

Notes of Shoghi Effendi's words taken by me at the dinner table in the Pilgrim House
in Haifa, April 22nd to May 12th, 1937. --

May 11, 1937, my last evening in Haifa, I asked Shoghi Effendi at the dinner table what message he would wish me to convey to the friends in America. He replied that he had been thinking about the Temple and how the money could be raised for its completion. He said in part:

The American friends have a twofold task of promoting first teaching, and second the completion of the Temple ornamentation, the seven year plan to the end of the first century. If they cooperate and persevere they will succeed. Mr. Schopflocher has offered \$100,000 and the remaining amount would be \$30,000 per year for the seven years. It is very easy to achieve this if the friends persevere and cooperate. Two more units are needed. They will succeed if cooperation is sustained to the end, and the teaching work must not suffer. Before the end of the first century, they must establish at least a group in every state, and if a group is not possible, then one residential believer, not only in every state and province in America, but in every republic in the American continent, and the eight islands of Hawaii. A residential believer on each island is a part of the World Plan. Every nation in the Baha'i world must direct its attention to the neighboring countries. In every country it is possible to teach the Cause. If you know how to teach, you can find a few receptive souls.

May 12, 1937, just before sailing from Haifa, Shoghi Effendi sent for me. His first words were in part:

The Americans have a twofold task, only eight years remain and the time is short. They must make a tremendous effort in teaching and a tremendous effort to finish the second and third units of the Temple by the end of the first century and the inauguration of the second century. It is now twenty-five years since the Master laid the corner stone, and it will be thirty-two years in erecting. More than that would be detrimental to the friends. By the end of the first century they must be through with the ornamentation, particularly as this will enable the friends in Persia to start the third Temple. The Master laid the corner stone in Chicago before there was a plan and the Persian friends can do the same. The Master said that another Temple could not be built until the one in Chicago was completed.

The following I have classified under headings.

ADMINISTRATION

'Abdu'l-Baha stressed the spiritual side of the Nineteen Day Feast, but not the administrative side. Now we stress the administrative side. There is nothing in the teachings that the Nineteen Day Feast should be held on the first day of the Baha'i month. It is only the custom. Give freedom in non-essentials. In essentials unity; in non-essentials diversity and in all things charity.

The Local Assembly should intervene when the Cause suffers. In purely administrative matters, if a voting member disobeys the Spiritual Assembly, he ceases to be a voting member.

Sometimes it is very difficult to say what constitutes legislation and what constitutes interpretation.

Local Assemblies will become local governments. National Assemblies, national governments.

The institution of the International House of Justice and the Guardianship have different revenues. The Master and Baha'u'llah have both stated that each have their specific revenues. The Baha'is are free to offer endowments to the Local, National, or International, conditional, or unconditional. The National can appeal to the International House of Justice.

We must discourage labeled contributions. The Baha'is are free to give all their property to non-Baha'is. The Baha'is must make their Wills by the Law of Baha'u'llah. If no Will is left, then the property must be divided according to the Law of Baha'u'llah.

Divorce, although permissible is highly discouraged. The Assembly should solve such cases, and then they should obey, and if not they must cease to be voting Baha'is. They should first not live together for one year. Smoking is not as serious as divorce.

The Baha'i constitution is not an American constitution. It is a Baha'i constitution, as 'Abdu'l-Baha said the light from the East would go to the West. 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote in the Tablets of the Divine Plan, "The continent of America is the land where the lights of the Faith will first be revealed, the continent where the mysteries of His Faith shall be unveiled." The Faith was born in the East and the child ushered in in the West. The Faith now has a child (administration) and the World Order is the birth of civilization. The term World Order was first mentioned by the Bab in the Bayan and Baha'u'llah used the same term in Persian. Ahmad Sohrab disassociated the Writings of Baha'u'llah from the World Order.

The religious institutions are trembling because they were not established by the Founders. On these ruins will be established the Baha'i institution which is established by the Founder.

