

Ramleh, Egypt
Oct 16th 1913

Dear friends!

Yesterday and today I have felt a greater joy of the nearness of the Master because I have been permitted to stay in His Presence a long time and thus imbibe again the spirit of joyousness and buoyancy and youthfulness which He alone is able to impart. I like to do something to make all those who are around me that I am very happy, that I love to see every one a fountain of joy and beatitude. A Bahai must be always happy; his happiness must be infectious. He must live above sorrow and misery. From the height of Imperishable Glory he must look upon the world and its conditions as ephemeral, as the wing of a fly or the grain of dust. The Master of happiness is with us, the mystery of joy is living, the fountain of ecstasy is flowing, the tree of serenity is green and fruitful, the nightingale of exultation is singing, the rose of delight is fragrant and the angels of acclamation are descending! Why should we be broken-hearted? Let us exhilarate those who are fallen, cheer up those who are heavy laden, sympathize with those who are sorrowful. In the glowing words of one of our distinguished brothers in the Cause: "The mass of men are worried and confused; they cry for peace. They are unhappy; they long for joy. They are dissatisfied with mere material pleasures; they pray for something that is satisfying. They feel the chains of self-centered living. They long for release; their inner self is a prison; they would exchange it for a palace." Here,

lies our mission, my brothers and sisters! Let us pull up our sleeves, gird up the loins of endeavor, rush toward ^{the arena} of activity, and try to alleviate the ills of humanity with the words of My Baba El Akha, the Teachings of the Blessed Perfection and the Exhortations of Abdul Baba. According to the measure of our efforts are we judged in this Glorious Cause. The word of "Bahai" is meaningless unless we are clothed with these divine attributes. Through our effort the sparkling sea of sympathy must become tempestuous and the high-waves of tenderness dash to pieces the vessels of hard-heartedness and cold indifference. In all our dealings with men let us be prompted by generous motives and unselfish reasons, for one ray of kindness will melt a frozen immensity; one drop of the honey of compassion will counteract a point of deadly poison; one fragrance of love will dispell all the stench odor of hatred; a whisper of amity will drown the high sounding noise of enmity, and the little small voice once heeded will establish a divine equilibrium in the life of man.

Do your work without turning your head to the right or to the left. What do we care whether people praise us for it or blame. The god-pleasure of our Lord is the greatest reward. Let us first create that genuine quality of happiness within every fiber of our beings and then go into the sorrowing world. Let us uplift mankind not only with smiles

lent with liberal, social and philanthropic activities.

This morning the Beloved sent Inerja Abdor-Raouf for me. Without waiting one moment I was on my feet. He had just received his mail. He handed me my letters and asked for news from America. Mr Albert R. Vail of Urbana, Illinois had written a most significant and eloquent article on the "Dynamic powers of the Bahai Movement," sending a copy for the approval of the Master. Mr Vail is the Minister of a Unitarian Church and desires his article to appear in one of the magazines. The Master told me to go and translate it into Persian. I had the rough copy ready for the afternoon and took it to him. He asked Haji Mir and others come in and listen as I read the translation. "Consider" he would say "This is written by a Minister!" He most pleased with its contents and while he was drinking a glass of water - symbolic of the giving of knowledge and confirmation - he dictated the following Tablet for the author who has made him very happy today:-

He is God!

O thou son of the Kingdom! The article that thou hast written was perused. There is no doubt that thou hast composed this article through the confirmations of the Kingdom; for many of its contents are evidences of the descent of the invisible inspirations. Although its value is not known for the present yet it will

became evident and manifest in the future. There are many authors and their written works are spread in all parts of the world. However the article is the crown of all their compositions; because their books belong to the world of materiality but the composition belongs to the world of the Kingdom. There is an earthly melody but there is a heavenly harmony. Through the lapse of centuries and cycles all their works will be forgotten but the fame and the circulation of this article of thine will increase day unto day and in the future ages and periods it will be read in all tongues. Therefore, thank thou God that thou art assisted in the writing of this article. Publish and circulate it.

