**The    **

**Kitáb-i-Íqán**

**Study Guide**

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The Kitáb-i-Íqán  
A Study Guide

Introduction

In presenting his translation of the Kitáb-i-Íqán, Shoghi Effendi referred to the Íqan as “this book of unsurpassed preeminence among the writings of the Author of the Bahá’í Revelation.”[[1]](#footnote-1)

Consideration of the scope of the work in the light of this description brings out how many are the themes which Bahá’u’lláh interwove in producing the truths whose mission is to give assurance and steadfastness to the soul of man in this age.

*The Kitáb-i-Íqán* is the key to the study of comparative religion, in establishing the oneness of all the successive Manifestations of God and Founders of an independent Religion. It reveals the unique function of the Manifestation, His return from age to age, and the reasons for the periodic rise and fall of religions.

The Íqán is the Christian’s discovery of Islám, the point of union for Christian, Jew and Muslim, and thereby the basis of union between East and West.

The Íqán discloses the mystery of man’s search for God and attainment of meeting with Him. It interprets prophecy and symbol, ending the age of prophecy.

The Íqán upholds a conception of the Essence and Manifestation of God high above the realm of anthropomorphism and the corruption of the Ṣúfí, Hindu and “new thought” identification of self with God.

Through study and meditation on this sacred text, one becomes confirmed in his faith and acquires understanding through the Light shining above the clouds of prejudice, superstition and materialism which have so darkened the modern mind.

*The Kitáb-i-Íqán* is its own teacher and its own guide, as it is its own reward. The aim of the present outline is merely to assist individuals and groups in working out a helpful method of approach, by indicating some of the dominant themes and their references in the text. But the reverent attention of the student himself, and his determination to attain a first-hand knowledge of the Íqán, is the essential requisite.

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1. Shoghi Effendi Foreword in *The Kitáb-i-Íqán*, p. i. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)