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Moonbeam Bahai Cabin
Abou Senan Acca. Syria
April 1st 1915

Dear friends!

This was a cloudy day, the Beloved Kept to his room and therefore we did not see him. He sent for the Sheiks and they were fortunate to enter his holy presence and listen to his divine words, ^{while} we were deprived of this spiritual boon. On the other hand no sooner I raised my head from my pillow than my more progressive room-mates, the "Parish Doctor and the "school teacher" by a number of practical jokes reminded me that this was "April fool's day". I could not retaliate in turn because there was no one else in the community of Abou Senan who would appreciate the playful spirit of an "April fool day"; nor is it quite in accord with common sense to crack a "serious joke" across seas and mountains. For "we all know the reaction of written word on life," and when "the words are written, become terrible enough to afflict ~~right the devil himself~~" But I can serve you in a better way, in a more dignified manner. If you are not affected with ennui nor bored with weariness we may, hand in hand roam through the immortal garden of Abdul Baha and from the bush of Eternity cull one big, fresh rose, the fragrance of the petals of which may perfume the nostrils of all those who are far and near. Are you satisfied with this? Will you accompany me and help me with your sweet presence and ready sympathy? yes? Then let us start Here is the rose, imperishable, beautiful and the fragrance of which shall last throughout the years, decades and generations!—

He is God!

"O ye who are advancing toward the Supreme Outlook! In the world of heart and conscience I am occupied with the mention of the believers of the Lord of Mercy by day and by night, morn and eve, at sunrise and sunset. I beg confirmation and assistance from the True One that He may characterize and distinguish the friends of that pure ground—the holy land in all the degrees of morality, conduct, words, deeds, conditions and traces; that He may bestow upon them attract

ecstasy, yearning, knowledge, assurance, firmness, steadfastness, unity and agreement and suffer them to appear in the assemblage of the world with radiant faces and countenances like unto the rose-garden.

"O ye believers of God! This day is the day of unity and this hour is the hour of Concord in the world of creation" (It is revealed in the Koran): - Verily God loveth those who, as though they were a solid fortress do battle for His Cause in serried lines. Consider ye that in this verse 'serried line' is revealed. This means that they must all join their forces, be linked together and reinforce each other. The Jihad [the holy war] mentioned in this blessed line is not to be carried through the sword, spear, dart and javelin in this most Great Dispensation; - nay rather ^{it shall even} ~~it is~~ ^{and} be conducted with the weapons of sincere intentions, peaceful objects, merciful ethics, praiseworthy actions, god-like characteristics, universal education of the individuals of humanity, the diffusion of spiritual fragrances, the explanation of divine Proofs, the elucidation of incontrovertible, celestial evidences and philanthropic deeds. When the sanctified souls through the Power of the Kingdom arise in service, while endued with these heavenly manners, and draw the line of the 'serried ranks' of union, each one of these souls will be equal to a thousand and the waves of this most great Sea will find the force of the regiments of the Army of the Supreme Concurrence! What a favor is this! That when all the torrents, rivers, ^{streams} rills and drops gather in one place they will form a most Great ^{ocean} and the original Unity will become so paramount and all-conquering that the signs, contingencies, subjective conceptions, ^{and} objective individualities of the phantasmal lines of these souls, like unto the drops, will merge and commingle together, - causing the Sea of Spiritual Unity to wave and surge. I declare by the Blessed Beauty that at such a time and under such circumstances the Glorious Outpourings shall so encircle and the Deep of the Almighty shall so swell that the expanse of Khalfan (a district near Shiraz) may become like the unfathomable main and every drop finding the importance of the measureless Sea.

"O ye friends of God! Strive^{so} that ye may attain to this lofty and

and exalted Station and cause ye the appearance of such an Illumination in these worlds whose splendors may emanate everlastingly from the dawning-place of ^{the} regions. This is the basic Principle of the Cause of God! This is the quintessence of the religion of the Lord! This is the fortified, firm edifice of the Manifestations of the Merciful! This is the cause of the rising of the Sun of the Universe of God! This is the means of the establishment of the Lord of Mercy upon the physical throne!

"O ye friends of God! Consider that his holiness the Supreme - may the life of the people of the world be a sacrifice to him - for this glorious aim, He made his blessed chest the shield for the arrows of persecutions and because the original intention of the Ancient Beauty - may the spirits of the Supreme Concourse be a ransom to him - was this very most great object, his highness the exalted Lord, in this path, made his sacred breast the target of thousand bullets by the people of hostility and rancor and while robed with the garment of the most mighty meekness, he attained to martyrdom. The earth was crimsoned with the hallowed blood of thousands holy and merciful souls for the sake of this Highway and many sacred bodies of the faithful believers of His Highness the Almighty were suspended on the cross! The Blessed Personality of the Beauty of Abha - may the spirit of the Kingdom of existence be a sacrifice to his believers! - bore the load of all the trials and accepted the most dire ordeals. There was no injury that was not heaped upon that Pure Body nor was there any calamity that did not descend upon Him. Many a night while under the chains, He rested not because of the weight of fetters and many a day through the bruising of shackles and gynes He reposed not for one moment. That Incarnate Spirit who was trained on the couch of silk and brocade while chained and manacled was made to ~~run~~ bare-footed and bare-headed, from Meyaveran to Teheran. He was then imprisoned with the murderers, thieves, rebels and seditious in a dark and narrow jail under the ground. In every moment they inflicted upon him a new injury and in every second the realization of martyrdom was calmly expected. After sometimes they exiled Him from

a ceaseless application. Just as the Ancient Beauty - may my life be a ransom to the dust of the feet of His believers - was living day and night in the city of sacrifice - may we also strive, offer ourselves at the altar of martyrdom, hearken with the ears of intelligence to celestial advice and exhortations, forego our own limited lives, shut our eyes to the false conceptions and pluralities of the world of humanity and serve whole-heartedly this glorious aim and most great Intention.

'Oh! that we may not cut this Tree which is planted by the Hand of divine Bestowal through our own superstitions! May we not hid these beaming lights which are shining ^{forth} from the Kingdom of Abha with the dark clouds of our bigotry and dogmatism! May we not construct a dam to impede the waves of the ocean of the Mercy of the Almighty! May we not hinder from diffusion the Holy Fragrances of the Garden of the Beauty of Abha! May we not interrupt the downpour of the rain of Grace in this Day of Union! May we not seek to restrain the effulgences of the Sun of Reality! These are the admonitions of God in His Holy Scriptures, Books and Tablets which reveal His Commands and Behests to His righteous servants!

O Baha be upon Ye, His Mercy and His Blessing!

(Signed) Abdul Baha Abheas the Persian believers

I believe this Tablet must have been revealed ^{and probably before this, could be found a single Bahai in America or in Europe} not long after the departure of Baha Ollah. It displays the quickening fire and contagious enthusiasm of these early days of the expansion and progress of the Cause. It discloses the passionate love of Abdul Baha for his heavenly Father and his fervent solicitude to spread the knowledge of Truth in all parts of the world. Its words and thoughts are nevertheless applicable to the present state of the Bahai Movement and if we are devoted to this revelation we must obey His lofty ideals and raise his flag - thus we may become confirmed with the Holy-Spirit, enter in the arena of service, summon the people to the Kingdom of Truth and call mankind to the standards of Unity.