

Signs of the Lesser Peace

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The Baha'i world has entered the Fifth Epoch of the Formative Age as of January, 2001. This Age will be followed by the Golden Age which is epitomized as the period of a world civilization. The exact timing of its arrival is unknown to us except that we know it will depend on our efforts made during the Formative Age through one of God's Plans called the Minor Plan. This Plan leads us to the Most Great Peace. The other is called the Major Plan of God, the process of which is inscrutable to all except God Himself; it leads to the Lesser Peace. It is said that the realization of the Lesser Peace will be made by the end of the 20th century. There are some signs of the Lesser Peace in the recent history of humankind: unity among nations, crumbling of the old world order, emergence of global and international administrative organs, remarkable roles played by various NGO's throughout the world, unification of the currency system in Europe, promotion of the equality of women and men, and the like.