

Rights Day Celebrated

Man's relationship to man is in a critical period. Every time of crisis is also a time of opportunity. On Human Rights Day, celebrated annually on December 10, the Bahai's of Alaska urge everyone to bear in mind (1) the grave racial situation in our country and (2) the special world-wide observance of the seventeenth anniversary of the adoption by the United Nations of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

In 30 articles the Declaration sets forth the basic human rights and fundamental freedoms to which all men and women are entitled. These include, among others, the right to life, liberty and security of person; freedom from slavery; freedom from arbitrary arrest; the right to a fair trial; freedom of movement; the right to a nationality; the right to marry and found a family; freedom of thought, conscience and religion; freedom of opinion and expression; the right to take part in the government of one's country; the right to work; the right to enjoy an adequate standard of living.

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the Declaration as a "common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations" and called on member states to promote respect for an observance of the rights described therein. While the Declaration is not legally binding upon states, it does possess a moral authority which cannot be ignored.

As an organization with accredited observers at the United Nations in the non-governmental section, and twice cited by the U.S. Committee for the United Nations for its efforts in furthering the principles of the United Nations for its efforts in fur-

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thering the principles of the United Nations, the Bahai's feel that everyone has a vital stake in Human Rights Day.