We must not be provocative nor be too submissive. Ventilate our feelings with frankness and moderation. The tone must be moderate and we must be very frank with friendliness. Firmness and at the same time frankness can be combined. To be brave is different from being cautious. Over cautiousness is a defect. We must ponder before we take action. Audacity in teaching but not in applying the principles of administration. We must be absolutely loyal to the administrative principles. It is difficult because it involves personalities. Spiritual principles do not involve personalities.

The reason why women cannot be members of the House of Justice will be revealed to us in the future. The Master has said in a Tablet it will become as clear as the sun. Sometimes we cannot find the reason for things, but it is a challenge to our faith itself. A revelation implies a wisdom which transcends the human mind.

When once the Institution begins to function, the personal is not important. It is the Institution itself which is important.

The details of the Baha'i Revelation are left to the House of Justice.

Those who deliberately violate a Baha'i law cease to be voting Baha'is.

In Persia the leaders are very weak and the masses are very strong. The Trustees and the National Assembly in America are the same.

Those who disregard the wishes of the National Assembly cease to be voting believers.

An administrative principle cannot be compromised.

If anyone disobeys an Assembly he ceases to be a voting member if he has been repeatedly warned.

The Baha'is must ask to be given administrative positions, that is, secondary posts and prove their ability to administrate.

BAHA'I FAITH

The Baha'i Faith is more than a religion. It is a civilization. It is not a restatement. It is a civilization which will blend East and West. The past faiths could not establish a civilization. We cannot compare it to previous religions and World Order is another word for civilization. God's plan for humanity in this revelation is fully unfolded. It was only partially unfolded in the past.

'Abdu'l-Baha once said in case he should leave Haifa, He would go to the Far East.

The Guardian said in regard to a Japanese Buddhist priest that he could not be a Baha'i and remain a priest, that he should make every effort to find other means of livelihood, even though it were less money, and that it should be explained to him: Baha'u'llah is the Bearer of a New Revelation which abrogates the old; the Founder of a New Dispensation. We have our own laws. We must not be members of any organizations, but we must cooperate with all provided cooperation does not imply acceptance. We must do just what others do who enter our meetings, reciprocate like people who address Baha'i meetings. We must make distinction between association and affiliation. Our faith abrogates the laws of previous revelations, therefore we cannot be members of other organizations.

The Baha'i Faith is more than a religion because it has institutions established by the Founder of the Faith which makes it a civilization. The Kingdom of God is this World Order of Baha'u'llah. When it is established the prayer, "Thy Kingdom come," will be fulfilled.

On the ninth day of Ridvan Baha'u'llah was joined by His family in the garden and they left on the twelfth day for Constantinople. The first day He arrived in the garden. The government owns the garden and the hospital which is on the grounds, but the Baha'is are allowed by the government to meet there. It was a four months journey from Bagdad to Constantinople.

The Master was the perfect Baha'i. He was the perfect mirror. He was a human being which was perfect yet human. He had the attributes of the prophet, but not his rank. That is why He is a mystery. He is all-knowing, and yet not a prophet.

Twelve photographs of Baha'u'llah were distributed by Him in Adrianople. The Master's photograph is quite different from that of Baha'u'llah, or the Bab, which must not be exposed, but friends could own them.

The Cause is so much above personalities. It will survive all attacks. It is providential Sohrab left the Cause. In a mysterious way these things help the Cause. Mrs. Chandler is hypnotized by him. He may have been sincere but has lost his faith.

The enemies in Palestine are the Muslims, Christians and Muhammad 'Ali's party. It is only the beginning of the opposition of the church. This opposition will gradually increase and spread to the church in England and afterwards will affect the Catholics and will bring the downfall of the Pope. The religious opposition is shifting to the West. In the West, starting with the religious leaders, there is an increasing opposition of the church, and later on of the State. As soon as it is realized that the Baha'is are forming a State within a State, they will misinterpret our motives. Be confident that whatever happens will eventually be for the good of the Cause. The Baha'is must be very well informed. They must read the books of the enemies, as well as the Baha'i books, and be prepared to refute arguments. The challenge will be intellectual. What the Cause requires is perseverance.

