

# Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan Nabil

(b. Ca. 1875 – d. 1965)



Ali-Kuli Khan with his wife Madame Florence Breed Khan/bahaiforms.com

Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan signed the enclosed document on October 24, 1965 when in route to the regularly held Sunday morning Baha'i meeting. This copy he presented to Terry Randolph, a fellow member of the Washington DC Baha'i community, in appreciation for transportation services provided to and from various Baha'i activities.

During this time Dr. Khan shared a residence with his niece, Touran Araghi. They resided at 1945 Calvert Street in the North West section of Washington, DC, very near to Connecticut Avenue. She, of the Moslem Faith, cared for her uncle into his advanced years and until his passing on April 7, 1966. Dr. Khan was then approximate eighty-seven years of age, though some sources place him at ninety or beyond. Closed casket funeral services were conducted at the Phyllis Wheatley Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), 901 Rhode Island Avenue, NW. The body was interred at Rock Creek Cemetery, Webster Street and Rock Creek Church Road, NW, Washington DC.



Ali-Kuli Khan with his niece Touran Araghi/gaytoday.com

The Washington DC Baha'i administrative body designated Terry Randolph as its emissary to meet with Dr. Khan's niece and seek possession of Baha'i materials thought to be in her possession since the death of her uncle. However when he visited her to inquire about this possibility the response received was "No, there is nothing here". It would be highly unlikely that a man of Dr. Khan's stature as former amanuensis of Abdu'l-Baha, former official representative of the Persian government, and one who served the Baha'i Faith all his life, would not have had in his possession just prior to his death historical documents and perhaps other materials relevant to the Baha'i community, a probable fact that would immediately belie her response. But without substantial proof, and in possession of no verified will or other official documents, the Baha'i administrative body decided it was without recourse and decided not to pursue the matter.



Ali-Kuli Khan with his wife Madame Florence Breed Khan in front of the White House in 1913/bahaisworldwide.blogspot.com



Ali Kuli Khan, Charge d'affaires of the Persian Legation/pinterest.com



Ali Kuli Khan and his wife Madame Florence Breed Khan with Abdu'l-Baha/pinterest.com

In 1965 just a few short months prior his death the Washington DC Baha'i community organized and hosted an event to both celebrate Dr. Kahn's birthday and honor him for his lifetime achievements.

The enclosed document should be considered as an addition to other recovered materials representing Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan's prolific writings. It could well be the only surviving document from his latter years spent in Washington DC. Notice that the cover page contains Dr. Khan's signature. It reflects a slight but noticeable hand tremor, and is most likely the result of advanced age.

Terry Nelson Randolph  
Las Pinas, Philippines  
April 7, 2013

Enclosure

Spontaneous Talks by Dr. Ali-Kuli Khan, At his Sunday Morning Classes, Answering Some of his 95 Questions, 1956; Zoroaster: The Prophet of Ancient Iran and His Book, Zend' Avesta

Reference

*Background information with photograph of Ali-Kuli Khan as a young man*  
<http://www.iranicaonline.org/articles/nabil-al-dawla>

*Early Washington DC Photograph/First Baha'i Center with Baha'i youth (the young lady with hair plats is Ouida Coley when in her teens).* <http://gaytoday.com/people/011303pe.asp>

*Baha'i Stories*  
<http://bahaistories.blogspot.com/2010/11/ali-kuli-khan-becomes-one-of-abdul.html>

*1906 Pilgrim Notes of Ali-Kuli Khan*  
<http://www.paintdrawer.co.uk/david/folders/Research/Bahai/Abdul-Baha/Khan%20Pilgrim%20Notes%201906.htm>

*Ali-Kuli-Khan with his-wife*  
<http://bahaiforums.com/history/9362-photo-mirza-ali-kuli-khan-his-wife.html>

*\*Note: Materials associated with Dr. Khan are accessible through various websites and other sources. Photographs used herein were obtained from several such sources and appropriately credited.*