

Cultural analysis of baha'i faith

Religion



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Ideals of unity and the oneness of religions advocated by the Bahá'í Faith The Bahá'í Faith is a monotheistic religion that puts emphasis on the divine unity of all humanity. Nowadays the religion has been acknowledged as the most wide-spread faiths, present in over 200 territories and countries. God's plan for humankind is the era of unity, brotherhood, and peace foretold in the ancient scriptures. The main principle of the Bahá'í Faith is the oneness of humankind. It's the hallmark of its teaching and revelation. Bahá'í teaches that all of us are creations of one God, and we are part of one human household. The belief of Bahá'í in one God means that one supernatural being has made the world and all forces and creatures that are in it. Such designations as Brahma, Yahweh, Allah, and God all talk about the same supernatural being, whose nature is inaccessible and unknowable to humanity (Kourosh and Hosoda, 445).

Moreover, we study about God through his messengers, who guide and teach humanity. Bahá'ís have faith in the oneness of all faiths or religions, as they originate from one God. The main purpose of all faiths is to educate and guide humanity. However, Bahá'u'lláh says that the teachings of different regions appear to divulge and differ mainly because the truths that are preserved in those religions were revealed in a way that was adapted to the limitation, conditions, and needs of those getting that revelation, just as in the famous narrative told by Buddha, in which the blind men varied in their perception of the same elephant. When challenging religious beliefs, one must choose, whether deliberately or not from one of this three mismatched, central belief systems. One, that the religions are developed by man, second, that a particular religion is correct, or thirdly, all religions are part of a united whole. Without the teachings of Baha'i the latter choice has always

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been an issue due to the absence of a religious framework to help individuals get to know how religions can fit together. What Baha'i teaches is unity to prevail among religions. Bahá'u'lláh educated that women and men were like two wings of a bird and that unless both of the wings are developed equally, the bird will not be able to fly. Additionally, he taught that humankind is similar to a garden, whose utmost beauty is established in the diversity of fragrances, textures, and color, not in uniformity. These teachings bring about a main idea that the Bahá'í teachings do not deny different religions; the teachings are only aimed at bringing all those religions to be unified. The Bahá'í does not intend to assimilate other religions; however, it aims at distilling the traditions of other faiths to a palatable and subjective essence that is applied to enhance social harmony. Bahá'u'lláh has brought some teachings that do permit diverse individuals, who have no mutual traditions, experiences, or backgrounds to bring together themselves into a society that channels and releases human potential for the improvement of themselves and the community at large. Bahá'u'lláh says that the light of unity is so strong that it can lighten up the whole world (Kluge, 128).

Work cited

Kluge, Ian. "Buddhism and the Bahá'í Writings: An Ontological Rapprochement." *Lights of 'Irfán* 8 (2007): 125–178. Web.

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