual Assemblies.* By the end of the Plan, a total of 2,309 local Assemblies had been incorporated in 85 countries.

18. *Recognition of Bahá'í Marriage.* During the Plan, Bahá'í marriage was officially recognized in Barbados, Mauritius, Burma and Uganda, bringing the total to 52 countries.

19. *Recognition of Bahá'í Holy Days.* Over the course of the Plan, official recognition of Holy Days was obtained in Bophuthatswana, Malawi, Zimbabwe, Chile and the Republic of Ireland, thus bringing the total to 71 countries.

20. *Tax Exemption.* A total of 54 countries had achieved this legal status by the end of the Plan, of which 17 were granted tax exemption during this Plan.

21. *Financial Self-Sufficiency.* The number of financially independent National Assemblies rose from 54 in 1979 to 113, or 76 percent of the total, in 1986. The number of local Assemblies contributing to their National Funds rose from 2,472 in 1980 to 4,596 in 1986.

22. *Social and Economic Development Activities.* During the Seven Year Plan, the total number of development projects increased from 129 to 1,247, and the number of countries with such projects reached 93 (an increase of 73 countries).

	World	Africa	Americas
Agriculture, Forestry	74	35	13
Community Development	358	60	266
Education	732	169	115
Health, Social Services	78	28	14
Radio Stations	5	0	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,247</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>413</b>

  

	Asia	Australasia	Europe
Agriculture, Forestry	20	5	1
Community Development	12	7	13
Education	427	13	8
Health, Social Services	25	2	9
Radio Stations	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>484</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>31</b>

23. *Academic Schools.* The number of academic schools, operating in eight countries, increased from 10 to 40. An estimated 6,000 students, 85 percent of them non-Bahá'í, attend these schools. In addition, 34 academic schools were established by individuals as private ventures in 19 countries.

24. *Tutorial Schools.* The number of Bahá'í-operated tutorial schools grew from 111 in 1979 to 558 by the conclusion of the Seven Year Plan.

Continent	No. of NSAs	No. of Schools	Est. Enroll.
Africa	17	139	3,197
Americas	12	93	3,069
Asia	9	318	15,582
Australasia	5	8	136
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>558</b>	<b>21,984</b>

Continent	Percent of Non-Bahá'í Students	Avg. Enroll. School
Africa	46	23
Americas	60	33
Asia	12	49
Australasia	52	17
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>40</b>

25. *Literacy and Vocational Training.* At least 134 literacy, vocational and other educational programs were established by Bahá'ís during the Seven Year Plan.

26. *Community Development Projects.* The number of health-related activities increased from two to 78 during the Plan; the number of agricultural activities grew from three to 74, and the number of other community development projects increased from two to 358. These projects are taking place in 57 countries.

27. *Radio Stations.* Four radio stations became operational during the Seven Year Plan: Peru (1981), Bolivia and the United States (1984), and Panama (1986). Stations in Chile and Liberia were nearing completion by Riqván 1986.

28. *Translation of Bahá'í Literature.* Of the 757 languages into which Bahá'í literature has been translated, materials have been published or reproduced in at least 520. In 109 languages, at least one book is available.

Continent	Number of Languages 1979	Addit'l Languages	Number of Languages 1986	Percent Increase
Africa	212	37	249	17
Americas	126	44	170	35
Asia	163	5	168	3
Australasia	75	11	86	15
Europe	75	9	84	12
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>757</b>	<b>16</b>

29. *Enrichment of Literature.* During the Plan, on the average, 410 literature items were produced during each year. Of the total of 2,872 items for the Plan, 736 are first-time translations, produced by 91 National Assemblies.

Continent	No. of NSAs Reporting Publications	Sacred Writings	Other Books
Africa	33	305	260
Americas	31	169	166
Asia	20	323	482
Australasia	16	66	88
Europe	18	352	436
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>1,215</b>	<b>1,432</b>

Continent	A-V Materials	Total Pub's
Africa	84	649
Americas	55	390
Asia	43	848
Australasia	16	170
Europe	27	815
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>225</b>	<b>2,872</b>

30. *"Words of God."* The *Words of God* compilation, distributed in September 1981, has been translated into 100 languages and published in 53.

31. *Correspondence Courses.* During the Seven Year Plan, 219 correspondence courses, in 57 languages, were administered by 88 National Assemblies, of which 38 noted that they initiated their first correspondence course in this period.

