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International News 

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Article on the Terraces in Spanish Magazine

A four-page colour article on the opening of the Mount Carmel Terraces appeared in "Nosotros los Gitanos" (We the Gypsies) in January 2001. The editor of this publication, which deals mainly with the social and economic development of gypsies in Spain, is a Bahá'í and will be attending the Terraces inauguration events in May 2001. On Friday 30 March 2001 a meeting was held with the Israeli Ambassador in Spain and General Manager of the Israeli Tourist Office for Spain, Portugal and Latin America. During this meeting the Friends were told that the Terraces events would be posted on the Tourist Office's web site. A feature on the Mount Carmel Project and the Terraces events (including an interview) is planned to be aired during one of the TV programmes and two radio programmes that the Israeli Tourist Office regularly releases in order to inform the general public on the Israeli way of life, culture, etc.

Terraces covered in major Norwegian newspaper

VG, Norway's largest newspaper, ran an article on the terraces on 31 March 2001. The article, titled "The Hanging Gardens of Haifa," referred to the terraces as "the eighth wonder of the world". Almost half the population of Norway are potential readers of the weekly VG, released on Saturdays. This article will also be posted on the VG web site - the most visited web site in Norway.

Full-length feature film, inspired by the Bahá'í writings, premieres in Australia

A tale of love and oppression, set in Australia's Outback in the 1890s and focusing on the story of an Aboriginal girl and a group of Lutheran missionaries, had its world premiere at the Perth International Arts Festival.

The full-length feature film, entitled "Serenades," was written and directed by Mojgan Khadem, an Iranian-born Bahá'í from Adelaide, South Australia.

The film received a glowing review ahead of its release in an industry publication, Screen International, where critic Frank Hatherley described it as "an international gem."

Ms. Khadem said she found her inspiration for the story in the Bahá'í writings. The passage that inspired her was this: "What oppression is greater than that which hath been recounted? What oppression is more grievous than that a soul seeking the truth,

and wishing to attain unto the knowledge of God, should know not where to go for it and from whom to seek it? For opinions have sorely differed, and the ways unto the attainment of God have multiplied."¹

¹ Bahá'í'u'lláh, *The Book of Certitude*, p31.

TV coverage for Terraces in Croatia and Luxembourg

A three-minute presentation on the Faith was shown on Croatia's main national television station, HTV1, on 25th March, 2001 on the religious show *Mir i Dobro* (Peace and Well-Being).

The footage on the Faith was shown at 13:50 and included an interview with two members of the Regional Spiritual Assembly of Slovenia and Croatia, views of the Terraces in Haifa, a piece on Naw Ráz, and two Bahá'í publications in Croatian – both with the name of Bahá'í'u'lláh visible on the cover.

Bahá'ís also took part in a roundtable discussion on the soon to be enforced legislation on religions in Croatia.

Italian Local Assembly in the Media

In Italy a report appeared in the Regional News on TV3 television station on 21 March 2001 about Naw Ráz and the 20 th Anniversary of the formation of the Local Spiritual Assembly of Latina.

The Chairman and another member of the Spiritual Assembly were interviewed; the report was also posted on Parvapolis, Latina's first online news service.

Israel issues Commemorative Stamp

Israel has issued the above stamp to mark the opening of the Terraces on Mount Carmel.

The stamp is in full colour and shows the Terraces leading to the Shrine of the Báb. The actual size, we are reliably informed, is 9cm high and 3cm wide.

stamp.jpg - 28941 Bytes

