



Bahá'ís and the Internet

New ways of sharing Bahá'í perspectives

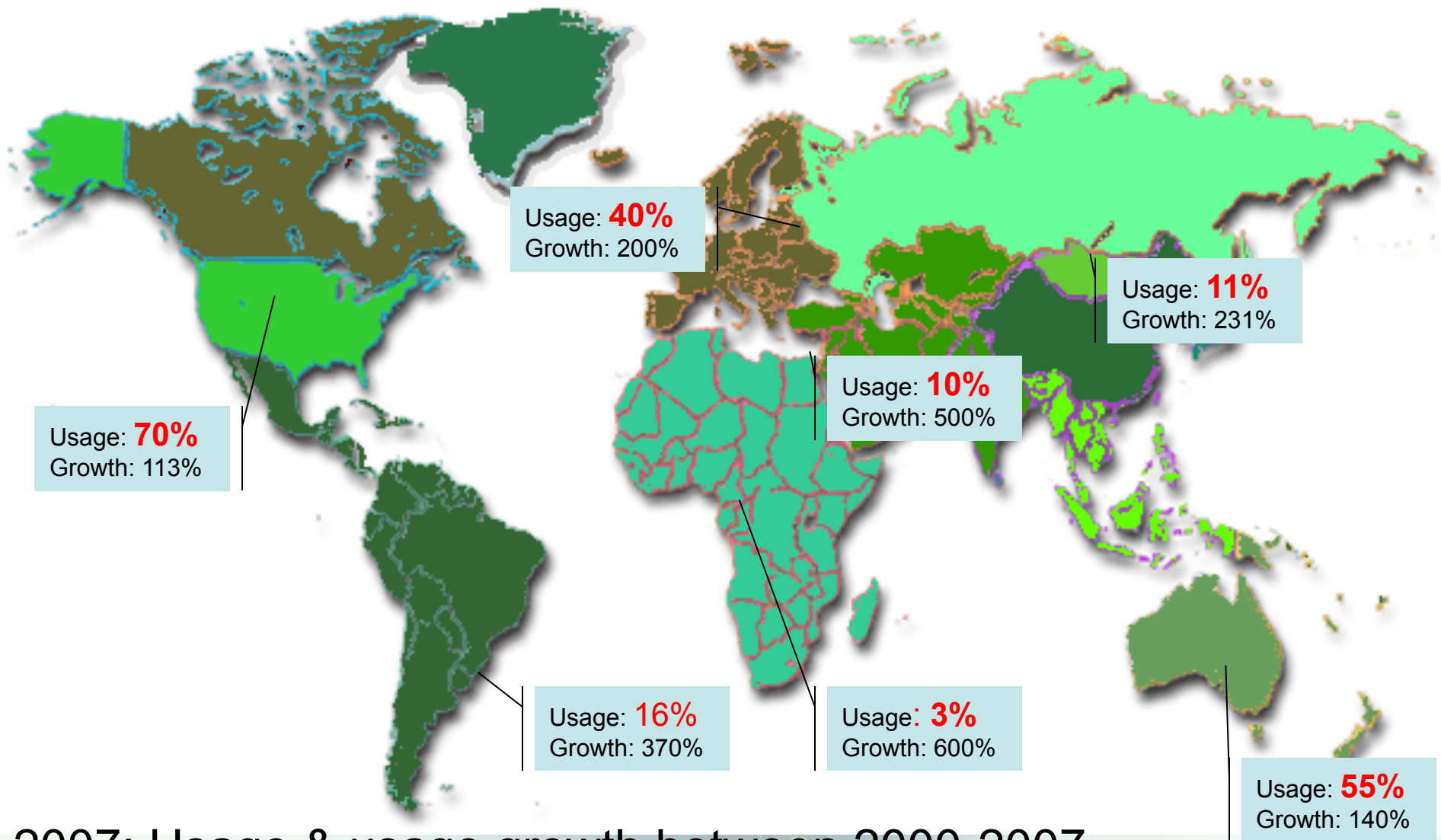


On Communication...