The Bab was like the sun at the vernal equinox - the spring. Baha'u'llah was like the sun in the sign of Leo - the middle summer. The Light of the Cause is different from the Splendour of the Dispensation.

In the house of Abboud, in Akka, Baha'u'llah lived for eight years. 'Abdu'l-Baha, before His marriage, occupied a room next to Baha'u'llah's with twelve other persons. It was in the room in this house that Baha'u'llah revealed the Aqdas.

We must not imitate the missionaries in our chanting or singing, but make it something new. We must not imitate under any circumstances the Christians. Be original. In the East there is extreme fundamentalism. In the West extreme liberalism. Fanatism in the East and heresy in the West. Heresy is extreme liberalism or extreme orthodoxy.

The Master said that Prof. Edward G. Browne would realize before his death his mistake. (In being influenced by the Ezelis) Nicolai believed that the Bab was a prophet of God. Both Gobineau and Nicolai believed that Baha'u'llah usurped the Bab's place. Gobineau did not change but Nicolai has realized that the Baha'is are the friends of the Bab. The enemies of the Cause had very powerful subtle influence on people.

In three hundred years there were twelve generations of Baha'u'llah's family. He was from Abraham, one of his sons who migrated to Central Asia and established himself in Korasan. He was neither Ismael nor Isaac. He is also from Jesse, the son of David who is from Isaac.

The Master's photograph should be circulated amongst the believers. Baha'u'llah should live in the minds of the believers rather than for them to see a photograph. Then there is always the fear of worshipping the photograph. Baha'is must concentrate on the spirit and not on the form. Even the Master used to refer to Himself as the Channel.

THE FUTURE

After the world war there will be a reaction in favor of the Cause but the whole world will not become immediately Baha'i.

This is the coming of age of this planet. Just as America was discovered, so other planets may be discovered, and in conjunction with them we may become a member of a greater entity.

After the next war the United States will unite with other nations. Wilson was ahead of his age. He brought vision.

The immediate future in Japan is very dark. Japan is going to suffer. The time is not now for great headway. The Pacific will become a great storm center in the coming war - great suffering. What we require in Japan is the recognition of Baha'u'llah and of His Station.

Baha'is should be very careful in their investments. All will be affected. The future is very dark. Consult experts in investments. The whole world will be involved. We know two things, that the suffering will be intense, and all will be involved. The last war was the great war. The next will be the greatest war. The last was only a prelude to the next. A greater war will be required to give birth to a true League of Nations. If we can remain in a foreign country during the war, that is, if we have money enough to do so, we should remain. There will be a tremendous reaction afterwards. The Lesser Peace will be of non-Baha'is. The Greater Peace is referred to in the Tablet to Queen Victoria. As the Cause develops, the governments will embrace the Cause and embrace peace. The greater war will end war. The Baha'is must be loyal to their governments, and if the government says to keep silent on peace, as in Germany, they must keep silent

There is a decline in morality all over the world, especially in Persia. In Japan there is a certain quality of character which restrains them. In the meantime the Baha'is must not follow with the current. This decline is providential. It must set in in order that the people will learn through bitter experience. It is a preparation for the Cause. God has offered the Cause to mankind for a hundred years. In the "Hidden Words" it says, "A great calamity followeth you and a great retribution awaiteth you."

Asked if he considered it wise to invest in real estate: On the whole it is much wiser to invest in real estate remote from the centers of population that bombs may not fall. The friends must not be misled by temporary prosperity for the crash will come later.

GENERAL TOPICS

Socrates himself got his philosophy from the Jewish scholars. The Master said so. He was eventually poisoned as his ideas were ahead of his time.

We must remember what the Jews were before Moses and what they became. They were robbers.

Arabic beautifies and enriches the Persian language. 'Abdu'l-Baha called them milk and honey.

The Summer Schools should invite non-Baha'is. It is a place of association as well as study.

