

1
Home of Abdul Baha
Mount Carmel Haifa Syria
May 14th 1915

Dear friends:

Our dear brother Mirza Jalal gave ^{today} ~~today~~ a farewell dinner in honor of Doctor Habibollah. The Master, Zakki Bey, Abdul-Fattah, the Haifa-Accra representative in the Turkish parliament and a few others were also present. Throughout the different courses of ~~the~~ dinner the Beloved spoke with his guests about ~~the~~ current events. When they left the house Abdul Baha walked over to his home to take his siesta and we stayed in the house of our host, looking over old magazines and newspapers and expressing our joy over the blessing of these heavenly days, the like of which the world has not and will never see! What is ~~this~~ weak and insignificant man ~~of~~ to be allowed to witness daily and hourly the Glory of the Lord? What relation ~~there~~ exists between the Eternal and the Accidental, the Infinite and the finite? By what right can one stand ^{in the presence} and serve the "One around whom all names revolve"? What has he done that he should win the merciful glances of the Greatest Branch with what capacity does he presume to look into the Countenance of the Mystery of God? What great or small service has he rendered to the Cause that he should be permitted to live in the neighborhood of the Centre of the Covenant with what aptitude and endowment does he aspire to the glorious station of self-immolation at the threshold of him who is desired by God? With what gift or disposition does he yearn to receive the imperial title of "faithful servant"? Our Beloved lives in the empyrean of spirituality and we are abiding in the nader of materialism and worldliness. His thoughts are all of and for the Cause, while our mental activity revolves around self. He has decreed for us the most glorious rank in his Kingdom but we are not satisfied, we kick up a dust, we rage, chafe and fume, get impatient and fret. Why? Because, we are so damnably, so accursedly short-sighted, we are blind to our own future happiness, we are pig-headed, we can't see beyond our noses, Blockheads and simpletons that we are! Why do we not learn the lesson of obedience and trust? Why are we so self-opinionated? Why are we so anxious to strut abroad, plume our feathers and under-

the guise of serving the Cause, air our own ideas and theories? This is a sort of insanity that has taken a firm grip ^{upon} of all the hearts. Is our knowledge greater than his and our discernment more acute? We know through many practical demonstrations that he sees the end, that he can draw the plans of our lives better than ourselves, that he wishes for everyone of us unlimited progress, that one drop of his wisdom is better than a sea of our acquired knowledge, that his will is the will of God, that the ~~surest~~ ^{surest} road to spiritual illumination is by strictly following his blessed instructions - somehow we claim to know these simple facts; we may be teaching or ^{writing} about them, but when it comes to the point of practicing them, ^{and} assimilating ^{them} into the bones, marrow and blood of our constitutions, how many of us could come forward with clear consciences and say honestly that they have at least tried to fulfill ^{one} of those unadorned conditions of faith? Our invocation at the Court of the Creator must be: 'O God, keep us loyal and true till the end of our lives.' I have often thought that the old men and those who have passed away or martyrs ^{been} during the lifetime of Abdul Baha have crossed the bridge and are safe and out of the reach of any test or temptation, but the end of the young men is totally unknown, however much they may be serving the Cause at the present time. How fortunate are the old men and the martyrs! Hence the younger servants of the Cause including myself, must pray day and night, ^{so} that God may protect and shield them from ^{manner of} all tests and ordeals. We must at all times pray in behalf of each other - thus Baha Allah may clothe us with the ^{armor} ~~armor~~ of His Words, the buckles of His Confirmation and the talismans of His Holy Spirit. Then assured of His constant guardianship and watchfulness we may ^{hail} forth into the wide world and by words and deeds spread the glad tidings of His Celestial religion and summon the people to the His Spiritual Kingdom. With this touchstone all the believers are examined and tried. Their aims and intentions must not contain any alloy. It must be pure gold. We hope that we may become assisted to obtain His good pleasure and be filled with His Love and Compassion.

This morning the Beloved, ^{again} called ~~upon~~ Doctor Sabehiullah and while walking to
and the German colony he said: "This is journey of yours is very important.
It will be like the journey of His holiness Isaiah who travelled through
all this holy land and infiltrated ~~in~~ the dead bodies of Israel ^{with} a new spirit.
I hope that you may also quicken the believers with the sweet fragrances
of the Kingdom of God. Whenever a person is enkindled and awake his words
will move even the rock and the stone."

In the afternoon as we were driven in the landau toward Elijah's cave he
told him: "Leave thou this blessed spot with a heavenly power, mercy
Confirmation, divine trust and unfailing hope. Thy meeting with the
friends is like the meeting of water and the thirsty ground. They are longing
to hear the news of this land and thou wilt inform them with the reports of
the events transpiring around us. Convey to them my longing greeting
and tell them I yearn to meet and associate with them. I am praying for
the speedy end of this international war and the establishment of the
reign of justice and peace. I hope that the doors of communication ^{may}
soon be opened, the dawn of inter-racial unity appear and the faces
of mankind be illuminated with the light of divine brotherhood.
The believers of God must work for the removal of hatred and animosity
^{in the hearts} created by the cruelties of this world-wide carnage. Only by the cool water
^{of the Love of God} they will be enabled to extinguish the raging fire of hostility and rancour.
Now day by day the devouring tongues of this flame are enveloping
more and more neutral grounds and causing incalculable loss ^{and}
the tattering of seemingly fair and solid foundations. This Cause
being wholly spiritual and impartial is the only practical instrument
for the establishment of Universal Peace. The friends no matter
where they live must make the people ~~&~~ thoroughly understand this
point. This is their supreme duty in this day."

In the evening we enjoyed another long stay in the presence of the
Lord and his talk ^{was} of Baha Ollah and his five months stay in Cons.
tantinople and a few events which happened while he was still there.
Then he dwelt on the future expansion of the Cause and the greatness
of the station of those who are spreading the Good news.