

Ramleh, Egypt
Nov 28th 1913

Dear friends,

Apparently this is my last day in Ramleh. I specially desire to emphasize the word "apparently" because I simply cannot stand the separation from my Beloved. I must be with him. I will be with him. I have on the other hand packed up all my belongings ready to start to-morrow. In our company there will be Elme' Asdag and Forougi who are two treasures of facts and information concerning the Cause and the biography ^{of each} once written will form the most tragic and thrilling story. Both are great speakers and raconteurs and with my ^{attentive} ears I may ^{be} able to share with you whatever I hear from them. In Haifa and Acre there are many old and experienced Bahais and from their ample granaries I will get a few grains. The station of these men in the Cause are indeed very great. One cannot too much and too often praise their divine fortitude and unexampled submission to the Will of God. They are indeed the true servants of Baha-allah.

The mornings for the last few days were more or less devoted to the visit of our dear pilgrims. Each has brought with himself a load of secret longings and wishes, though never to be uttered in his Presence. Notwithstanding this they bring to him the good news that cheer the heart and tell him of the self-sacrificing services rendered by others. They never refer to themselves. They do not know what self-adulation means.

When I went to the hotel he was engaged in talking with Elene' Asdag about the conditions and the progress of the Cause in Teheran and the various branches of its activities and manifestations. Teheran to a certain degree is the center of the Cause in Persia. From there the principle news of the movement are focussed to other parts. The believers are more numerous, more active and more energetic. Thus a peculiar importance is attached to that strategic position. The Beloved again referred to our departure and asked whether we have packed everything. "The friends must be pleased with whatever I decide for them, knowing full well that in this lies their eternal success and future happiness." he said to the pilgrims.

who had requested him to stay here and accompany him to Haifa. "This is not in accord with wisdom. My arrival must not be heralded by any outward signs. No one must know the time of my arrival or the name of the steamer," he answered their further entreaty.

When we returned home the son of Gorouphi chanted for us a long and beautiful Tablet by the Beloved from memory. He chanted the verses with a sweet voice and very effectively. The power of the words was so great and heart-moving that when I looked in the face of his ^{old} father I saw tears are falling on his long black beard. I was astonished to see him weeping and more than ever I stopped to ponder over the magic spell and eternal influence hidden in the words of Abdul Baha - , even the rocky heart is pulverized to dust. At this time the Master passed by and Gorouphi with his tears stained eyes jumped up from his seat and followed him involuntarily to the garden.

A very touching and yet significant incident that happened during the day was when the son of Gorouphi had found an ^{empty} envelope in the kitchen with the name of "His Holiness

Abdul Baha Abbas" written on it in English. As he has acquired a little knowledge of this language he came to me with a sad face while holding the envelope in his hand. "Why! This is a sacrifice! I have found this envelope in the kitchen. It must not be thrown away like this. It contains the seed name of the ^{center of the} Covenant. This is too serious. They must either tear it to pieces or burn it in the fire ^{but} not throw it under the feet." That was a good lesson, wasn't it?

Later on Elme' Asdag came and gave us a lovely talk about the blessings that are showered upon us through the machinations of the enemies. We must praise and love our enemies more than our friends because through ^{their} antagonism and opposition ^{we} became interested in the Cause, investigated its tenets and attained to this most glorious station. We must kiss their hands if they strike us and drink their cups even if filled with poison.... All these heavenly Teachings and spiritual principles are to awaken us from ^{the} deep slumber and create in us the Fire of the Love of God. If we are not quickened with this creative Force

there is no difference between us and those who are outside of the Cause.

Then Toranghi came from the garden in a ecstatic state because he has been with the Beloved for nearly 4 hours. He was in the eight heaven of joy. He was singing and clapping his hands like a boy just out of the school. He has a contagious spirit of buoyancy, vivacious^{and} cheerfulness. He is very joyous and gay, 'spiritually', a real sunshine. "I have been with my Beloved four hours! What a captivating Beloved he is, he has ravished away my heart, he is the magnet of my soul, the talisman of my spirit, his eyes are fairer than the gazelle's, his cheeks are more delicate than the petals of the rose, his locks are the chains around my feet. Oh ye lovers come and look at me! I am his willing prisoner. I will not exchange one moment of His Presence with all the wealth of the Indies. Oh! My adored one! my worshipped one! What can I say! With what tongue I must praise thee! I am mute and no adequate words fall from my lips! O my Beloved! Take my life as a sacrifice in the path of thy friend!"

