

Bahai Nest

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Mount Carmel, Haifa Syria

February 4th 1914

Dear friends!

"Feast February second. Hearts joyous. Perfect Unity. Loving greetings. Krug." The above is a cable message from New York City and it was read to the Master this morning in the presence of a large number of Pilgrims. How happy it made him. His face was a rose-garden of smiles! He was walking to and fro in the reception room. He took his turban with his blessed hands and played ^{with} (arranged) his beautiful white locks. Then he looked out of the window ^{after a minute} and ~~then~~ suddenly turned back. "Perfect Unity" he said, apparently quoting the cable, "is the ^{most} heavenly station, the loftest summit of the Mountain of God, the ^{most} Deliciable Paradise of the good-pleasure of the Almighty, and I hope that New York believers will live and move and have their being in this high altitude of united consciousness, united effort and united activity. With perfect

'Unity' they can achieve the impossible. "Then he spoke
 about Mrs Krug and her services in the Cause, the
 beauty of her spirit, the nobility of her character and
 her weekly meetings. "She is a ball of fire, sett-
 ing aglow all the hearts who come in contact with
 her. She is a burning flame of the Love of God."
 After the description of some of the meetings in
 her home he said: - "The Confirmations of
 God are descending uninterruptedly. Every
 assistance promised by the Blessed Perfection
 has already come to pass. We were weak but His
 Might confirmed us under all circumstances."
 There was present a Bahai from Aleppo and he
 presented to him ^{about Baha} their photograph of the Baha'is in
 that city. The Master looked at it and was
 pleased. Then he spoke at length concerning his
 public addresses in America in Christian and
 Jewish temples, in which he proved to the
 satisfaction of the audience the validity of the
 prophet hood of Mohamad.

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After a few minutes he came out of the house, walking toward the German Colony all alone. On the way he met a few of the Pilgrims and he beckoned them to follow him.

In the afternoon Mr and Mrs Holback came to continue their interview with Mirza Heydar Ali. ^{When} while they were passing by the door the Master came out of the house and ^{asked} called them to enter. Foroughi and his son were there also. Mrs Holback presented to the Master a copy of the Egyptian Gazette containing an article from her pen on the death of Mirza Abul Fazl. Then she read to him the liberal views of an English Bishop on religion ^{which} in turn elicited from him the real meaning of Baptism. Then he asked Foroughi to go with him on a drive and they went to the home of Sayad Yahya, where Mirza Heydar Ali took up the thread of his most interesting and instructive narrative. Once it is completed it will form one of the most fascinating stories of ^{the} Bahai life, the reading of which shall illumine many dark corners.

In the evening the Pilgrims found their way into the Presence of the Beloved. Aga Mohamad Reza from Ashkabad offered ^{the Master} a series of photographs lately taken from the Mashrekol Azkar in that city. He looked at the pictures, ^{and they} ~~which~~ pleased him very much. They ^{gave him} naturally the clue to speak on the subject of Mashrekol Azkar:-

"Truly I say the believers in Ashkabad, in the matter of the building of the Mashrekol Azkar, displayed the utmost magnanimity. This is the first Mashrekol Azkar built in the world in the name of Baha-o-llah. In the future there will be constructed many such places of worship. Every city will enjoy the spiritual and material benefits of many Mashrekol Azkar, but as this is the first of its kind, it has become the cause of the happiness of the hearts of all the believers. The friends in Ashkabad manifested great zeal [and an abounding faith] [in its construction]. Great is their station in the sight of the Lord of mankind."

The American believers have also cleared the land from its debt and now they are engaged in a vigorous campaign to raise the fund for laying the foundation and raising the structure. After all that is said, we must ever bear in mind that the friends of Ashtabad carried away this ball of service from the arena of the Cause, and built the very first Mashrekol Aqbar of the Bahai world. The first Mosque built in Islam was the Mosque of Kaba in Medina. Its columns ^{were} composed of the trunks of palm-trees and its ceiling of the tall branches thereof."

"Do the believers frequent the Mashrekol Aqbar in the mornings?" he asked.

"Yes" Aga Mohamed Reza answered.

"Do the Mohamadans, the Russians etc come often to visit and see the Temple?" He asked again. The answer was in the affirmative.

"You must be exceedingly kind to the Mohamadans amongst whom you live. Associate with them and show them the spirit of the Bahai Cause.

3² Praise be to God that the Blessed Perfection has broken
these barriers ^{of differences}, He has commanded all the Bahais to
consort with all the religionists and nationalities with
the utmost kindness, love, fellowship. They must not
think of any strangeness, They are all the fruits
of one tree and the leaves of one branch, His/Her
mess Baha-Allah has rent asunder these thick and
heavy veils and has proclaimed the oneness of
the world of humanity. He has enjoined upon ^{us}
to deal kindly and mercifully with all the creatures
of God. ~~They~~ ^{we} must make religion the cause of
unity and affiliation and not the means of
strife and controversy. Praise be to God that ^{we}
are ^{all} the children of the Kingdom. There is no differ-
ence between us. All the laws and principles
of the religion of Baha-Allah are humane
and altruistic. We are the lovers of the
people of the world, and ^{never} exert ourselves
to serve them and share with them the
sweet knowledge of this Reality."