- “A mechanism of world **inter-communication** will be devised, embracing the whole planet, freed from national hindrances and restrictions, and functioning with marvelous swiftness and perfect regularity.”

- *[Baha'u'llah, The Proclamation of Baha'u'llah, p. x]*

1 Billion people are using the internet - 17% of population



2007: Usage & usage growth between 2000-2007



On Teaching ...

- “ ... he would suggest that the main consideration is to bring to the attention of the public the fact that the Faith exists, and its teachings. Every kind of broadcast, whether of passages from the Writings, or on typical subjects, or lectures, should be used. **The people need to hear the word 'Bahá'í' so that they can, if receptive, respond and seek the Cause out.** The primary duty of the friends everywhere in the world is to let the people know such a Revelation is in existence; their next duty is to teach it.
 - *[Shoghi Effendi, from letter dated July 24, 1943, written on his behalf to an individual believer]*



Needs of the time

- “The powers released by Baha’u’llah match the needs of the times. We may therefore be utterly confident that the new throb of energy now vibrating throughout the Cause will empower it to meet the oncoming challenges of assisting, as maturity and resources allow, the development of the social and economic life of peoples, of collaborating with the forces leading towards the establishment of order in the world, of **influencing the exploitation and constructive uses of modern technology, and in all these ways enhancing the prestige and progress of the Faith and uplifting the conditions of the generality of mankind.**”



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Baha'i

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Web Results 1 - 10 of about 1,190,000 for Baha'i [definition]. (0.04 seconds)

The Baha'i World

The official presence of the Baha'i Faith on the Web. Comprehensive body of authentic material presented by the Baha'i International Community.

- www.bahai.org/ - 22k - Dec 20, 2006 - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)
- [What is the Bahá'í Faith?](http://www.bahai.org/faq/facts/bahai_faith) - www.bahai.org/faq/facts/bahai_faith
- [Beliefs and Practices](http://www.bahai.org/dir/beliefs) - www.bahai.org/dir/beliefs
- [The Bahá'í Holy Writings](http://reference.bahai.org/) - reference.bahai.org/
- [Bahá'u'lláh](http://www.bahai.org/dir/bahauallah) - www.bahai.org/dir/bahauallah
- [More results from www.bahai.org »](#)

Bahai Faith | Baha'i Faith | United States Official Website

Official site of The National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States. General information, news, social action, contacts and links.

www.bahai.us/ - 26k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

Baha'i Faith - [Translate this page]

What is the Baha'i Faith and who is Baha'u'llah? We cordially welcome you to visit our site.

www.bahai.com/ - 6k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

The Baha'i faith

A view of the Bahá'í Faith and other groups which identify with Baha'i Scripture, by Ontario Consultants on Religious Tolerance.

www.religioustolerance.org/bahai.htm - 41k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

Sacred Texts: Baha'i texts

These texts are verbatim from the official Baha'i file server. They are presented with no alterations. These texts are copyrighted but redistributable freely ...

www.sacred-texts.com/bhi/index.htm - 22k - [Cached](#) - [Similar pages](#)

