

Bahai' Nest

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Mount Carmel, Haifa, Syria

April 15th 1914

Dear friends!

Last night the third party of students arrived from Beirut with three fine pilgrims from Abade', Persia. The second party left for Damascus by rail. This morning the newly arrived students were called into ^{the} ^{of Abdul Baha} his presence, and he spoke to them as follows:— I hope that while you are studying in this college you may so excel all other students in ^{the} various branches of Knowledge taught therein, so that ^{all} of them may testify that these Bahai students have another power, ~~they~~ are inspired with another effort, ~~they~~ are imbued with a nobler ambition and ~~they~~ are stimulated by higher motives and wider and deeper exertion ^{than others}. ^{If} ^{do not} ~~be~~ you to be equal ^{surpass the others} with them, then what distinction will there remain for you? therefore you must strive to be superior to them, so that everyone may bear

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testimony to this fact. You are now like the tender plants that are trained ^{according to} ~~in accord with~~ the knowledge and wisdom of the gardener. From now ^{on} you must strive to beautify the moral aspect of your lives, advise each other with the utmost consideration, watch daily your words and deeds, - thus from the very beginning you may characterize yourselves with divine ideals. The divine ideals are humility, ~~submissive~~ ^{self} annihilation of self, perfect evarescence, charity and loving-kindness. You must die ~~in~~ ^{to} self and live in God. You must be exceedingly compassionate to each other and to all the people of the world. Love and serve mankind just for the sake of God and not for anything else. The foundation of your love towards humanity must be spiritual faith and divine assurance. Again, be ye most careful that, God forbid, not one single word contrary to truth may issue from your mouths. One falsehood throws man from the highest station of honor to the lowest abyss of disgrace. Always guard

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yourself against this enemy, so that all that you state may correspond with reality. For ever supplicate and entreat at the Court of Majesty and beg Confirmation and assistance. Make ye an effort that you may win the good-pleasure of the Blessed Perfection. All the natural and supernatural advancements in the human world revolve around this one problem. If you attain to this supreme goal all the elements of the world of creation will be ready to serve you at your bidding, i.e.:- they will find their highest attainment in you and through you; or in other words you will become the fruits of the world of existence. The evolution of the perfect man is the fruit of creation, just as the evolution of the trunk, branches, leaves and blossoms of the tree is the fruits thereof. Exalt your thought. Reflect over all your affairs. Magnify your endeavors. Enlarge the circle of your ideals. Open the wings of spiritual vision. Let your hope be the accomplishment of most great deeds, the results of which may immortalize your names. All

that the people are holding fast to them are as the mirage and will not last. Praise be to God that you are under the protection of Baha-o-llah and His Bounties have encircled you. I will always pray for you and with the utmost humility beg extraordinary progress for you."

Miss Burks was invited to lunch and again the Beloved spoke to her about the teachings of the Cause. She is a sweet, spiritual woman and much attracted to the principles of the Movement. In the afternoon a number of the pilgrims who were loitering around the garden were summoned into the Presence of Our Lord. Because our brothers from India were there, Theosophy and its allied branches, the theory of Astral body, reincarnation, the mystery surrounding the secret doctrine of the "White Lodge" etc were discussed. Again Mr Shirazi asked about the probability of the Master's trip to India. ^{concerning this matter,} Two Tablets were revealed, the translation of which will appear later on.

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As the Beloved was speaking I took out my note-book
to write down his remarks on astral body when he ^{was}
his hand laughingly toward me and said: "Don't write this."
Then he turned his face toward Haji Mirza Heydar Ali
and said: - "This Mirza Ahmad has become the
'recorder of my deeds.' ~~As soon as~~ ^{As soon as} I open my mouth
than he takes out his note-book. If I make a joke,
it will ~~be~~ spread all over Europe. If I smite on
the face of Abdul Gasem, all America will ~~come~~
to know about it. He writes in his ^{note} book that on
such and such a day, and ^{such an} hour Abdul Baha
laughed. What can I do with him? O Haji! O Haji! Can
you not deliver me out of his hand? (He laughed very
heartily.) But I am afraid we cannot send him
away and he will not go away himself. He has become
a fixture at Haifa."

Then he sent away the believers and ^{the} strangers
came in. While he was talking to them he dictated
a number of Tablets for the American and Persian
believers and asked them to speak to him ^{current} on

events. Then he wrote several short Tablets with his own blessed Hand for those pilgrims who are going to depart in a few days.

In the evening our new pilgrims, ^{from Abads'} found their way into the Holy Presence of the Beloved. They were weeping the tears of joy and they fell at his feet. The Master raised them and held them in his wonderful, ~~capacious~~ arms and ~~kissed~~ ^{thrust} ~~on their~~ ^{thrust} ~~both their~~ cheeks. They have been travelling for 30 months, via Esphahan, Teheran, Rasht, Russia etc and they presented to the Master the love of all the Bahais in these various cities. "How are the believers? How

are the servants of the Blessed Perfection? Ere long the Cause of God will advance greatly in those parts. This mighty Cause is like unto a great, overflowing fountain the source of which cannot be dammed. If you block its path it will make an ~~gap~~ ^{gap} for itself unexpectedly in another direction. The flow of the ~~water~~ ^{water} cannot be stopped. It will always find ~~quay~~ ^{quay} for its progress. So is with the Cause of God. No matter what they do it will advance the principles of the Kingdom." Then for more than half an hour he spoke on the life of the Baha-Allah and how ^{with} each successive exile and imprisonment, the heat of the Fire of the Love of God, became greater and the voice of Truth, filled the ears of the people of the East and of the West.