

Bahar Nest

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Mount Carmel, Haifa, Syria

April 17th 1914

Dear friends:

For a few moments let us put on the white wings of abstraction and soar towards the blue heights of holy inspiration and while soaring catch a few glimpses of the starry hosts of spiritual revelations. Or let us put on our diving helmets and dive into the depth of the ocean of divine ideals and gather a few shining pearls of celestial thoughts.

To a believer in Boston the Master of Truth says: "Thy letter contained most cheering good news and indicated the oneness of spiritual state that exists amongst the believers. His Holiness Baha-o-llah - May my life be a ransom to His believers - spent the days of His Life amidst infinite hardships and afflictions. He quaffed from every cup of trials, and tasted every poison of persecution - so that the Flag of the Oneness of the world of humanity may

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wave over all the regions, especially amongst the
believers. Now, because in Boston the Candle of Unity
and Concord is ignited, it has become the means
of the commendation of the dwellers of the Kingdom
of Abha and the cause of the happiness of my heart.
I hope that through the Bestowals of the Beauty of
Abha this love and unity may become more
revealed day by day, the rays of the Sun of Reality
may become more inter-penetrative, confirming
thee to become the bright candle of the assemblage
of Unity and assisting thee to raise the Call of
the Kingdom of God.

The friends of God must sacrifice their lives for
the sake of each other - to such ^{an} extent that the
people may become astonished and exclaim:
"What love and Amity flow from the hearts of
the Baha'is for each other!"

To a number of believers in Augusta, Georgia he says:-
"O ye blessed souls! Thank ye God that ye have
heard the Melody of the Kingdom from the Orient.

The effulgence of the Sun of Reality hath dawned²⁷ from the horizon of the East, illuminating the court of the heart, the heavenly Bestowal was revealed and eternal Life attracted. you have attained to perennial joy and secured everlasting immortality. you have sat at the Table of the Kingdom and partook of the imperishable food. "

To a friend in State College, Pennsylvania he writes:

"In thy letter thou hast stated the news of the holding of an educational Conference. In reality such Conferences are conducive to the progress of the world of humanity and the means of the promotion of civilization. Consequently in the estimation of God they are acceptable and beloved and material advancements are obtained therefrom. But, were you able to organize a Bahai educational Conference, that ~~which~~ the souls of mankind may receive the instructions of the Kingdom, obtain ideal perfections and become the manifestors of merciful susceptibilities, that is; - the spiritual and

material virtues may join hands and the forces of the heavenly and natural civilizations may be linked together — then out of the deliberation of such a Conference there will issue far-reaching and universal results. The object of such a Conference will be the glorification of the world of humanity and attainment to the image and likeness of God which is related to the realm of Morality. Then and not until then the individuals of the human race will become wholly abstracted from the defects of the material world; the virtues of the Kingdom will be revealed in them; they will receive the heavenly Bestowals, be baptized with the Holy Spirit and attain to eternal Life and everlasting Felicity. These are the results of the Divine Conference. "

To a believer in the state of Washington he says: —
 "I hope that the light of guidance may become ignited in the lamp of thy heart with utmost

brilliance - so that thou mayest become a ²⁹ real
Bahai. Likewise thy beloved son, whom thou lovest
better than thy life, may obtain a seeing eye and a
hearing ear - in order that he may listen to the
melody of the Kingdom of Abha with the utmost
joy and happiness, develop and grow through the
showers of the Cloud of Providence and produce
most luscious fruits. "

To a "seeker of Reality" in Washburn, Maine he writes:
"Praise be to God that this Heavenly Melody reached
thine ears. Thou didst hear about His Holiness Baha-
o-llah and how He unfurled the Flag of the Oneness
of the world of humanity in the Orient and like
unto the Sun shone forth upon all the regions.
Today the Cause of Baha-ollah is world-encircling
and its ringing voice has reached all the countries
of the globe. Praise be to God that thou also didst
hear the Divine Call in that town and didst
advance toward the Kingdom of God. "

To a little boy of 8 years in Cleveland he says: -

30 "O thou son of the Kingdom :-" I read thy letter with the utmost joy and I hope that thou mayst grow and develop like unto a young tree through the outpouring of the Clouds of Providence, that thou mayst bring forth fruits most luscious and most delicious."

To the Bahai assembly of Cleveland Ohio he says:-

"O ye birds of the rose-garden of the Kingdom! Your letter of congratulation like unto the song of the nightingale, thrilled the hearts and became the means of the happiness of every pure spirit."