Bahai Faith Index - your source for all things Baha'i

Sponsored Links

Bahai Friends

Date & Marry Baha'i Singles!
This Site Belongs to Baha'is
BahaiHarmony.com

Baha'i

Looking for Baha'i?
Find exactly what you want today.
www.eBay.com



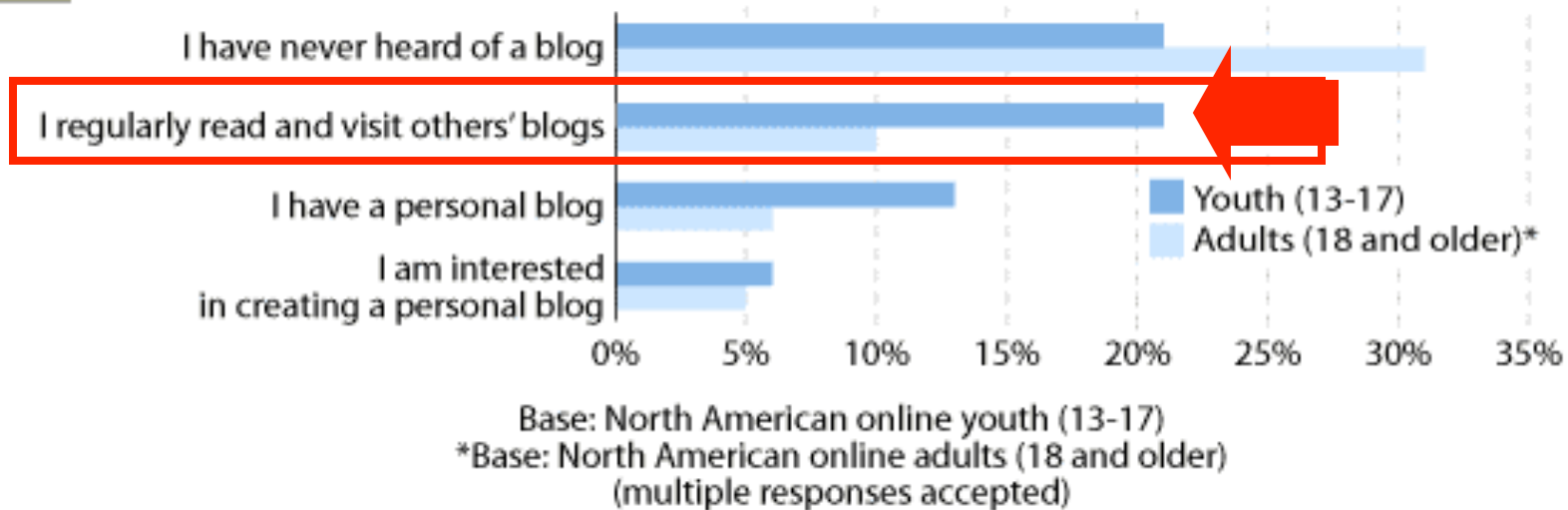


Blog?

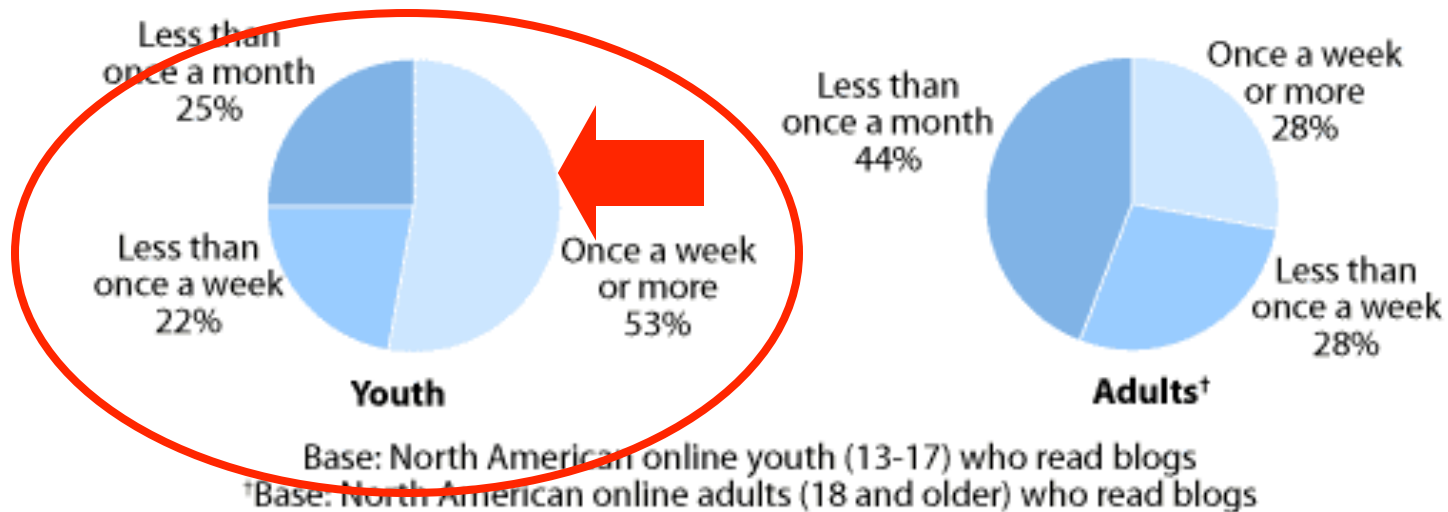
- **Short for weblog**
- **A personal journal on the web**
- **A website with frequent content updates**

