

## A New Step Toward Sanctity

“Make firm our steps, O Lord, in Thy path and strengthen Thou our hearts in Thine obedience.”  
~Abdu’l-Bahá

The Kingdom Project Office is deeply grateful to announce that the long awaited installment of the Temple’s newly restored monumental stairs has commenced. These 18 monumental stairs are currently being replaced and waterproofed through contributions to the Kingdom Project from the American Bahá’í community.

In many holy writings and myths written throughout the ages, stairs are a metaphor for ascension into the sacred. Muhammad said, “Prayer is like a ladder suspended between heaven and earth by which we can ascend to paradise.”

We climb stairs, ladders &ndash; we pray. This takes much effort, but because of the extra effort, we end up stronger, higher, and better than we were before.

In a sacred space, stairs are an essential part of creating a boundary between the outside world and the purity of a sanctuary.

When we ascend the monumental stairs into the auditorium of the Mother Temple, we prepare ourselves for meditation and can sense the serene quiet that awaits us from above. We know that our climb will enable our souls to be uplifted through prayer.

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These radiant new stairs will not only represent the outer beautification of the Temple, but also signify Bahá’í dedication to the sanctity of the human spirit. They are symbolic of the first steps our community is taking to help build the New World Order of Bahá’u’lláh on Earth while the world around us is crumbling.

The Kingdom Project Office prays that you will have the chance to visit the House of Worship to see the progress of our newly built stairs, step by step.

Remember, too, that you may climb into the sanctuary of our Beloved Faith with the ladder of your own daily prayer, wherever you may be.