..... Upon thee be Rahallabla!
 (Sig) Abdul Baha Aleluia
 While the Master was dictating Mirza Mahsen came in and said Mrs De Bows and her little girl of 9 yrs^{old} with Mrs Stanard have come to see him. After having slept for one hour he felt refreshed, and in good humor. He was dressed in his beautiful-^{cream} white coat and with his white turban and white beard he looked wonderful, a picture to be drawn by the pen of a Michael Angel or Raphael. These men with their rare genius painted at their very best an imaginary picture but today the living Spiritual Being is amongst us, teaching again the sons of men the way and the truth.

As soon as the Master entered the reception room the center of attraction was the little Mona. He took her into his arms, kissed her on both cheeks and started to converse with her. "Art thou a French or an English?" he asked. Being shy she did not answer. "If the people ask thee whether thou art English or French, tell them I am a Bahai. Once upon a time there was a shepherd who shepherded the sheep of Houssein Ali. He was very simple man. He could neither read nor write. His neighbors would come and ask him, 'Art thou a Muslim, a Jew or a Christian?' He did not know how to answer them, but a moment of reflection, he would say, 'I don't really understand your questions but all that I know I am the shepherd of Houssein Ali.' ... Then art my daughter, my dear little daughter. I want to 'slap you' and with great gentleness he patted his cheeks and back. Every body was of course amused and laughed. Mrs. Standaard had a long letter from Mrs. Rosenberg giving the progress of the Cause in London. Mr. Lewis, the Minister of the Church in which the Master ^{was in London} spoke has offered the hall of the Church to the Bahais to hold their meetings. "This is indeed very significant and a miracle. The believers must have the utmost consideration for him and show toward him true love. When a minister shows such broad mindedness we must praise him for his liberalism and tolerance. I hope he will be assisted with divine aid."

Some one asked about China's future. He said:-
 "The Chinese civilization is very old and hoary with
 age. Once they start on the right path, they
 shall reach their destination very quickly.
 Like the Japanese they are industrious and
 intelligent." To Mrs Dr Baus he said: "you must
 give your daughter a Bahai education, so that
 she may become an excellent teacher of the
 Cause. She must receive a spiritual education.
 Then she will make extraordinary progress.
 Religious teachings are essential for the
 proper development of the mind and the
 spirit. If religious instruction is not given
 to the children they will grow heedless and forget
 of moral susceptibilities. They will laugh
 at all moral obligations. The children are
 like unto green branches. As long as the branch
 is wet you can train it in whatever way you
 think best but once the branch is dried
 up you cannot do anything with it. If
 you want to straighten it, it will break."
 Then somehow questions were asked about
 Germany. He said:- The future of Germany
 is very bright. The German people on the
 whole are religious. They are very noble
 and progressive. The Cause will advance
 amongst such a good-hearted people. The
 star of the religion of Baha - allah will
 arise resplendent from the horizon of that
 country. The banner of universal Peace
 will wave over the German people for
 to the contrary notwithstanding they love
 peace and desire to maintain their
 amicable relations with all the nations."

Again he spoke with the little Mame: "Dost thou love thy parent?" "yes." "Which one do you like better? Thy mother or thy father?" "I love both equally." "Brava! Well said! Now tell me dost thou love better Baba-Allah or thy mother?" This was a difficult question. She waited a moment and finally said with much emphasis: "Baba-Allah." Then he hugged her in his arms and kissed her. Then the question was turned upon one of the western nations who sends yearly 15,000 pilgrims to the holy land to visit the Holy Sepulchre. The Master told several side-splitting stories about the jokes which are played every year upon these simple innocent pilgrims who come really with an ardor of faith and enthusiasm. Oh! He made us laugh! Sometimes in the future I will write these stories for the benefit of the friends. Then the Master gave us permission to depart and together we walked toward the shore. It was a very beautiful sunset and we enjoyed it very much, especially after such an exhilarating talk by the Beloved. We returned then to the hotel and on the veranda we had an interesting talk about the Cause. The Master sent for me again. He was dictating Tablets to Murja Mower. I read to him some of the petitions from America and he revealed answers. Now walking, and again sitting he dictated Tablets till 10 o'clock and there were no one else in the room. Toward the end he revealed four Tablets in Arabic and he chanted them in his most musical voice, creating an atmosphere of spirituality and enveloped with this Holy atmosphere we left the house.