- **Posts or entries - individual articles on a blog**

1-1 "Which of the following statements about blogs apply to you?"



1-2 "How often do you read blogs?"



Source: Forrester's Consumer Technographics® Q4 2005 North American Youth Media & Marketing And Retail Online Survey

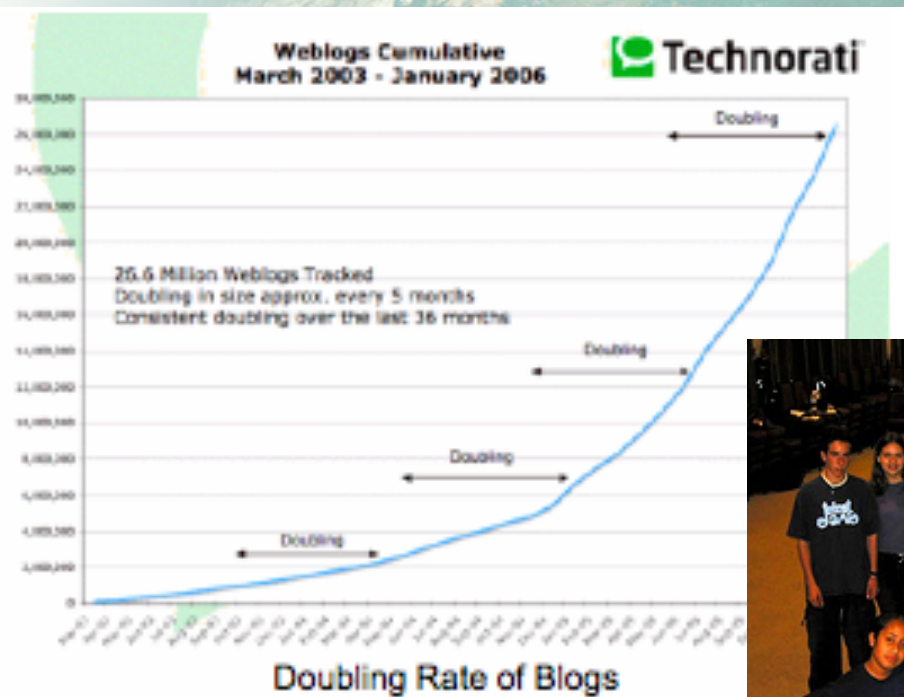
*Source: Forrester's Consumer Technographics Q2 2005 North American Devices & Access Online Survey

†Source: Forrester's Consumer Technographics Q3 2005 North American Media & Marketing Online Survey

Why are Blogs important

- Millions publish their ideas
- Millions more comment on them

Powerful!



- More and more people



- Ages 15 – 23 a



Bahá'í Faith is a religion that belongs to the Youth

- **"If ever it could be said that a religion belonged to the youth, then surely the Bahá'í Faith today is that religion.** The whole world is suffering, it is sunk in misery, crushed beneath its heavy problems. ... they will not be able to upbuild the future except by the laws and principles laid down by Bahá'u'lláh. So their task is very great and their responsibility very grave."

