

of \$100 to the Programs Administrator by the 25th November 2010.

The program runs from Monday 6 December 2:00 pm to Sunday 12th December 2:00 pm.

Comment from Participants

“ I have gained ...a renewed feeling that I can share the Faith with people I met in everyday life.” (IT lecturer)

“... courage, inclusion with freedom, love and acceptance, a personal path – first little step anyway.” (teacher)

“ I think what we studied in this program is directly applicable to our daily life and I

see the Seven Valleys as a map of spiritual life, and this program has totally changed the way I look at life. Now I know that by loving the people I get nearer to God and vice versa.” (university student)

“I have regained my early depth of devotion to our Faith and look forward to contributing quietly my time, skills, qualities and attribute of God if and according to the Will of God... I have a new level of certitude as well as renewed certitude . I have a new gratitude, a new humility, a new patience...I have a new confidence in my ability to create connections with other believers and potential believers.” (by his own admission, a Bahá'í who as been inactive for the past 25 years).

Sacred Steps

Exploring the Seven Valleys of Bahá'u'lláh

A spiritual development
workshop & retreat

6 - 12 December 2010

Facilitated by

- Dr Marjorie Tidman
- Mr Peter Tidman
- Dr John Davidson
- Mrs Erica Davidson
- Mr Darryl Braund

Application Form- Sacred Steps- 6-12 December 2010



Surname:..... First Name:..... Date of Birth:.....

Current study/work:.....

Address:

State. Post Code:Tel: Home:..... Mobile:.....

E-mail:.....

Please tick your method of payment:

Cheque Money order Credit Card Course Fee /Deposit: \$

Payable to: "Yerrinbool Bahá'í Centre of Learning"

Please debit my: Bankcard Mastercard

Visa Card Number:

Expiry Date:

Name on the Card: Signature:.....

Please send the completed form to Programs Administrator: 27 Sierra Street, Yerrinbool, NSW 2575.

Tel: 02 48839462, Fax: 02 48839552, Mobile: 0411879028, E-mail: admin@ybcl.org, www.ybcl.org



Yerrinbool
College

Sacred Steps

Introduction

The greatest love story...our sacred journey in search of the Beloved through this world and beyond, often lonely, yet intimately interwoven with the journeys of other souls.

The Sacred Steps program is a 7-day program designed to increase our attraction to the Divine and also His creation through:

- Prayer
- Meditation
- Study and Reflection on 'The Seven Valleys' & 'The Hidden Words'
- Art & Crafts Workshops
- Music Workshops
- Story-Telling
- Dream Exploration
- Individual and Group activities
- Bushwalking & Relaxation

Throughout the workshop, individual spiritual development is conceptualized within the broad framework of increasing our individual and collective capacity to love God and humanity, to alleviate human suffering and to contribute our share to the advancement of civilization.

Aim of the program

The primary aim of the Sacred Steps program is to increase our individual and collective knowledge, insight and capacity related to spiritual development and draws inspiration from the Bahá'í Sacred Writings. This will be achieved through a diverse range of activities which focus attention on our spiritual nature & capacity and the release of our full potential. Individuals will be encouraged to share their insights and their experiences during participatory workshops, through artistic expression and symbolism, through story telling and through service to others. The workshop aims to strike a balance between individual needs for solitude and personal study or reflection and our collective needs for interaction, collaboration and socialisation as part of a dynamic learning community.

The Seven Valleys

The Sacred Steps retreat and Spiritual development workshop focuses on 'The Seven Valleys, a letter written by Bahá'u'lláh to a sufi mystic and judge in the late 1860's.

Bahá'u'lláh describes the journey of the soul as it passes through seven stages or seven valleys: The valleys of Search, Love, Knowledge, Unity, Contentment, Wonderment and finally the valley of True Poverty & Absolute Nothingness.

'The Seven Valleys' provide a spiritual geography for the searching mind, a healing

balm for the soul and a brilliant light inspiring, encouraging and assisting the wayfarer on the journey home.

The events of your story are unique, but the golden threads of love, courage, insight and submission are common to all who progress along the spiritual path.

There are many spiritual paths leading to reunion with the Beloved, and all these pathways have the potential to lead the wayfarer home. 'The Seven Valleys' represents the essence of every spiritual path, identifying the stages, the challenges and the insights common to all.

Bahá'u'lláh has cleared away the human rituals, superstitions and interpretations which have obscured the sacred path to God. We will be walking together along the ancient and eternal path laid out by the Divine Teachers in every Age, such as Abraham, Krishna, Buddha, Moses, Jesus and Muhammad.

Fee

The fee of the program is set to \$420 which covers the cost of full boarding, 3 meals and 3 refreshments per day, the course materials, and some of the travel cost of the facilitators. A fee discount of 15% is offered to students, unemployed and pensioners.

Application Procedure

All applicants are expected to complete the application form and send it with a deposit of \$100 to the Programs Administrator by