It was perused with exceeding rejoicing and then we proffered thanks at the Divine Threshold that, praise be to God, blessed souls have appeared in that city who are summoning the people to the Kingdom of God, are promoting the heavenly Teachings, and are showing forth generosity in contributing towards the building of the Mash-Kol Azkar. It is assured that the Confirmations of His Holiness Baha-Allah will descend

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upon you, His Bestowals shall encircle you, the ocean of His Favors will become tempestuous and the showers of Life will pour down from the cloud of His Mercy."

To a believer in Roxbury, Mass he writes:-

"Thy letter was received. From its contents it became evident that, praise be to God the highest hope of the believers of Boston is good fellowship and unity, love and concord. Today in any city wherein perfect unity exists amongst the believers, i.e., harmoniously mingling with each other like unto honey and milk - the call of God will be raised and the lights of the Kingdom of Alpha will be diffused."

To another friend in Washington D.C. "One who is thirsty for the Water of Reality" he says:-

"Thank thou God that thou art confirmed in listening to the Call of the Divine Kingdom, hast found the Fountain of the Water of Life - thus thou may'st allay the thirst of every thirsty one. Thou hast

32 approached the Incarnations of spiritual effulgence
so that ~~they~~ ^{that} mayst hear the Call of God from the
Burning Bush in the wilderness of sanctification.
I hope ~~that~~ ^{that} they mayst attract unto thyself infinite
Bestowals from the gleaming Flame of Tor
and the refulgent light of Truth. Mayst thou
take in thy hand a shining torch, travel
through that vast Continent, call the people
to the Kingdom and become the Cause of
the guidance of innumerable souls."

To another friend in Cambridge Mass he says:-
"This is such a Universal Cause that the refulgent
Light has enveloped the Continents and estab-
lished the oneness of the world of humanity.
It is the cause of the unity of all the nations
and the strongest tie of Communication ^{between}
the inhabitants of the earth. Unquestionably
it will enlighten the human world, breathe
into the hearts new life, gives sight to the
blind, hearing to the deaf, quickens the dead

soul, transform this world into another ~~world~~^{world},
and ~~make~~ and makes this terrestrial earth
a mirror of the realm of the Most High. "

To another friend of Washington D.C. he writes:

"Thy detailed letter was received. Truly it was pure
joy for it contained the particulars of thy trip to
Augusta, Georgia. It explained the delivery of an
eloquent talk by thee; that thou hast summoned
the people to the Kingdom of God and hast spread
the Divine Teachings. Consider how every soul
who has arisen to serve the Word of God will be
confirmed with the heavenly Cohorts. Therefore,
be thou happy, because thou art assisted with
such service. Ere long in that city a great mul-
titude shall enter into the Kingdom of God, the
Glag of the oneness of the world of humanity
will cast its shade over that country and the
Song of the Supreme Course will be
raised from its glens and dales. The fountain
of the Water of Life will gush forth and

34th the birds of the rose garden of God will break out
the rapturous songs of glorification of the
Kingdom of Holiness in the most wonderful
melody. This trace will become eternal
will be continued throughout the future ages
and cycles."

The following message is addressed to ^{the} London Bala:-
"Praise be to God that this cycle is the luminous cycle.
This is the century in which the Divine Spirit pervades
all things. This is the Age of Reality. The Sun of Reality
will shine with such intensity as to entirely dispel
the darkness of dogmas. Contention and strife, hos-
tility and animosity will be completely effaced
from amongst mankind. For they are all the
sheep of God. God is the real shepherd. He is
compassionate towards all. Therefore the members
of the world of humanity must embrace each
other with utmost love and conciliation and
under the protection of this Shepherd these sheep
may graze in the meadow of Chremency and

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while they grow and develop acquire infinite joy and happiness."

Concerning the books written on the Bahai revelation in this day he says:-

"During the life time of His Holiness Christ no book ~~was written that about his cause that~~ on this subject gained any importance but consider how many and important they are ~~how it has become momentous~~ at this time.

The books which are composed and published on this Bahai Cause in this age shall ere long be seized and passed from hand to hand like unto the leaflets of gold."

Prefacing a very recent long ~~Tablet~~ ^{the} to American believers concerning his own station he says:-

"When the Sun of Reality shone forth from the horizon of Sanctity it flooded the world with the rays of the oneness of thoughts, the oneness of opinions, the oneness of ideals and the oneness of truth, so that mankind, as regards doctrines and articles of belief, might converge toward one common center, differences, contention and discord be entirely effaced from the world of humanity and the unique

3⁶ Light which has branched forth from the Sun of Reality might illumine all the hearts. For the realization of this complete unity and perfect good-fellowship the Blessed One suffered all manner of hardships, trials and afflictions to such an extent that the eyes are weeping and the hearts are burning now and forever more. "

When I came down the Mountain this morning the Beloved called into His Presence five pilgrims who had received permission to leave to day. Among ^{for} them was Mirza Azzizollah Khan from Ispahan and distantly related to Baha-ollah. The Master gave him his ^{brown} silk 'Abas' which he wore in America and Europe and many other valuable mementoes. "Convey" he said "my loving, longing greeting to all the friends and the people of Ispahan. Tell them you have greatly strengthened my hope as regards the future of that province. It was very hard on me not to hear the ringing voice of Truth from the Native town of the Blessed Perfection.

