

Story of Mass Consolidation in Texas in the 1970's



During that time Baha'is were allowed to form Assemblies during the year, in some weekends the teams formed five or six new Assemblies. Follow up and consolidations took place immediately. Older communities were assigned to consolidate new communities. Newly enrolled Baha'is were immediately encouraged to teach, and



indeed they did, teaching the Faith to their families and neighbors. **Here is the rest of story**

FIELD DIVISIONS FOR TEXAS CAMPAIGN (Goals for Ridván 1973)				
Field Divisions	New ISA	ISA Consolidation	Deepening New Believers	Universal Participation
Arlington ISA & Community	Corralcama	Alvarado Cleburne Hillsboro Italy Mansfield Midlothian	Arlington Alvarado Cleburne Hillsboro Italy Mansfield Midlothian	Arlington
Dallas ISA & Community	Emis Mesquite	Grand Prairie Irving Rowlette	Dallas Rowlette	Dallas
Denton ISA & Community	Dennison Sherman	Denton	Denton	Denton
Ft. Worth ISA & Community	Halton City Mineral Wells	Wichita Falls	Ft. Worth Wichita Falls	Ft. Worth
Richardson ISA & Community	Plano Rockwall	Boyce City	Plano Rockwall Boyce City	Richardson
University ISA & Community	Greenville Terrell	Nose	Greenville Terrell	University Park
27th Division All Baha'is in Dist. #1 not shown above	Neapothoches Lufkin Tyler Texasiana Waco	Carland Karnack Marshall Waxahachie	All Baha'is not shown above & not residing in communities	All Baha'is not shown above & not residing in communities

Shown here is the "TEJAS CAMPAIGN", which was launched January 1972 and lasted until Ridván 1973. See the "Story of Mass Teaching in Texas in the 1970's". Each veteran teaching team and older Assembly were given a newly formed Assembly to nurture. Here we see how the Arlington Spiritual Assembly managed their newly challenging task.

The Assembly of Arlington immediately assigned different cities to different members in their community. All the believers happily accepted the decision of the Assembly and the great challenge, and all arose to accomplish it by going to their assigned city mostly every weekend.



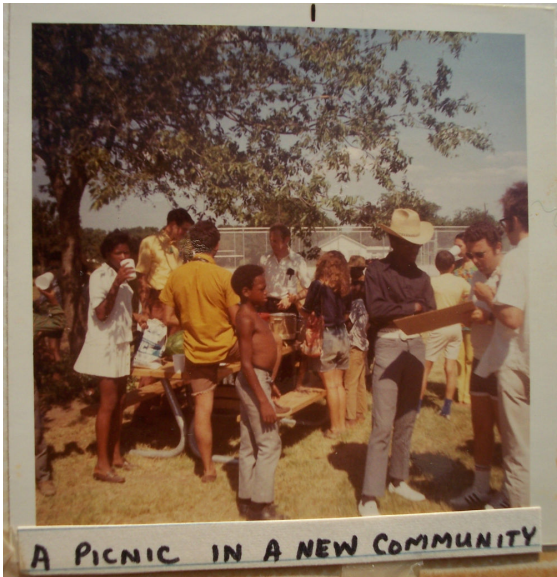
All the friends made heroic efforts. Here are some pictures. Newly enrolled friends were clearly deepened in the Faith and were at the point of teaching and sharing the Message with others.



A team of two Baha'is was assigned to each new community. These teams were affectionately known as the parents of their respective community and were responsible for visiting their "children" regularly. At each 19-day Feast in Arlington, each team was called upon to give a report of the progress of the consolidation effort in their new community. Then, before Ridván 1972, the Arlington Assembly prepared a general letter that accompanied ballots for the election of those new Assemblies. Ridván came, and the parent teams went to elect Assemblies in seven towns: Alvarado, Cleburne, Hillsboro, Italy, Mansfield, Midlothian, and Waxahachie. The teams returned late in the

night, some after midnight, and reported the results of the elections. Then it was time for the Arlington community to have its own election. What a spirited Ridván it was! Friends made signs, as shown in the photo, and rejoiced at the birth of new Assemblies.

During the year, the teams continued their regular nurturing of "home" visits, to their assigned communities and conducting children's classes. In the summer, coordinated social events



such as picnics, were planned, and the new Baha'is in all these towns were invited, so they could meet each other.

One memorable example was in Midlothian, where Saddat Ostovar sat on the hot hood of the



moving car holding a speaker, while a new Baha'i inside the car announced, "Come one, come all", inviting people to hear about Baha'u'llah and see a movie.

Other friends arranged for the meeting place at a new believer's home. Saddat and his wife Ghodsieh were regularly visiting Italy, TX, and taught the new believers faithfully. Their loving training was manifest in that every time they arrived and got out of their little Volkswagon, they were greeted by the new believers saying "Allah'u'Abha". Surely, he was feeling the spirit of his native Najjaf Abad in Iran.



Here are additional pictures of home visits.

