

'Oneness of mankind' theme of Baha' is race unity day

On June 11, members of the Baha'i Faith of the United States will sponsor and observe Race Unity Day. The purpose of this day, an annually sponsored event, is to focus attention on America's greatest challenge — the racial problem. This year the theme for Race Unity Day is: "Oneness — Pathway to Peace."

Baha'is believe that one of the greatest barriers to World Peace is the prejudice that separates mankind. Of these, racial prejudice is the most challenging domestic issue. The

greatest need of this age is for all people to recognize the oneness of mankind — the painful but inevitable broadening of each man's allegiance from his own ethical, racial, religious, national, cultural, and economic group to the wider embrace of all mankind constitutes the central revolution of our time.

The missing ingredients to the solution for the racial problem are the lack of love in the hearts of men and the absence of altruism. Legal justice, while vital, doesn't solve the problem

by itself — the only power is the recognition that mankind belongs to one family under one God and that this brings with it the responsibility to respect and help one another in every way.

As part of the Baha'i efforts in the field of human rights, the North American Baha'i Office for Human Rights (NABOHR) was established and has received awards for its work. One of the purposes of the Baha'i Faith is the development of a long range program to help eradicate racial prejudice. Part of such a program is the dissemination of factual information as one means of eliminating misconceptions and superstitions about race.

Race Unity Day observance sponsored by the Baha'i Community of Chicago is held Sunday June 11, in the Dunbaugh Room of the YMCA Hotel, 826 S. Wabash, at 7:00 p.m.