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Ramlah, Egypt
Oct 31st 1913

Dear friends!

Mirza Ali Akbar, the friend of Abdul Baka and the friend of the friends left the headquarter of the Commander-in-Chief for the active engagement in front. The Beloved took him this morning into the rose-garden and while he was walking through the flower-beds he spoke to him words of kindness and love:-

"Thou hast been with me for a long time and I have grown to love thee very much. When I love people I do not tell them in their faces. You know how much I love Mirza Abdul Fazl and Haji Mirza Heydar Ali but I have seldom told them in their faces. I am sending thee away. Thou art not alone. The hosts of the Supreme Concourse are with thee. They will assist thee and reinforce thee under all conditions. Doctors tell me I must completely rest (and he turned his wondrous eyes straight to him). Don't listen to them. When I hear good news from the believers, then my health is improved. Now if thou longest to see me in good condition, go ^{away} and serve the Cause and teach the souls. The news of thy spiritual conquest will make me well. Wherever thou goest, announce my wonderful Bahai greeting to the teachers of the Cause and tell them on my behalf: 'The responsibility of the steady progress of the Cause depends upon you. You are the physicians of the sick ^{body} of the world of humanity. You must not stay anywhere for a long time. Travel ye from land to land like the apostles of Christ and carry ^{with} you the glad-tidings of the Kingdom of Akha to the remotest corners of the earth. Vely are

ye silent? Shout! Why are ye sitting? Know. Why are ye quiet? Stir. This is not the day of rest and comfort; Travel ye constantly and spread far and wide the Teachings of God. Like unto the stars arise ye every day from a horizon. Like unto the nightingales sing every day from the different rose-bush. Like unto the breeze waft every morning from a garden. Do not stay a long time anywhere. Let the world profit by your lessons and learn from your examples. My health does consist in the progress of the Cause. and the progress of the Cause depends upon the energy and wisdom of the teachers."

Our brother left at two o'clock for Haifa. From there, after a few days he will go to Constantinople. After his departure the Master sent for Mirza Galal and told him to take Mirza Monner and myself to the Russian steamer and bid him our last farewell. As the steamer was going to leave at 5 pm we had ample time. After 40 minutes ride on tramway we found him in his Cabin. He was most thankful to Our Lord for his loving messages and extreme Kindness. We stayed with him half an hour and expressed our hope that he will be confirmed and assisted in his glorious mission. While we were in our little boat returning to the shore we saw the French warships and torpedo boats decked with flags and lighting. Mirza Monner said (pointing to the warships) Abdul Baka desires to remove from the face of the seas these monstrous blots upon the present day civilization with the point of his pen and he will do it with the assistance of

the Holy Spirit. The world, no doubt must learn the lessons of Peace at a heavy cost. They must use all their brute forces before they realize their futility. At present they are like the children. They are playing with these dreadnaughts and warships and know not the impending danger. Soon they will come to their senses and know their own follies. Like drunken people they cannot think intelligently. What a waste of money and humanity!

When we landed on the pier we did not take the car but walked back through the Arab quarter! I walked through the ^{narrow} streets like a dazed man! What filth! What dirt! What poverty! Small, narrow houses like dark jails, the children covered with dirt coming out of these dreadfully unsanitary houses, little shops and restaurants, men squating on the floor! Such evil odor filling the narrow lanes, women all pale and hager looking! As I passed by I looked through the open doors of the houses and through the dark passages I saw women scantily dressed sitting on the damp floor. How my heart ached at these dreadful sights! It seemed to me that civilization has marched all this time above their heads and has not left the slightest impressian in their manners and customs. You see, there are certain things that we must learn by going to school and there are other things that we learn easily by observations and examples. Now, I thought as I was going through these unclean streets there are many things in the line

of sanitation and cleanliness that these Arabs could learn from their constant ^{not} contact with the Europeans but no! they have ^{not} done so. Really I was a sad spectator of all their squalor and misery and wondered all night whether there is a way to teach these Arabs the better ideals of life - a life so full of the Beautiful and joy if we just look from the right standpoint.

In the morning the Beloved received Mrs Haag and Mrs Wise. He asked about the health and condition of many believers and how they fared on their long journey. "I am most pleased with the believers of California. They are sincere and full of devotion. There is no feeling of superiority of one over another and no differences of opinions exist." "The believers must truly and cordially love one another and serve mankind to the best of their ability." "This divine Power shall enrich the East and the West and today it is being spread all over the world."

In the afternoon the Beloved spent his time all alone in the rose-garden. There was no one there to trouble him and he read his correspondence. When we returned in the evening again he asked for Mrs Haag and Mrs Wise. This time they presented to him the loving messages of many friends and received answers for each. They were most happy to be thus permitted to come and

see him in Egypt. "The friends of God must devote all their time in teaching the Cause and spreading the rays of the Sun of Truth." he said at last "you see how this world is dark, they must illumine it; how the people are material, they must spiritualize them; how they are negligent they must make them aware."

A lovely, nice Kodak brought by Mrs Haegg will be my future companion and I hope I will be able to use it to the best advantage. There will be many scenes and peoples who will find a place on the film of my Kodak and in turn all of you will share with me the joy of seeing them if not in person, at least in photographs.

I may bring this month to a close by giving you the translation of a Tablet revealed the other night to a believer in Persia showing again how important is the cause of teaching the Truth in these days:—

"O thou who art chosen by Abdul Baha for the diffusion of the Fragrances of God! Thy letter was received. Praise be to God that in Maragheh thou hast become confirmed and assisted. Today no praiseworthy action can be compared with teaching the Cause of the Forgiving Lord. For this is the seed-sowing-time. Every real farmer engages his time only in seed-sowing. But the heedless ones during the seed-sowing season think of the time of the Crop. Harvesting is one of the columns of agriculture but not in the time of seed-sowing. The crop is the result of farming but not at

the time of irrigation. Now, praise be to God that ~~they~~ ^{these} ~~have~~ occupied all thy time in seed-sowing and unquestionably thou shalt become assisted and aided. Travel thou in all the cities of Azarbayejan and guide the souls to the fountain of Light. And when thou findest time journey through Caucasus and guide the people to the Religion of God. All the countries have attained to the greatest capacity but very little Teaching is done.

In another Tablet to the "Assembly of Teaching" in Hamadan he says:—

O ye blessed souls! Many assemblies are formed and organized in this world but the name of this Assembly is the hope of the people of Heart. It is indicative of teaching and from the Kingdom of Abha is honored with the eloquent Persian. "Assembly" means the diffusion of the Fragrances of God. "Assembly" means humility and friendliness toward the believers of God. "Assembly" means the promotion of the Word of God. "Assembly" means to be sanctified and holy from all else save God. Such is the spiritual assembly. Such is the divine meeting. Such is the Cordly Congregation! The ultimate desire of Abdul Baha is the organization of such assemblies and He is their Servant: for this servitude is the Crown of Eternal Sovereignty and this thralldom is freedom from both worlds.

Therefore, O ye ^{dear} friends, strive with heart and soul so that you may become a ^{eye} member and an eternal organ of the Heavenly Assembly and the meeting of the Kingdom of Abha