

Bahai Nest, Mount Carmel
Haifa, Syria Oct 26th 1914

Dear friends!

"Be ready" the Beloved said as he turned toward his room. I interpreted that our pleasant stay on the slope of Mount Carmel will be brought to its end and the sun of the Covenant will dawn from the horizon of Acca. How heavenly fair is the very thought of that city, the dominant, historical background of which is the very spiritual life of the Blessed Perfection and His faithful band of disciples! The world has not witnessed in the past nor is it probable that it will ^{ever} witness in the future a celestial drama more thrilling with the essential human and divine interest than this! This fact is already known to thousands of souls and will be known increasingly to many millions yet unborn as the years roll on and the hidden meanings of the principles of Baha-Allah are slowly unfolded before the eyes of the future generations. Contrary to all appearances, the dull perception of mankind is being sensitized with the sufferings which we see all around us and out of the agonizing woes of our brothers and sisters tender sympathy and social service is born anew with a fervent consecration! History has taught us that the sacred heart of Baha-Allah was inspired with the glowing Light of a palpitating Mission. In a corresponding manner the heart of each Bahai must become a holy Altar upon which may burn for all eternity, the fire of this Mission. If this blazing fire is ^{lost} ~~drift~~ away, cold skepticism and cynical indifference will creep over the heart and congeal the ^{blood which is coursing through the} arteries and veins. By going to Acca and coming into contact with those unseen, dynamic forces our spiritual lethargy is changed into active motion, our darkness is replaced by light and our rigidity transformed into malleability. For this reason I am looking forward to a delightful sojourn in the city of God, the light of which is the Orb of Truth, the garden of which is the Paradise of Abha and the stars of which are the ideals of cosmic revelation. I am so glad for the new experiences yet to be gained in that Home of Peace and Conciliation.

This morning the Beloved called into his presence the two newly arrived pilgrims and cheered and uplifted them through his spiritual discourse. Then he sent for me and right in the open under the blue sky he dictated many Tablets till noon. While he was in this act, an old, decrepit Arab with his young son came to see him and he asked them to be seated, spoke with the father in the most gentle manner, inquired about his health, ordered Abbas Gali to bring for them coffee and then gave them money, which was the sole aim of their call. But how wonderfully he received and conversed with them, as though they were the scions of a royal family. Then an Arab woman called whose son ~~had been~~ ^{was} thrown into the prison owing to some slight misconduct and pleaded ^{with} him to intercede before the governor and save him from further punishment. The Master promised her that he would look into the matter.

In the afternoon a telegram reached us from Ahmad Yazdi that Aga Sayad Yahya is on the steamer which will arrive in Haifa this evening. This of course was a hint that he is bringing the mail with him from Port Said and the Master sent for me, saying, You must stay here, see Aga Sayad Yahya and come to-morrow morning and bring with yourself Mirza Badi and Mirza Habibollah. Isfandiyar brought up the carriage and the Master bidding farewell to all the friends rode away. After an hour or two we descended the mountain, went to the Bazaar, bought a few things and returned to the house of the Beloved. He came out of the house, walked a few minutes in the garden and then called in all the believers. Meanwhile we went to the steamer but before us Mirza Jalal had gone there, helping Aga Sayad Yahya to disembark. When they reached the house the Master was still there and had a few minutes to meet our friend just arrived from London. Then coming out he took with himself Mulla Abou Taleb and another Persian pilgrim and started for the station. I was sorry that I could not go with the Master and was impatient to see the night over.

After all, the sweet sustenance of life consists of the words of the Master and let us sit around the heavenly Table and help ourselves ^{to} a few morsels. In a tablet he writes concerning "Victory" as follows:-
 "Victory is of two kinds: material and spiritual. Material victory is not so important but spiritual victory is conducive to the life of the world of humanity. The victory of God is the guidance of the people, servitude at the Threshold of the Almighty and wholehearted devotion to the advancement of the cause of the owners of the human world. Therefore, O thou my friend and helper, be thou a warrior in this battlefield and the lion of this forest of knowledge and with hand and tongue achieve victory for the Cause of the Merciful."

In another Tablet he says:-

"O thou daughter of the Kingdom! Thy letter was received. Praise be to God that in this great tempest in which many steamers were shattered and sank, your ship reached the shore ^{safely} under God's protection and security. Its captain was God, its sail was the Grace and the Providence of His Highness the Almighty and the Power of its team was the Bestowals of His Holiness the Merciful ~~ness~~. Thou hast written that thou hast witnessed ^{everywhere} exceeding kindness and love on the part of thy Bahai brothers and sisters. Up to this time you have associated with but a few of the friends and the maid servants of the Merciful. Shouldst thou go to Persia & America thou shalt meet many brothers, sisters, mothers, sons and daughters. Thou hast indeed found them without my troubles or hardships, only through the Bounty and Favor of God. They manifest toward thee the utmost kindness. Praise be to God that thou art informed with the advice, exhortations and teachings of His Holiness Baha-Ollah and art well-acquainted with the behavior, manners, conduct and morals of the friends of God. I hope that thou mayst always strive in the welfare of the people of the world and render a conspicuous service to humankind."

mayst thou withstand every suffering and persecution in this path and be characterized with such deeds, words and ethics as to become a bright candle in the assemblage of man"

To the students of the Farhiat School in Tcheran after their examination he writes: —

"O ye students of the school! Praise be to God that at the time of examination you manifested keen intelligence and showed forth extraordinary ability. In the acquirement of sciences and arts the Bahai children must distinguish themselves above all the other children for they are the objects of the Glances of Divine Grace. The program of study taken up by other children during one year must be mastered by the Bahai children — the new plants of the paradise of knowledge — in the course of one month. The hope of the heart and ^{the} soul of the loving Abdul Baha is that each one of the Bahai youths — so far as the attainment to knowledges and sciences is concerned — may become famous throughout all the regions. Unquestionably they shall display the utmost effort, zeal and exertion in the study of sciences, ~~and~~ ^{professions} accomplishments, arts and crafts"

To another Bahai assembly he says:

"O ye divine friends! Praise be to God that the showers of the Cloud of Guidance have adorned the plain of the souls with the flowers and hyacinths of Grace and the splendor of the Sun of Reality has transformed the hearts into the visible Shekinahs of the Almighty. The Lamp of Providence is ignited and the Breeze of the Rose-garden is wafting, bestowing new life to the heart and consciousness. The dead heart was quickened and the blind eye became seeing. The deaf ear became hearing and the mute tongue became eloquent and fluent. This was purely through the Favor of the Almighty and the Grace of His Highness the One; otherwise what is our ability and capability, our worth and merit? Now these radiant lamps must illumine the extinct candles and enliven and resuscitate the dead souls. For ^{with} one luminous lamp a thousand other lamps are lit up"