

Baha' is In Split Over Leadership

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QUINCY — (UPI) — The local Assembly of Baha'Is has broken ties with the mother church in Wilmette, Ill., in a dispute over rival claims for leadership of the faith.

A spokesman for the local group said members would hold their own convention here April 28-30, the same time as the regular Baha'Is meeting in Wilmette. The church has an estimated 7,000 American members.

The spokesman said his group has pledged to accept the leadership of Charles Mason Raney, an American now living in Haifa, Israel. The church's international council proclaimed itself guardian of the church when it was unable to find a relative of the last guardian, Shoghi Effendi,* a Persian, who died in 1957.