The Bosches have rendered great service to the Cause. The spirit which animates them is the greatest. They have surrendered their will and all to the Cause. Whatever we offer to the Cause, we should cease to oppose the will of the Spiritual Assembly. Green Acre is not as prosperous as other Summer Schools. If the whole property should become National property it would solve the problem.

Shoghi Effendi said that eighty per cent of his time is devoted to correspondence and eighty per cent of that to individuals. In Persia there are 600 localities and the Cause is established in forty-three countries in the world (1937). Three kinds of cor-

GENERAL TOPICS (Con.)

respondence: Local Assemblies, individuals and National Assemblies. There are so many problems now that he has not time enough for them all.

At present India is politically minded like Persia.

Confucius was not only a philosopher, but a saintly man, and any person who has saintly attributes, their attributes will remain. Ninety per cent of the scholars have said that Buddha was not a prophet. Hinduism and Buddhism are the only existing true religions of the Far East.

Baha'u'llah has said nothing about the punishment of the child. The House of Justice will have to decide that in the future. Refrain from severe punishment, but to some extent punishment is required, though not necessarily bodily punishment. Severe punishment paralyzes the faculty of the child. Discipline though is necessary. Society cannot function without the principle of punishment and reward given by Baha'u'llah in His Tablets. Discipline always implies punishment and reward. Justice depends on punishment and reward. Encouragement is not sufficient. Encouragement without punishment spoils the child, and punishment without encouragement kills initiative. Keep the balance between the two. Much depends upon the child and the environment, etc. The mother should be active instilling Baha'i principles in the child and warn it from following the standards of fellow students. Teach the child truth before everything. Truth is the foundation of faith.

Christian Science and other movements may be stepping stones, but that does not mean the founders are instruments of God. The greater movements are disintegrating and the people seek these movements. They think they believe in truth, but it is imagination. Many of these movements are tainted by politics. They are like the teachings of the church which have no relation to Jesus. Christian Scientists are sincere but misled. What the Catholics, Christian Scientists and Theosophists teach are superstitions.

Other worlds are the physical universe or the spiritual realm. There are remarkable teachings in "Gleanings" about both the physical and the spiritual world. Sir Oliver Lodge is ahead of the scientists, but he will never be able to analyze or reveal the spiritual world. Most of men's visions are pure superstition or fancy.

In the third volume of 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablets in Persian, printed in Egypt, the Master states that the birth of Jesus was extraordinary. He explains first what has been the usual way, the germ in man, but states that as to Christ He was born from the Spirit of God through a breath of His Spirit in an extraordinary manner different from the way which is the universally known rule. (Translating from the Persian Tablet.) "Christ, the Spirit of God, was born through a breath of His Spirit in an extraordinary manner." Every revelation has its mysteries.

Zoroaster conversed with the Jewish prophets one thousand years before Christ. He lived at the time of the Jewish prophets who were not endowed with constancy. The Sabean religion existed before Abraham. Abraham appeared among the Sabeans just as Jesus appeared among the Jews. In the Qur'an Zoroaster is mentioned but not by name, - Rass. Prof. Jackson is the leading authority on Zoroaster.

The greatest of all inheritance is that of prophethood. Not only the male but the eldest son.

LAWS

Any person considering to become a believer must make up his mind to give up drink. Baha'u'llah says, "do not approach it," that is, you must not drink it. A believer is expected to accept the law of Baha'u'llah without questioning. We have no perfect Baha'is. Only the Master was perfect. A Baha'i is a person who accepts the law with entirety. The Jews were fanatically attached to the Sabbath and the laws of Moses, but

LAWS (Con.)

Christ did not compromise. He was very severe. It is a question of having implicit faith in the wisdom of the Manifestation and accepting all that He reveals. The teachings themselves are the standard of justice. In Gl., page 175, "All that are in heaven," refers to the spirits who have ascended.

If the woman is not given the right to divorce, it is not equality of men and women and therefore it would not be according to Baha'i law.

