

Moonbeam Bahai Cabin
Ahuu Senan Acca. Syria
April 14th 1915

Dear friends!

The Bahai colony of Ahu Senan has lost one of its staunchest, most faithful friends in the person of Mashadi Ibrahim Fattah. Like untiring ^awarbler his spirit soared toward the Kingdom of Abha. In that world of light he will associate with the saints and ^{the}beloved of God. In a Bahai the faith in the immortality of the immortal soul is wonderfully clear, transparent. He sees with the inner eye that life on this plane is a phantasy, a hallucination and the real life only begins when he crosses the borderland and enters into the "Happy hunting ground" and the blissful "Elysium" of his Maker. It was this intense and intensifying faith that filled the hearts of thousands of martyrs who sacrificed their lives with unearthly joy and contagious ^{serenity}. It was this glorious faith that kept up the courage and heroism of the believers while they were languishing in the prison cells, laden with chains and fetters. With this consideration in mind our friend was rather released from the painful burden of this miserable life, securing already his merited heavenly reward. The Beloved called on him this morning about ten o'clock and found him ready to take his long journey. He uttered in his ears a few words of the spirit and his face brightened with the glad tidings. About 5 P.M., just half an hour before his death he asked one of the believers - Aga ^{Mahmud} Mehdi - to go to the Master and beseech his last blessing. He received the cheering and uplifting message that Baha Ollah has ever been pleased with him, that Abdul Baha loved him and was pleased with his conduct and manners. He was in the full possession of his consciousness when this spiritual message was repeated to him. All those who surrounded his bed saw his lips were moving and as they listened they heard him saying "O Master! O Master! O Abdul Baha! May my life be sacrifice to thee!" He repeated these words over and over again till his last pure breath like ^{and} the sweet fragrance of the rose ascended to the garden of Abha. We had taken a long walk through the country and had just returned when the sad news was broken to us. Although we were sure of his glor.

resignation yet the physical attachment was so strong that we could not let him go but he grieved over his departure.

In the evening all the believers gathered in the blessed Presence. The Sheikhs and the two Christian priests of the village were also present and took active part in the meeting and gave talks eulogizing the character of the deceased. He had told one of them that his greatest desire ~~was~~ to die in the lifetime of Abdul Baha and this has been actually fulfilled. He was most happy to pass away from this life provided the health of the Master will be continued to the end; - so that he may proclaim the Cause of Baha Ollah and promote the religion of Truth. Millions like him are now ready to sacrifice their lives; - in order ^{that} the King of their hearts may live and raise the Voice of Universal Peace. The Master said: "Mashadi Ibrahim Fattah was a sincere, charitable, just and benevolent man. He was ever the recipient of Divine Graces and the manifestor of praise worthy deeds. Every one loved him, both friends and strangers. Now he is submerged in the Sea of spiritual Bestowals and the object of the Favor and Bounty of the Lord of Mankind. He was devoted to his family and loved the world with a Bahai love. His life was an example of piety, godliness and sanctity and his station in the life hereafter is very great. Those souls who are vivified by the breaths of the Holy Spirit will never die. They are alive throughout all the worlds of God. This morning I called on him and found him calm and tranquil. It was as though the angels of serenity were hovering around his head. He was abiding in the station of joyful resignation and had no fear of death. His reason had not deserted him and his intelligence was keen. He expressed one desire. He wished to be encircled with God's Forgiveness and pardon and obtain the good-pleasure of the Lord. I assured him that he has already gained these Graces. Of a truth he fulfilled the conditions of the following verses in the Koran: 'Verily my prayer, my devotion, my life and my death comes from God, the Lord of the Worlds' and also 'Long for death if ye are of the sincere ones.' "

The rest of ^{the} evening he spoke with the Sheikhs in Arabic ^{and} related several stories in connection with death, life and forgiveness.