

[PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION FROM PERSIAN]

[Translator's notes appear in square brackets.]

[Personal information has been **redacted**.]

[The excerpt below is from the section of the article that pertains to the Baha'i Faith]

[Adapted from website:] Political Deputy of the Ministry of Defence

[Date:] 8 Bahman 1391 [27 January 2013]

Political Deputy, Political Ideological Organization of the Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces
Logistics

A Look at Activities of Baha'ism in the World (Part II)

Baha'ism in Sierra Leone

Baha'i beliefs first arrived in Sierra Leone from Cape Mount, Liberia in 1950, and the first group of Baha'is was formed in the Hastings area on the outskirts of Freetown. The first Baha'i was an American physician named Dr. Aaron Cole, who preached Baha'ism at the University College of Sierra Leone. Baha'is began their serious activities in 1975. The Baha'is of Sierra Leone inaugurated the first "Local Spiritual Baha'i Association" in Freetown and in the same year the "National Baha'i Assembly".

The first Baha'i Centre in Sierra Leone was located in the Circular Road area. Robert Martin, an American Baha'i who taught at Kalentin High School in northern Kambia, was the second white preacher to promote Baha'ism in Sierra Leone. [He] bought the current building of the "Sierra Leonean Baha'i Spiritual Assembly" in the area of Signal Hill-River. This centre has a library called the library of the Baha'i National Assembly. Many of the Sierra Leonean and Liberian staff at the centre are Baha'is; they also have centres in other cities.

He has also purchased land in other cities to expand the future activities [of the Baha'is]. In addition, [the Baha'is] have established a large training centre in Makin, the only Baha'i training centre in Sierra Leone. A large plot of land has also been purchased to build another training centre, which has now been postponed due to the civil war and insecurity in the area. Another plot of land at Goderich, in front of the military barracks, has been purchased to build the first Baha'i temple in Sierra Leone.

The sect has two elementary schools, in Yikandon and Moyamba, but according to a prominent member of Baha'ism at Fourabi University, Baha'ism prefers to use Muslim and Christian schools to propagate its ideas.