Obligatory prayer originated in Islam. "Strengthen my hand", means help us from acting dishonestly. The law of God is sustained by two pillars, prayer and fasting.

Marriage without the consent of the parents does not promote unity, and there is also another reason why it is not permitted. The Baha'i Revelation is to promote unity.

Smoking is highly discouraged but not prohibited.

In Gl. page 175, "His laws" is the House of Justice which will be on Mt. Carmel. In the "Tablet of the World" on page 23, "What fear ye, - whom are ye afraid of."

Faith is a great gift of God. Character and faith are different but both are necessary. They are complimentary. Man may have faith in God, and yet not have character. A Baha'i is a person who feels the necessity to give up a habit. He must make an effort. Not to drink is a conscientious obligation which is left to the individual. It is breaking a law to drink. We must not make a compromise. Baha'is must prove by their action that their religion is alive. The adherence of Baha'is to their laws has great influence. Character and adhering to the laws of Baha'u'llah is different, that is, faith is different from character.

Some of the Bab's laws were severe as the Bab wished to bring the Muslims from their old beliefs. The laws of the Aqdas cannot be abrogated, at least for 1000 years. There is no rigidity except with the laws which Baha'u'llah has already revealed, that is, prayer, fasting, nonalcohol and the consent of the parents in marriage. There are three classes of laws in the Aqdas. First, social crime, such as bigamy; second, spiritual obligation; third, advice, such as smoking.

Alcohol is alcohol whether in cooking or drinking, and the Baha'is should know this. Speaking of wine in more than one Tablet Baha'u'llah has said, "Do not approach it." (Shoghi Effendi said he had the originals of these Tablets.) Women particularly should refrain from wine. They should go to parties and enjoy the rest. Why not write to the hostess and say, "We are not drinking wine." We must not be ashamed. One extreme is to stay away and the other extreme is to drink. Be frank, reasonable and brave. It often happens that what to us appears to be an embarrassing situation turns out to be to the advantage to the Cause. Timidity is an evidence of lack of faith. If faith is strong one is full of courage and audacity. Association is a fundamental principle of the Cause, as it is in the words of Baha'u'llah, "Consort ye with all people with joy and fragrance." Association does not imply affiliation. We must not collaborate with them. We associate ourselves but we do not accept membership.

PALESTINE

Palestine is the heart of the world, the meeting place of three continents. No country in the world has such a unique place as the meeting place of three continents: Africa, Asia and Europe.

One million pounds has been spent on Haifa Port. Jerusalem is the religious center in Palestine and Haifa the commercial port. Formerly Jaffa was the leading port but now Haifa has taken its place. The position of Haifa is much more favorable than Jaffa.

Haifa will be the terminus of a railroad line which will follow along the pipe line to Persia, through Afghanistan to Calcutta. Another line will run from Haifa to Cairo, and to the Sudan, and from there it will be extended to Central Africa and to Capetown.

PALESTINE (Con.)

We want the National Assemblies to own land in Palestine and this must be done by establishing branches in Haifa. In time we will have all the National Assemblies owning land here in Haifa and in Akka. Also in Persia they will own land.

'Abdu'l-Baha said that always from the beginning until now it has been the case that the Light of God has been shed from the East to the West. He referred to the Christian Dispensation which was shed from the East, but was more powerful in the West. The administrative center always shifted from the East to the West. In this Cause the spiritual and administrative center will always be here in Palestine. The Christian center shifted at last to Rome, and the Muslim from Mecca to Medina, Damascus, Bagdad, Egypt, and then Constantinople.

The Hebrew University in Jerusalem, the largest Hebrew university in the world, is open to all religions. Prof. Norman Bentwich of this university referred to the Baha'i Faith as the fourth faith in Palestine. (Baha'i World Vol. VI, page 345) Professors have now been forced to come from Germany, but in the future they will come from America and England and the Christians and Arabs will attend this university.

'Abdu'l-Baha said that the site of the manger in Bethlehem is the only authentic Christian site in Palestine.

