

Tokyo, April 2 1920

My Beloved Sister,

Your good letter with happy news received yesterday, and as a boat with mail goes away from Japan tomorrow morning, I am endeavoring to get this off in time to sail on it.

There must have been some decided results from the visits of so many message bearers, especially Ahmad's talks, which are always delivered with the approval of the spirit and in consequence leaves no room for argument. It is refreshing to know that he had so many good opportunities to meet the larger numbers. No one will ever be able to estimate the result of a single, sincere talk because it takes in some soils longer for seeds to germinate. Of course it makes me happy to hear that some of the souls became attracted from my simple speeches and if you think it is advisable and care to give me their names and addresses - perhaps a Bahai letter from the Orient would be a stimulus to more ardent search. Do as your best judgement dictates.

I'm glad for your unity news and I know all of you feel much happier since you are able to meet together again, may it continue.

As you say, the prayer is wonderful indeed and I repeat it in the early morning hours between two and three o'clock For some reason. I wake at just that time. Did you know that is the hour when Abdul Baha prays? I well remember when I was in the Holy City - Acca that one night I woke and heard our Lord calling in a loud voice. Baha 'a' llah Baha' 'a' llah, and for a long time I could not sleep again. I had such a surge of spiritual feeling and wide awake consciousness that it was not possible to sleep, and then the next night I slept through. I think it was the next morning that Abdul Baha asked me if I had rested well. I replied very well. He said " Abdul Baha did not sleep" and I assure you I felt guilty through and through, because I slept and Our Lord could not.

We have had a most remarkable New Years feast, which I had the honor of serving -it took two days - on the 21st we held a meeting for the women which was well attended. In fact the little home held about as many as we could accommodate. We had a very interesting and helpful time. I think some who attended will become more and more attracted. All were girls-young girls -except two. The next afternoon we had the meeting for the men, which was unusual in many respects. They began coming at one o'clock and soon our little house was filled, first a young blind man came who had just received a Tablet from Abdul Baha and which was the keynote for the meeting. A copy of this wonderful and universal Tablet is enclosed. Also our New Year Greeting to Japan. Our group represented four nationalities: Japanese, Russian, Corean (sic) and English or American.

The interpreter of our talks was a blind Russian who spoke Japanese, Russian, English and Esperanto, and he used his capacity all though the afternoon until 6:30 for us. There was present a Japanese gentleman who is engaged in preparing a book which is to give the Japanese in their own language an account of the movement. He desires my assistance in making ready for his self imposed task which, judging from his radiant smile, will be a happy occupation. A most spiritually inspiring meeting, which proved the Presence of our Lord.

Later there develops the offer from a Japanese to translate the "Life and Teachings of Abdul Baha" by Myron Phelps. This gentleman was formerly a Buddhist but is now a Christian clergyman having a church here of his own, but you see he is attracted to the Teachings of Abdul Baha and he is urged by the Spirit to do this work,

Then there is a blind boy who is writing in Braille for the blind the entire contents of the book by Mrs. Grundy, entitled "Ten Days in the Light of Acca " Miss Alexander and I take turns in reading the book to the blind boy, taking two hours a day until finished,

This afternoon a meeting for women, tomorrow another for men - it being a very wet day, perhaps there will not be many present today.

I should like very much to meet your brother. It is but an hour ride to Yokohama and perhaps it could be arranged. I'll watch out for the boat, but perhaps the boats don't stay very long. At any rate, I am obliged to go to Yokohama soon and will try to arrange the meeting should the boat be in port soon.

It is quite difficult to get things here in Tokyo that one born in America is accustomed to, so in Yokohama there are better prospects, but not absolutely dependable prospects.

Remember me to the friends of Spokane with my Bahai love and greetings, I am often with you in Spirit. I'm so glad you are all using that wonderful prayer- is it not powerful for unity and service? I remember the old lady you took me to call upon one day. Will you please give her my love, and if I had her address would write to her also. I remember the hour I was with her - with great spiritual feeling.

Lovingly, your serving sister,
Ida A. Finch

On Envelope: April 2, 1920

To Bahai Member
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