

Tiberias, Sea of Galilee

Tiberias

May 30th 1914

Dear friends!

For the present I am living in Tiberias "the Beloved says in a Tablet revealed to-day" and walk every day along the shore of the Sea of Galilee. I bring back to my mind those days wherein His Holiness Christ lived in these parts and how the people were negligent in the recognition of that Incarnate Light. Only a few fishermen believed in Him and through their faith and assurance they soared toward the Kingdom of heaven. Thus the regions of the world became illumined through the Light of the Most Great Guidance. However during their lifetime no one duly recognized them, nay rather the people arose to scoff at and ridicule and persecute and kill them. Nevertheless, reflect what a great revolution appeared ^{in the world} after them! The humble fisherman became the great Peter and the peasant woman - Mary Magdalene - attained to the apogee of fame!

To the freetport (Michigan) Bahai assembly he writes:—

"O ye friends and the maid servants of the Merciful! your letter which was an evidence ^{of} your firmness in the Path of guidance was duly received. you have expressed the yearning that you might become confirmed to live in accord with the Teachings of Baha-Allah. This is the most great hope of Abdul Baha and the ultimate aim of the Supreme Concurrence. We must strive day and night so that this blessed intention may become actualized; from our deeds and actions the signs of holiness and sanctification may become apparent and manifest and the rays of the exhortations and advices of Baha-Allah may shine forth from our faces—thus every person who meets us, without recognizing us may judge from our conduct, manners, and ^{conversation} ~~talks~~ that we are Bahais, because the Teachings of Baha-Allah are visible in our faces, ^{bodies} ~~temples~~ and countenances. I will pray for you; ^{wise should} like you pray for all and ~~every one~~"

To the Racine Bahai Assembly he says:—

"O ye friends and the maid servants of the Merciful,

your letter was received. Its contents conformed with the reality, for it was the song of the heart and of the spirit and the sweet melody of the soul and consciousness. You have expressed the hope that in this radiant century you may become confirmed in the service of the oneness of the world of humanity and the promoters of Universal Peace. This hope is acceptable at the Threshold of the Almighty and this intention is the most great intention. Perseverance and steadfastness in every aim will ultimately bring about its fulfillment and realization...."

To Doctor Bahram of Surat, India, he writes: -

"O thou light of the Love of God! Thy letter was received, likewise thy cablegram. Both of them were evident proofs ^{of} thy firmness in the Love of God. It has been sometime that the horizon of Hindustan ^{has been} was dark and all the inhabitants ^{have been} were submerged in the ocean of dogmas. Now, praise be to God the breeze of Providence has wafted over that country and the effulgences of the Sun of Reality are shining upon those provinces. Although this is

the nascent stage of the rise of the sun, yet ere long it shall flood those regions with its glorious lights. Praise be to God that souls like unto thee are found in that country who are the candles of the Love of God and self-sacrificing in the Path of God. I beg of the Graces of Baha-ollah to make thee more illumined day by day.

"Concerning my voyage to India: this is hidden behind the veil of Fate and Predestination. That which ~~that~~ God hath ordained and Destiny hath signed shall come to pass I long also to meet you with my physical eyes, but this depends upon Fate and Destiny and the power of God over these laws"

To U. R. Joshi of Bombay, India he writes:—

"O thou light of Love! Thy letter indicated that the Call of Abdul Baha in Paris hath awakened thee. Most wonderful indeed! What wisdom lies behind this! This Call was raised in Paris in a meeting wherein many people were present but most of them were submerged in a sea of slumber; yet it did stir thee out of thy sleep

in India. This is truly very mystical! Those who were present were asleep, but those who were absent - 1000s of miles away - heard the Call and shook off their slumber. The little slender bar, otherwise known as the Magnetic - needle although it may be far away from the Magnetic center of the earth, yet it takes freely that line and is attracted to it, but the earth and the rock which are contiguous to the earth's Magnetic Center are neither sensitized nor susceptible ^{to its power} by their close contact. Therefore, because thou didst have the capability thou didst hear the Call from thousands of miles and turned thy face toward the Kingdom of Baha - Ollah.

"Regarding my journey to India: This is behind the covering of Fate and Destiny. It depends upon God's ordination and the decree of Fate... We shall wait and see what the future brings forth ".....

This morning the ^{Below} had a long talk with Mostafa Ramzi Pasha. ^{Afterward} a carriage was hired and both of them went to the Baths. I could not go

because the carriage was filled with ~~other~~ ^{the Master's} guests of the
 the Master and their attendants. It was about noon
 when they returned and every one told me the Master
 enjoyed the hot bath and intended to ^{go} frequently.
 With the boat two young Zoroastrian Bahais, ^{from Bombay} arrived
 from Haifa and brought us the local news. The
 Master received them in the afternoon and inquired
 about the news of the Cause and the spiritual work
 of Mrs and Mrs Getsinger. "How are the inhabitants
 of Hindustan? Are they awake or sleep? active
 or passive? enkindled or extinct? progressive or
 stagnant? dark or radiant? joyful or unhappy?
 silent or eloquent? Are they set aglow with the
 Fire of the Love of God? Are they inspired with
 divine ideals? Are they breaking the rusty chains
 of forms and castes? Are they associating with
 each other as the children of God? Are they carrying
 the torch of public education and enlightenment
 to every corner of that land? Do they raise the
 fallen and uplift the downtrodden? Do they
 love ~~or~~ hate each other? Are their hearts the
 caskets for the highest principles of humanity?

Are they defeating the forces of darkness and prejudices? Do they see the splendors of the Sun of Reality? Are they intoxicated with the wine of the Knowledge of the Merciful? Are their ears attuned to the music of the Brotherhood of man? Do they understand the meanings of spiritual solidarity and celestial interdependence?

"Praise be to God that the friends have closed from the tablets of their hearts all the tales of the past and are working for the welfare of humanity. Although there are many who sleep, yet they are awake; many who are blind, but they are seeing; many who are deaf, but they are hearing; many who are dead, but they are alive. There are many who have deprived themselves of the inexhaustible Graces of God, but they have received a goodly-portion."

The remainder of the day the Beloved called on his friends and when he returned he found several people were waiting for him.

At lunch he spoke about Sabbath, because ^{Tiberias} being a Jewish town, they ~~shut their~~ ^{the} stores ^{are closed} and one cannot ~~get~~ ^{buy} anything.