There are two reasons for visiting Jerusalem. First to see the holy places, and second to contrast them to those in Haifa and Bahji. Jerusalem will be the last stronghold of Christianity. There are very powerful forces now at work there allied with the government. Some of the members of the government in Jerusalem are missionaries. They are first imperialists and then missionaries.

The first service for which the Baha'is should express gratitude for what the British government has done: General Allenby received an order from Mr. Balfour that when they entered Haifa, 'Abdu'l-Baha should be protected. He gave directions to General Allenby and to the military official in charge, and the first one in Haifa that General Allenby called on was 'Abdu'l-Baha. It surprised everyone in Haifa. He asked the Master what He desired. 'Abdu'l-Baha said just one word, to cable Persia that He was safe, and it was the military official who sent the cable. Then General Allenby and his wife drove with the Master to Akka, and it was a great surprise.

The second service was when the British government established the fact that the Shrine of Baha'u'llah was the property of the Baha'is in 1922. Muhammad 'Ali's party had seized the key forcibly from the gardener at night and for over a year the police were stationed at the Shrine. Then the High Commissioner of Jerusalem received letters and telegrams from all countries stating that the Shrine was the property of the Baha'is. The British officer was then ordered by the High Commissioner to deliver the key from the police to the same gardener. The third service. Muhammad 'Ali is owner of one-sixth of the Mansion through bribery and they hoped to get the rest but failed. They are very well off but they would not restore the Mansion. In 'Abdu'l-Baha's time, although Muhammad 'Ali owned one-third of the Mansion, he lived in it for forty years and 'Abdu'l-Baha allowed him to do it, but now they cannot occupy it. The British government guarantees the place as a sacred place, so it is not only useless, but a loss to Muhammad 'Ali. The third service was that the British government recognized the place and exempted it from taxation, also all the property in Haifa.

PERSIA

The vast majority of centers in Persia are villages. There are 600 localities and out of these 500 are villages.

In the East the reforms are very superficial. They change dress but not their hearts. Baha'u'llah speaks of cleanliness. The Baha'is of Persia must introduce these things as baths, etc.

PERSIA (Con.)

Baha'u'llah's father's house in Mazindaran has not only been restored, but the land adjoining has been bought.

When Islam is separated from the State, then the Baha'is of Persia will recover their freedom. The National Assembly will become the legal owner of the Baha'i property. They will be National Endowments except the house of the Bab.

The condition is very upset in Persia and anything might happen. To suspend all Baha'i activities would not humiliate the Cause, but for a Baha'i to tell a lie would humiliate it.

Baha'u'llah referred to Tihran as the mother of the world. Mecca is referred to by Muhammad as the mother of villages.

Frankness and courage must be adopted by the Baha'is in Persia with the government. In the Assemblies the Baha'is must discuss how to win the government. Secrecy breeds suspicion. Never make any statement which is against truth. We cannot disobey the Assembly, but an order from an official on behalf of the government must be obeyed before the Assembly. The Persian government is a recognized government. There is no principle, no cooperation in Persia.

(Referring to the Baha'i cemetery in Tihran). It is excellent to have the Jews, Zoroastrians and Muslims all buried in one place. The condition among the Baha'is is better in Russia now than in Persia.

In a Tablet addressed to the Baha'is of Korasan, thirty-seven years ago, 'Abdu'l-Baha wrote that Americans would go to Persia and promote trade, agriculture, commerce, etc.

The Baha'i School was closed in Persia because God wished it to be done. We cannot trust the politicians, principally in Persia.

The standard of Beirut University has declined. Students from Persia should not go to France, and America is too far away. They should go to Germany first and England second.

Efficiency and organization are required in Persia. Inertia is the greatest problem. One revolution would be enough to bring Persia back.

The Master in a Tablet compared the politicians of Persia to Ashes.

SACRED WRITINGS

The first part of Nabil's Narrative is translated into German and Arabic.

Sales Qur'an is most scholarly and Rodwell's most literary.