• *[Compilations, Lights of Guidance, p. 638]*

Bahá'í Blogosphere Survey

Ongoing effort...



- **253** Technorati registrations
- **75%** are Active (every 2 months)
 - 150 posts in 2006
 - 130 posts Q3 '06
 - 117 in Nov
 - 84 in Dec

What are youth blogging about?

- Baha'is on their year of service are actively blogging
- Form small clusters with geographical focus
- Experiences in their service projects, at Feast, with Ruhi & Children classes, music, culture and family
- Talk about the Faith
 - Questions and Answers
- Ask questions and comment on their friends and community blogs



Bahá'í youth bloggers

- **Identify themselves as Bahá'ís**
 - **“My religion is one of the most important parts of my life. I am a Baha'i. I would be happy to explain what that is or answer any questions.”**
- **Express their Faith and teach the masses**
 - **Personal experiences, links to information, podcasts, photos**



Also...

- **Publish photos**

- On Flickr – call for tagging photos ‘Baha’i’ and joining Flickr Baha’i group

Podcast and vcast

- Baha’i inspired podcast by youth Bangalore, India: <http://beautifulworld.podomatic.com>
 - “Harmony of science and religion”, “equality of man and woman”, “marriage”, “prison of self”



<http://www.bahainine.com>

[Bahá'í Blogs](#) | [add](#) | [login](#)

[technorati list](#) - [fetch all](#) - [tag cloud](#) - [unique links](#) - [words from feeds](#)

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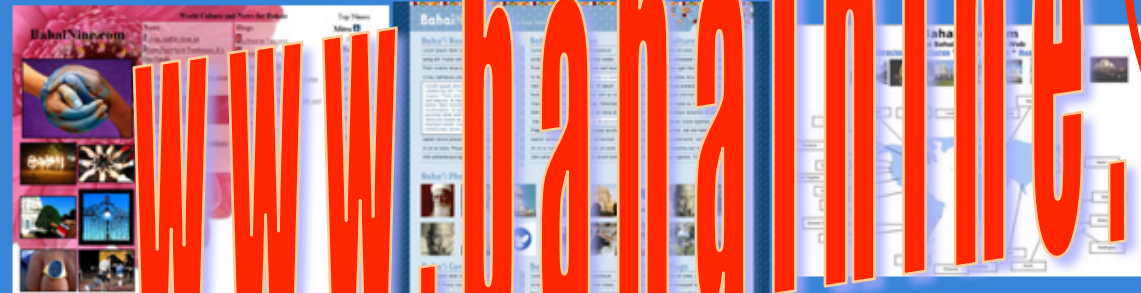
<http://www.bahainine.com>

bahainine.com - a precursor to bahaitop9.com

Bahai Blogosphere Search

over 3800 bahai blog stories - one or two words are best for the search. the link on column 1 may work if the link in the title doesn't.

Bahai Top 9 Vote



Vote:

Digg Model

Pop Model

Third Idea

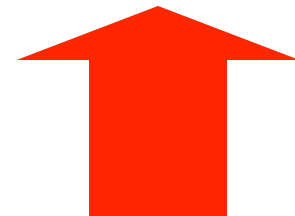
Register your blog

Your Name:

Your Email:

Your Blog URL:

Your Location:



- In this day, however, means of communication have multiplied, and the five continents of the earth have virtually merged into one... **Verily this is none other but one of the wonders of this wondrous age, this glorious century.**

- *[Abdu'l-Baha, Selections from the Writings of Abdu'l-Baha, p. 31]*

- “...**You will see in the future that the power of communication will be greatly strengthened in this age**, so that in time, all mankind will unceasingly consider the comfort, right guidance and well-being of the others.”

- *[Compilations, Baha'i Prayers 9, p. 42]*

- **Bahai Podcast** 📣

- **Selection of photos from Bahá'í pool**

