

Bahar Nest

Mount Carmel, Haifa, Syria

March 13<sup>th</sup> 1914

Dear friends!

With weeping eyes, shaking bodies, but with supernal faith and sublime confidence they go away, and with equal ardor and <sup>equal</sup> fervency they come, a seemingly interminable chain stretched from Mount Carmel to all parts of the earth. Today six of the Pilgrims departed for their respective homes. They had the privilege of meeting the Master both in the morning and in the afternoon just a few moments before they left for the steamer. Out of the deep silence that fell over them when they entered the room the voice of the Beloved arose clear and strong, vibrating through every fiber of their sensitive, spiritual beings. "Praise be to God," he waited for a full minutes and then he continued "Praise be to God that you have attained, visited the Holy Tomb of the Blessed Perfection and walked around the

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Holy Sepulchre of the Bab. For many a day we  
associated together with joy and fragrance. The great  
amount of work and the diversity of occupations pre-  
vented me from meeting you ~~as often~~ as my  
heart desired but spiritual association does not  
depend upon physical contact. I hope that the  
results of these meetings may become  
evident and manifest in your lives. The one  
who comes out of a garden must carry in his  
hand a few bouquets of flowers to perfume the nos-  
trils of those who are left behind. I hope that  
you may return with divine, spiritual bouq-  
uets, with celestial fragrances, with abstrac-  
tions of consciousness and the flames  
of the Fire of the Love of God. Be ye not  
sad, for ye have attained to heavenly  
happiness and obtained lordly exhilaration.  
These souls having thus attained to this supreme  
joy are never grieved. you are always here.  
Be ye not unhappy. you are with me, your

spirits ever hover around the Divine Threshold of Baka-Allah. Do ye not weep, for it saddens me to see you crying. We are always together. We are never separated from each other. We hope that we may be gathered together in the Kingdom of God beneath the overshadowing protection of the Blessed Perfection. There, we will enjoy an eternal association, a divine fellowship and an everlasting intimacy. . . . . The believers of God must ever be ready to sacrifice their lives in the path of each other. This is one of the conditions of faith. They must serve each other with cordial love, prefer others unto themselves and the fire of their love and affection may so set afire their hearts that its flame may illumine all the dark places and banish away the gloom of hate and envy. This is one of the great commandments of God revealed in the Holy Books and Tablets. . . . . I am most pleased with the believers of Hessa and Harneg. Truly I say they

have exhibited great firmness and steadfastness. In reality these souls did not waver in the face of the most severe tests and under most harrowing ordeals; nay rather they increased daily their constancy and resolution. The more they were surrounded with the hosts of afflictions, the greater became their power of resistance. The higher leaped the tongue of the conflagration of persecutions, <sup>the more</sup> their hearts were ~~more~~ ignited with the Fire of the Love of God . . . . .

These souls (the active servants and teachers of the Cause) are mentioned in the Supreme Concourse; their names are recorded in the Kingdom of Akha; they are the favored ones at the Threshold of the Blessed Perfection. They are the quintessence of creation; for they have arisen to serve the believers of God unselfishly. Continually do I supplicate and entreat at the Court of the True One and beg for them unceasing outpourings. These souls in my estimation are the embodied Graces

of the Presence of the almighty. They constitute my wings with which I am enabled to fly heavenward. They are my associates and partners in the servitude of the the Holy Threshold . . . . .

I hope you may live on such plane as to find yourselves always in this Sacred Spot; that you may manifest such spiritual qualities and attributes as to attract others to the Cause of your Merciful Lord . . . . . I trust that all the believers in those parts may become assisted to render worthy services in the Religion of God. Such blessed persons are the members and limbs of my body . . . . . They are the generals of the army of Salvation and continually they are engaged on the battlefield, carrying away victory after victory. They are the trees of the Paradise of Akba, producing luscious fruits in all seasons. They are the flowers of the garden of the Clement, diffusing all around the fragrances of the Love of God . . . . . I hope that Muhammad Bazar

Khan may become assisted to serve the Cause in a befitting manner. With this family we are closely knitted together. His grandfather and grandmother are distantly related to us. They come originally from the province of Mazanderan. Our relation is firm and old. When his father was a young man he lived in Bagdad for a long period. At that time I still was a boy and we used to play with each other frequently; . . . . . Now that you are leaving this Holy Spot you must go away laden with the Divine Glad-tidings, each one of you must be a flame of the Love of God and a bright candle in the meeting of the friends, + so that whoever comes in touch with you bear testimony that verily these people are the <sup>sweet</sup> flowers of the garden of reality and the singing nightingales of the Paradise of Abha."

Then he embraced one by one and in a moment

they were out of his Presence, still the last tender  
 word of his benediction in their ears. Almost all  
 the Pilgrims accompanied them to the Pier and  
 bidding them their last Bahai farewell they returned  
 to the Pilgrims' House, knowing full well <sup>that</sup> they  
<sup>must</sup> have likewise to leave soon, but thankful for  
 all the Bounties of God showered over their  
 heads. They continued to sing Tablets, chant  
 prayers, tell Bahai stories till almost  
 midnight. Once the fire of enthusiasm burning  
 in the hearts of these men is handed to the next  
 generation, the fame and glory of the Bahai Cause  
 will fill the whole world. They are a band of  
 united workmen and the outlook of their whole  
 concentrated life is dominated by one spiritual  
 passion - Celestial brotherhood. Daily do I witness  
 their sweet patience, their resolute faith, their  
 undaunted courage and their uncommon  
 piety and chastity. Surely God will crown  
 these lives with eternal results.

Many people come and go but only those who are closely <sup>at close range</sup> watching the ever-changing scenes, get the psychological importance of each case. Endowed with deep insight and spiritual vision the Bahai pilgrims leave the Presence of the Beloved dedicated anew to the service of the Cause.

When this morning I entered the room of the Master he was walking to and fro and looking out of the window, <sup>and</sup> admiring the fragrant flowers. "Well" he said "what news have you?" I had no news. "Are the Pilgrims happy? A number of them are going away." Then he faced <sup>me</sup> and smiled. "Come, Come near me. Thou art my Ahmad. I want to kiss you." And I was locked in his divine arms, feeling the glow and radiance of his kisses on both my cheeks. Then I fell at his feet and wept the tears of joy and supplicated him to assist me to be just a servant of his servants. All day I felt the warmth of his kisses. I was riding on the white clouds of bliss and joy. "Thou art my Ahmad." What else do I want in this world? Nothing.