32. *Audio-Visual Materials.* In the course of this Plan, a total of 395 versions of deepening tapes was produced, as well as 68 tapes of Bahá'í scripture, 81 new tapes of Bahá'í music, and 83 printed materials for this purpose.

33. *Publication of Bulletins and Newsletters.* Some 939 bulletins and newsletters were disseminated locally and nationally in a total of 58 world languages. The following table shows the increase in the number of nationally distributed periodicals.

Continent	Periodicals 1979	Periodicals 1986	Percent Increase
Africa	48	80	67
Americas	73	115	58
Asia	54	115	113
Australasia	21	30	43
Europe	50	92	84
<b>WORLD</b>	<b>246</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>76</b>

34. *Bahá'í Seasonal Schools.* 128 National Assemblies conducted more than 1,880 seasonal (summer or winter) schools, for a sum of 7,650 days, with a combined participation of more than 170,000 Bahá'ís. Eighty of these Assemblies held such schools for the first time during the Seven Year Plan.

35. *Bahá'í Institutes.* During the Plan, 1,044 institutes were conducted by 99 National Assemblies, more than half of which were for spiritual deepening. Forty-one National Assemblies acquired new permanent institutes, bringing the number to 75 national communities with such facilities.

36. *Education of Children.* Sixteen National Assemblies report that all of their local Assemblies were providing a Bahá'í education to all children, and in 45 countries there are children's classes in more than half of the local Assembly areas.

Continent	NSAs Reporting	NSAs Reporting
	Children's Classes-1980	Children's Classes-1986
Africa	29	46
Americas	31	42
Asia	19	30
Australasia	17	20
Europe	17	27
WORLD	113	165

  

Continent	Total No. of Classes	Total No. of Classes
	1980	1986
Africa	241	889
Americas	769	1,418
Asia	395	1,361
Australasia	197	310
Europe	129	317
WORLD	1,731	4,295

There have been 525 institutes for training teachers of children's classes held in 77 countries, and 20 National Assemblies produced more than 30 different lesson plans. A total of 209 education seminars were held in 47 countries. Also during the Plan, 226 new children's books were printed, of which 30 are prayer books. Prayers for children are now available in 24 languages.

37. *Youth Activities.* Youth in 100 countries took part in International Youth Year activities: eight international youth conferences were held, attended by more than 11,200 youth and adults; 49 national/regional conferences were held on all continents; in 30 countries Bahá'í youth extended their services to non-Bahá'í agencies, fostering cordial relations with government authorities and prominent persons and resulting in widespread proclamation of the Faith. During the Plan, 19 periodicals for youth were established. In 125 national communities, more than 378 teaching events were directed specifically toward youth, 1,126 conferences for youth were held, and 231 consolidation activities for them were undertaken.

38. *Women's Activities.* The number of national communities with specific activities geared toward the women in their communities doubled, to 116. Concurrently, the number of local Assemblies organizing such activities almost quadrupled, having risen from 418 in 1980 to 1,558 in 1986. There were 434 national and regional women's conferences, with a combined attendance of 16,500 believers. Specifically

planned activities for teaching the Faith to women took place in 101 countries, and 19 periodicals were established especially for women.

39. *Family Life.* 203 events in 45 countries focused on family life and parenting, and special literature concerning the Bahá'í teachings on family life was published in 26 countries.

40. *Acquisition of Bahá'í-Owned Properties.* The table below shows the number of properties acquired by 134 national communities during the course of the Plan. Some 118 of these properties were donated to the Cause.

Continent	Total	Nat'l Haz-Quds	Nat'l Endowmt
Africa	197	6	9
Americas	196	8	13
Asia	115	2	7
Australasia	70	3	3
Europe	69	3	5
WORLD	647	22	37

  

Continent	Temple Sites	Local/Dist. Haz-Quds	Other
Africa	4	111	67
Americas	1	78	96
Asia	6	53	47
Australasia	4	37	23
Europe	1	38	22
WORLD	16	317	255

This increase brings the worldwide number of national Hazíratu'l-Quds to 149, national endowments to 170, and sites for future Mashriqu'l-Adhkárs to 127.