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I hope that day by day this voice may gain in volume
and richness and depth. May I ever inhale these
holy fragrances of Spirituality from Hour - thus
the province of Hour may become in reality the
main-spring of Hour (light or glory) and illumine
all the neighboring provinces of Mazandran and
from there spread to other climes and countries "

Then Miss Burck paid her last call, as she was
going to leave in the afternoon for Beirut to join her
travelling companions. The Master gave her an
interesting talk on the Teachings and sent her
away with his heavenly blessings, hoping that
she ^{would} ~~will~~ become a herald of the Cause of God
and a messenger of light.

Then he dictated a number of Tablets for the teachers
in Persia to be carried with the pilgrims leaving to-
day. A number of prominent men from Arabia
were his guests at luncheon. To them he spoke
on the decadence of Islam and the means whereby
it can be regenerated and rise again out of the

38 ashes of decay. With them he went to Mosque and demonstrated to them the spirit of true worship and reverence.

In the afternoon he called the ^{departing} pilgrims for the last time and said: - "you are going to leave today for Persia. you must go out and work and teach. Praise be to God that you have received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and you have spent many blessed days in the holy land. Today the most important affair is service to the Cause of God. "The leave-taking was very affecting. Hot tears fell copiously from their eyes, and the Beloved held each one in his divine arms, surcharging him with spiritual electricity.

In the evening he sent for the Bahai students from Beirut College. Young, enthusiastic, and hopeful the Beloved inspires them with the highest ideals of manhood and the noblest ethical standards, showing them in a clear and simple manner that their ^{whole} future progress depends upon the purity of their lives.

their

and the strength of ^{their} characters. I hope "he said" ³⁹ "you
are feeling quite comfortable in Beirut and that you
are not meeting with any difficulties. May you ever
live in the utmost joy and fragrance." In the College
of Beirut you must become the shining candles of
moral precepts and spiritual ideals, and be the means
of the illumination of others. Clothe your bodies
with the robes of virtues. Characterize yourselves with
the characteristics of the people of divine morality.
Shun all manner of vices ^{as} you shun a poisonous
snake or a leper. Let the Corps of the professors and
the students be impressed with the purity and holiness
of your lives, ^{so} that they may take you as paragon
of worthiness, ^{examples of} nobility of nature, ^{observers} observance of the
moral laws, ^{holding in} the subordination of the lower element
by the higher spirit, the conquering of self and the
^{wholesome} ~~overmastering~~ of vital forces in all the avenues of
life. Strive always to be at the head of your class
through hard study and true merit.
Persia is today practically ruined, and the ^{majority} ~~forty~~

40 of the students who return to their native country from Europe instead of trying to save Persia hasten the day of its ruin. Although they have studied the physical sciences, yet they lack moral stamina and essential leverage to accomplish the regeneration of their country. Along with their studies they have learned the moral vices of European nations and are afflicted with their social sins - thus precluding any good they might have been able to render Persia. Instead of benefitting the nation they become as parasites and a source of ^{ruin} ~~meanness~~ Be ye ^{always} in a prayerful state and appreciate the value of everything. Entertain high ideals and stimulate your intellectual and constructive powers. The young men of this generation must ever strive to adorn their inner beings with moral laws and humanitarian deeds. Their chief aim must be the glorification of mankind and the fructification of the tree of existence. Their lives must be crowned with the brightest genius of natural and divine

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accomplishments. They must dedicate their lives to the service of humanity and never ~~think to harm~~ a single soul. They must constantly work for the improvement of their own moral fiber and that of others, and imbue themselves with the attributes of the spiritual ones. They must become the incarnations of the virtues of God. What are God's virtues? They are these:— Trust, faithfulness, kindness, love, charitableness, humility, compassion, real devotion, purity of mind and body and the perfections of the world of humanity. This is the cause of the progress of man! This is conducive to the enlightenment of the material civilization with the morning light! This is the means of the elevation of the moral nature of humanity! Become ye celestial, merciful, divine and spiritual. Then your characters will be transmuted into the quintessence of light! All the people are pleased with you and are praising you for your worthy strivings and stimulating examples.