

House of Beloved O'Clocks 39  
Acca Syria  
January 15th 1915

Dear friends!

We would have left for Haifa, were the carriage here today. In these troublous times the Beloved has to look after the welfare and security of many people and console many hearts. Those who know him spiritually as well as those who do not, turn to him for his moral and physical support. They are confident of the fact that he above all others is a kind father to every orphan and an ideal comfort to every sorrowful one. He embraces in his outstretched arms all mankind and showers upon them his peculiar, affectionate tenderness. Like unto the white ray of light he illumines the Path of every erring one and similar unto the breath of life he quickens every dead one. People cling to him and take hold of the hem of his garment because they realize he is their deliverer and their Lord. For this reason he does not stay in one place but goes back and forth between Acca and Haifa and Abou Seman. And if I am not mistaken and his health continues to be as perfect as the present, he may take a trip into the world after the cessation of this general hostility on the part of nations towards each other. There are still thousands upon thousands of people who long to look into his Blessed Countenance and listen to his holy Words. His very presence in their midst will confirm them in their faith and religion, will bestow upon them the new vision of celestial brotherhood and will widen the sphere of their sympathy and intelligence. We are now daily witnessing his goodness and generosity and comprehend but very dimly his greatness and spirituality. Often, may always, a word uttered by him is pregnant with far-reaching results and his smallest actions will serve as a model to be followed by others in the future. Those who are faithful to him will surely hold up his Cause and strive in the propagation of his Teachings. They turn their faces towards him and beg his benediction and Confirmation. He will be with them and will strengthen them. If they advance towards him ten feet, he will approach them a thousand. We must know that our happiness and joy lies in this service at his threshold. Nothing else will benefit us. He has consecrated his life to the cause of humanity, we must in turn dedicate our lives to him.

While I was writing this morning Shah-Karouss brought me the words that the Master ~~was~~ sitting in the front of the house and the Commissioner of Police <sup>was</sup> with him. I left my work and descended the stairs and stood in his presence. He asked me whether I slept soundly last night to which I answered affirmatively. While I was standing many poor women passed by, all of whom received something from his blessed hands. Then an old man stopped and saluted him. He inquired about his conditions and the "health of his beard." Receiving his share of the Lord's bounty and disappearing in another street the Master said: - "I love this old man very much because of his quality of faithfulness. He was the servant of one of the <sup>well</sup> to-do men in Acca who died five years ago. The income of the family was brought to an end and they thought they could not have him as a servant any longer. They told him so but he would not leave them under any circumstances. He gave up his salary and was satisfied with his simple food and clothing. In this manner he has served them for the last five years and says he will continue to serve them as long as he lives, on account of his devotion to his master. This faithfulness of his has made him very dear to me."

At noon the carriage arrived from Haifa bringing Monavar Khanom, the wife of Aga Sayad Ali Afnan, Doctor Hahibollah, Khosro and Isfandiyar. They brought us the news that Miss Sanderson left safely for Port Said last night on the Italian steamer. The Turkish Censored report had it that Italy has <sup>not</sup> entered a political crisis in Europe by her covert understanding with England and it <sup>may</sup> be a matter of days before she joins the enemies of Turkey and Germany. It is the opinion of a few who claim to know from what direction the wind is blowing - that the addition of Italy to the rank of the warring nations will hasten the end of this tremendous struggle. However we are anxiously waiting the final issue - for with the participation of Italy our blockade will be as complete as human imagination can conceive. Anyway, it was fortunate that our dear sister Miss Sanderson has left for safer shores where communication is established and people know at least what is going on around them. The Master said; Now that she has left safely, I pray that she may arrive at her destination. She was a fearless girl." In the afternoon our friends left for Akko Senan and in the evening many people called on the Beloved