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The Elimination of Violence Against Women - A Bahá'í View

From

The Media Committee

November 25th has been designated as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women.

Throughout history men, due to their superior physical strength, have assumed the role of provider and protector.

The status of women and girls has improved to some extent over the past 50 years and many have achieved significant milestones.

Religions traditionally cultivate the values of the community. Yet some power seeking individuals today have distorted these values.

The Teachings of the Baha'i Faith have always stressed the advancement of women, but not to create a separate hierarchy.

This implies that humanity as a whole can never realize its full potential until women have truly attained equality.

It is so important that women should be educated that Baha'u'llah has said that although boys and girls are equal in potential, girls are more vulnerable.

The time has come for a change in our attitude towards women and girls, who represent half the population.

At a time when conquest and aggression have lost their credibility as means of solving difficult problems, we must turn to the principles of justice and equity.

In the document issued by the Baha'i International Community in 2006 entitled "Beyond Legal Reforms: A Call for a New Paradigm of Women's Empowerment," we find a clear vision of the path forward.

The curriculum suggested is based upon the belief that every person is a spiritual being with limitless potential.

The second recommendation is the support of an autonomous United Nations agency with a comprehensive mandate.

Violence against women and girls is an obstacle to the achievement of equality, development and peace.

Courtesy: The National Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of Trinidad & Tobago