

Ramleh, Egypt
Oct 8th 1913

Dear friends!

"Great Ideals make great peoples."

The Bahai Ideals as revealed by Baha-ollah and expounded by Abdul Baha are the noblest and most luminous principles of the 20th century. The force and efficacy of these Ideals are so irresistible that any person coming in contact with them acknowledges the fact that they are the spirit of the age and the light of the world of humanity. The followers of the Bahai Movement have demonstrated in their lives and their deeds the outworking of these teachings not so much by sensational advertisement as by the firm and steadfast adherence to the light of truth. With meekness and humility, with single-minded devotion and sacrifice they have shown to the world that they have no other interest at heart but ^{the} solidarity of the human race and the confraternity of all mankind. East

and west, North and South, wherever you meet a Bahai you will find him a lover of mankind, taking the side of progress, spirituality, equality of rights and freedom of conscience. With broad-mindedness and fellow-feeling they serve ^{the} people of all creeds, religions, and nations. They ask for no reward or compensation. Freely they have received, freely they give. The adulation of the friends nor the poisonous attack of the enemies change their determination. The glorious sun of their hope is never set; the ^{light} moon of their tolerance always sheds silvery beams; the stars of their high aspirations are eternally bright; the zephyr of their loving-kindness is never hushed; the garden of their universal amity is imperishably green; the fountain of their sympathy is flowing; the rain of their compassion and charity pours down; their search after truth is unhampered, their thirst for the water of knowledge and wisdom is never allayed.

In the path of righteousness they are resolute. They strive to show forth in their daily lives the qualities of the holy beings and manifest in their dealings with all men those Godlike attributes which characterized Christ, Baha-Ollah and Abdul Baha. In their estimation mankind are the sheep of God. The almighty Father is the Universal Shepherd. Having created all, he provides for them. He loves all, therefore he showers His mercy upon them. In every cycle he has inspired divine Messengers to lead these souls from the state of ignorance to the station of Knowledge. The Bahais having turned the self unto the Fire of the Love of God are ever ready to serve the inhabitants of the world and sacrifice their lives for the good of mankind. From all forms of prejudices they are free. They have no religious prejudice, because they believe all the religions are founded by God. They have no political prejudice, for they know all humanity are the Children of God. They have no racial

prejudice, because they realize that in the
 sight of the Lord all are one and the purer
 the heart the nearer he is to the source of all
 Good. They entertain no patriotic pride, for
 they are conscious of the truth that this globe
 is one home, these countries one Country
 and it belongs to God. Their wings are not
 soiled with water and clay; thus they soar
 toward the sphere of spiritual brotherhood.
 Their minds are not clogged with dogmas
 and sacerdotal rites, consequently they have
 a keen intellectual appreciation of all that
 the former thinkers and philosophers have
 contributed to the advancement of the
 world. Their spirits are not asphyxiated
 with the gas of vain illusions and superstitious
 phantoms, hence they are intoxicated with
 the Wine of the love of humanity. Their
 characters are moulded in the school
 of Reality; their experiences are gained
 through the association with all men
 of every creed and thought. Being ^{convinced}
 of the genuineness of this revelation

nothing can shake their faith. To them every philanthropic movement is but a partial replica of the Principles of the Bahai Cause, a faint echo of the resonant voice of the Teaching of Baha-Ollah. They hide not their faith, ^{nor} do they dissimulate. Under all circumstances they are proud to be known as Bahais amongst their communities. They wear the badge of their sincerity in their faces and behaviours. To be a Bahai is the greatest privilege and the most heavenly honor. They display the utmost exertion to spread the Cause they cherish in their hearts. They pray every morning, ^{and whenever they can} for they believe ^{truly} in the efficacy of prayer. They know that of themselves they can do nothing but with the assistance of the Holy Spirit they can accomplish all things. They have no leaders and no one is appointed as their superior in the religious world. Like unto brothers and sisters they associate with each other and consort with all mankind with joy and fragrance.

They are neither ostentatious nor proud. They are humble and meek, evanescent and contrite at heart. With manliness and truthfulness they conduct themselves. They do not swear nor curse. They do not drink and smoking is forbidden in the young and discouraged in the old. Thus the Bahais live a life of simplicity, ^{and} service to God and man. They must shine like unto the stars and live like unto the angels. They must be the promoters of the glad-tidings of the Kingdom of Peace and the standard-bearers of the army of righteousness. They must be the embodiments of happiness and the true ensigns of love.

Today we did not see the Master, several important people called on him, ^{and} many questions were answered. Mirza Mohsen, the son-in-law of the Beloved and another believer arrived from Haiffa. They brought to us many good news. In the afternoon we called on Mirza Abul Fazl and had a long talk with him on the meaning of certain terms in the hidden words.