The Gleanings were taken from about twelve books, some of which were in manuscript.

The "Epistle to the Son of the Wolf" was the last book revealed by Baha'u'llah in His room in the Mansion. He passed away in this same room.

In the Bab's commentary of the "Surat of Joseph" there are 112 chapters and each chapter is a commentary of one verse.

The last translation of the Iqan is an attempt to approach the unattainable God.

The Arabas had a culture, that is, a literary culture before Muhammad. They composed poetry but could not write. It is the task of the Baha'is to interpret the Qur'an according to the Baha'i Teachings.

The "Hidden Words" are translated and printed in twelve languages.

"Persian Hidden Words", verse 79, "The comb I have given thee...." What I have given you to use as a means of establishing peace you have misused. Not the abuse, but the

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SACRED WRITINGS (Con.)

misuing of it. Religion has often been misued by the leaders of religion and "comb" means religion, or the Writings of Baha'u'llah which should be the instrument for the establishment of peace. It is the misinterpretation of the Writings of Baha'u'llah.

THE TEMPLE AND TEACHING

The Master laid two conditions on the Temple. It must be circular and have nine sides. The element of sacrifice vitalizes the contribution. It must be alike for the rich and poor. The structure will then have much greater spiritual power.

The largest dome in the world is that of St. Peters; the second is St. Pauls; third, the cathedral of Seville; fourth, - and the fifth, the dome of the Temple in Wilmette. \$150,000 has been spent for the dome; \$120,000 for the structure; \$150,000 for the ornamentation.

The effect of 'Abdu'l-Baha's Tablets to the blind in Japan we are now beginning to witness. The Braille Committee has been internationally extended. The blind should be told that the Cause will be the greatest comfort and the words of Helen Keller should be quoted, and they should be told what the Baha'is are doing for the blind, in particular that it is international in scope. There will be many more blind after the war.

A Baha'i teacher must be active in searching for those who will be spiritually minded, religious, but not orthodox. The method of approach depends on the individual. Do not lose time with those who come out of curiosity or for personal gain.

The ideal way is for Baha'is to work one-half of their time for their living and the other half of their time give to the Cause.

Some of the words of Shoghi Effendi to me just before I sailed from Haifa on May 12, 1937. are the following:

Stress obedience to the government to the friends.

Do not dissipate your energies but concentrate on a few and make them firm Baha'is.

The power of faith has great force. It is very mysterious.

Japan has a very great future. It is very much like Germany, full of vitality and in the future it will be devoted to the Cause. Now it is the transition time. They need a rude awakening.

They must be shaken before they awaken. Nationalism and militarism are all instruments which God is utilizing for the use of His purpose. This turmoil is a preparation. The coming war will weld the nations into a Kingdom of God. The Baha'is are preparing the way at present for this great fusion. Eventually they will all unite.

To teach the Cause is the paramount duty of the friends. Every Baha'i should teach, if not publicly, then by their actions. The more they teach, the more manifest the confirmations will come. They are suspended between earth and heaven, and what is required is a magnet, and that magnet is the actions of the Baha'is. They are ready to descend and it is the deeds of the Baha'is which will attract as a magnet these confirmations which are suspended ready to fall.

It is not what we achieve, but the purity of our motives.

The American Baha'is are now feeling the effect of the Divine Plan of the Master's Tablets. Like Nabil's Narrative it was not appreciated at that time.

If you are able to, encourage friends, not only to visit Japan, but to settle there. Travelers were not able to achieve what was wanted. I am urging the American Baha'is now to scatter, as the Master did in His Will, to settle and stay to the end of life and never feel discouraged. Come again with Japanese Baha'is, not only interested, but Baha'is, for I do want the Japanese Baha'is to take active share in the international affairs here in the future when the International House of Justice is formed. Its seat will be here in Palestine. I hope we will have pilgrims from Japan.

(Referring to two souls who had passed on). There is no doubt that the souls in the other world are in a closer touch than in this world for the body is an obstacle.