

Home of Baha-Allah ⁷⁵

Acre Syria

April 5th 1914

Dear friends,

"China, China, China - China - word the Cause of Baha-Allah must march. Where is that holy, sanctified Bahai to become the teacher of China? China has most great capability. The Chinese people are most simple-hearted and truth-seeking. The Bahai teacher of the Chinese people must be first imbued with their spirit; know their sacred literature, study their national customs and speak to them from their own standpoint and their own terminologies. He must entertain no thought of his own but ever ^{think} of their spiritual welfare of that people. In China one can teach many souls and train and educate such divine personages, each one of whom may become the bright candle of the world of harmony. Truly I say they are free from any deceit and hypocrisies and are prompted with ideal ^{nature}.

76 Had I ^{been} feeling well, I would have taken a journey to China myself! China is the country of the future. I hope the right kind of teacher will be inspired to go to that vast empire to lay the foundation of the Kingdom of God, to promote the principles of Divine Civilization, to unfurl the banner of the Cause of Baha-ullah and to invite the people to the Banquet of the Lord! Thus spoke the Beloved this evening to the assembled friends and I have recorded his words here ^{as they} ~~feelings~~ ^{will} ~~may~~ create the proper atmosphere and inspire the right kind of heart to arise and accomplish this great service. Then he continued: "For the last twenty years I have repeatedly emphasized the matter of spreading the Cause of God. In every city there must be organized assemblies of teaching-classes to teach the young how to teach the Cause and prepare them for this most important service. Every Bahai must acquire the lessons of teaching. This will yield results. No other cause is as important as this. The Cause of the promotion of the revelation

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of Baha-Allah is the most confirmed Cause. Every time one cause ~~has~~ the most supreme importance. There is one season to harrow the ground, another season to scatter the seeds, still another season to irrigate the field and still another to harvest the crop. We must attend to these various kinds of activities in their proper ^{seasons} in order to become successful. Now is the time of seed-sowing but it seems to me some of the believers are thinking about crop-gathering. This will give them no results. Whoever is thinking of any other thing he is wasting his time. The promotion of the Principles of Baha-Allah is the most dominant issue before the believers of God. "

In the morning Mirza Jalal came down and expressed the wish of going to the station to welcome the Pilgrims. I ^{also} followed him. When the train entered the station we could see the heads of the believers out of the windows. There were many new faces, & students from ^{the} Beirut College, & newly arrived pilgrims and many of the old ones. The Master had

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told us to tell them to go directly to Bahajee. Except Shengi Effendi and Rauli Effendi the rest started on their walk to the Blessed Tomb of Baha-Allah. Having entered the house we found the Beloved engaged in conversation with the Believers. Immediately afterwards Doctor Laffi Bey of the Turkish garrison, an old friend of the Bahai Cause called on the Beloved and the talk was mainly on the efficiency of the administrative officers, that they must be public spirited and have a passionate desire for progress of the nation. "In the world of humanity 'good intention' is the greatest means of personal development. If a person has 'good intention' he will succeed in all ^{his} undertakings" he said at last.

Speaking about the arrivals of the Turkish Military officers he said:- "So many important officers have come to Acca. Last night I was invited to the house of Abdol-Fattah Effendi, the newly-elected member of Parliament. Two large rooms were filled with these officers with their Chief Commandant.

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Many subjects were discussed and I stayed with them till late at night. " Then he dictated a Tablet for Mrs Holback inviting her and her husband to come to Area and stay a day or two.

In the afternoon the Master rode on his donkey, Khosro holding the rein. I hired also a donkey, round trip for ten cents. When the Beloved reached the little rest-house he alighted from the little ^{donkey} ~~and~~ and when the believers saw him they rushed out and met him half way. He ascended the little stairs and entered the small room built over the rest-house. From the roof one has a wonderful view of all the surrounding country. Then he sent for the new Pilgrims and the Beirut students. He ^{said} ~~spoke~~ to them: " you must be very thankful to God that he has brought about for you such easy means. The President of the College is most pleased with you and expresses satisfaction with your behaviour. For the present you are studying well and I am very pleased with you."

Then we followed him to the Holy Tomb. He chanted in a deep, spiritual voice the Visiting Tablet and gave rose-water to each one of the worshippers. Coming out of the Tomb the Beloved stood on the stairs and asked Badi' Bashroyeh: "Dost thou know now well the English language? We need at least one hundred young Persian Bahais who have mastered this language most thoroughly so that they may travel throughout America and Europe and proclaim at the top of their voices the Cause of Baha-Allah. Their weapons must be divine virtues and spiritual sincerity. I hope that such pure instruments may be created by God. I hope, ^{also that} each one of you may become a heavenly teacher." Then giving them his permission to return to Haifa he retired to the house of Aga Sayyid Ali.

Altogether it was another lovely day, the Master shedding the rays of his love and affection all around and the pilgrims feeling perfectly happy.