41. *Mobile Teaching Institutes.* In fulfillment of a goal of the Seven Year Plan, eight audio-visual Mobile Teaching Institutes were acquired, in the Central African Republic, Chad, Malawi, Mauritius, Tanzania, Transkei, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

42. *Proclamation in the Media.* The following table presents the number of media items on the Faith reported by National Assemblies during the Plan.

Continent	TELEVISION		RADIO	
	No. of NSAs	No. of Items	No. of NSAs	No. of Items
Africa	9	77	18	170
Americas	20	209	25	282
Asia	7	21	8	45
Australasia	5	72	12	178
Europe	12	56	11	168
WORLD	53	435	74	843

  

Continent	NEWSPAPER	
	No. of NSAs	No. of Items
Africa	13	100
Americas	25	6,563
Asia	11	302
Australasia	10	927
Europe	16	1,721
WORLD	75	9,613

43. *Feature Programs.* The table provides a tally of televised programs lasting more than 20 minutes, radio programs lasting more than five minutes, and newspaper articles that featured the teachings of the Faith.

TELEVISION		
Continent	No. of NSAs	No. of Items
Africa	8	43
Americas	13	31
Asia	4	5
Australasia	4	22
Europe	4	18
WORLD	33	119

RADIO		
Continent	No. of NSAs	No. of Items
Africa	14	36
Americas	11	37
Asia	3	5
Australasia	8	53
Europe	12	81
WORLD	48	212

NEWSPAPER		
Continent	No. of NSAs	No. of Items
Africa	11	18
Americas	11	63
Asia	6	6
Australasia	7	20
Europe	9	28
WORLD	44	135

44. *Media Volume.* The following chart shows the total media coverage of the Faith for each phase of the Seven Year Plan.

#### NEWS STORIES

Phase	TV	Radio	Newspaper
First phase	29	82	79
Second phase	202	270	1,077
Third phase	83	274	1,852

#### ADVERTISING

Phase	TV	Radio	Newspaper
First phase	16	15	15
Second phase	74	116	53
Third phase	29	81	79

#### FEATURES

Phase	TV	Radio	Newspaper
First phase	4	44	37
Second phase	20	277	213
Third phase	20	90	87

Forty National Assemblies devised and carried out media plans; 23 National Assemblies held a total of 135 media workshops; and 67 National Assemblies established systems for conveying news about the Iranian situation quickly and efficiently to the media in their country.

45. *Regular Radio and Television Programs.* The number of Bahá'í-oriented radio programs increased all over the world, from 24 in 1979 to 124 by Ridván 1986. Thirty-eight National Assemblies are now producing regular programs, several of them in indigenous languages, for both commercial and public radio. Fourteen National Assemblies now produce 33 weekly television programs.

46. *Association for Bahá'í Studies.* These Associations, which promote and encourage study of the Faith and seek ways in which to present it in academic circles, have now been established in Australia, Austria (for Germanic-speaking people), Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, India, Ireland (for English-speaking Europe), Nigeria and Switzerland (for French-speaking Europe).

47. *Cordial Relations.* 108 National Assemblies reported contacts with 11,245 dignitaries on some 900 occasions during the Seven Year Plan. Bahá'í delegations have met directly with 73 heads of state in 44 countries, and 54 heads of government in another 35 countries. All government ministers or all members of the Cabinets of 47 nations have been contacted, and all members of the parliaments of 29 nations have been presented with information about the Faith.

48. *"The Promise of World Peace."* By Ridván 1986, this statement had been presented to 167 world leaders. The following table provides the continental distribution of the presentations of the peace statement.

Continent	Independent Nations		Dependent Territories	
	Direct	Indirect	Direct	Indirect
Africa	14	31	2	1
Americas	17	8	4	3
Asia	5	26	1	2
Australasia	8	1	7	3
Europe	5	24	2	2
United Nations	1			
WORLD	50	90	16	11

#### SOURCES

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3. *Bahá'í International News Service*, No. 152, February 1986, p. 19.
4. *Bahá'í International News Service*, No. 154, April 1986, p. 17.
5. *Bahá'í International News Service*, No. 155, May-June 1986, p. 13.
6. *Bahá'í International News Service*, No. 157, August 1986, p. 15.

*This synopsis of the significant achievements of the worldwide Bahá'í community during the Seven Year Plan, 1979-1986, was prepared by Dr. Áhang Rabbání, director of the Department of Statistics at the Bahá'í World Centre in Haifa, Israel, where he has been serving since 1981.*