

15 July 2010

Transmitted by email: [email address of addressee redacted]

[name and location of addressee redacted]

Dear Bahá'í Friend,

Your email letter of 23 June 2010, requesting an authoritative statement explaining how the direction of the Qiblih should be determined from various locations, has been received at the Bahá'í World Centre and passed to our Office for reply. The following has been provided in response to similar queries posed to the Universal House of Justice on other occasions.

Following are notes prepared for the Universal House of Justice by an ad hoc committee that describe how to ascertain the direction of the Qiblih from various points on the earth for the purpose of prayer.

The direction of the Qiblih from a given location on earth may be set along the shorter arc of a great circle that passes through Bahjí and the point concerned. A great circle in this context is one whose plane bisects the earth (e.g., the equator and longitudinal meridians). Bahjí is located at approximately 35 degrees east longitude and 33 degrees north latitude.

The friends are asked to refer any questions they may have in these matters to the National Spiritual Assembly.

With loving Bahá'í greetings,

Office of Correspondence