

No 28.

The Diary of Mirza Ahmad Sohrab

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Bahai Nest, Mount Carmel.

Haifa, Syria

July 17th, 1914

Dear friends!

In a recent Tablet the Beloved writes the following to two German Bahais in Leipzig:

"O ye two birds of the rose garden of Faith! In the darkness of error man does not find anything affliction and distress. He is ever disappointed, grieved and broken hearted. But when the Light of Faith shines upon the Court of the heart, eternal happiness will be revealed, the gloom of sorrow and pain will disappear; the hopeless will become hopeful; the sad one will be submerged in the sea of joy - the Everlasting joy which is not followed by any sadness. Therefore, thank ye God that ye have drunk deeply from this overflowing Cup of Happiness and through the illumination of the Glad-tidings of God the darkness of sorrow is entirely vanished. I am hopeful from the Divine Bestowals that day by day this Happiness may increase....."

To another friend in Degerlock Germany he says:-

"O thou who art guided by the Light of Guidance. Thank thou God that thou hast found a seeing eye and a hearing ear. Thou didst witness the Light of Guidance and hearkened to the Call of the Kingdom of Abha and received a goodly portion and a share from the never-ending Outpourings. Thou wert one of the chosen and not of the called. Now thou hast organized a Bahai meeting the members of which were of the called, and wherein you ^{were} engaged in the commemoration of God and perfumed the nostrils with the fragrances of the Paradise of Abha. Strive ye with heart and soul - so that ye may illumine the horizons of that Empire with the Light of Guidance and that there may remain not one trace of the darkness of error. In your behalf I implore and supplicate toward the Kingdom of Abha and beg for you heavenly Confirmation....."

Concerning the Minister who has invited the Bahais to hold meetings in his church he writes to a New York Bahai:-

"O thou real friend! Thy letter was received. Thou hast written concerning Doctor Leon H. Harvey 4th

Unitarian Church. Exercise ye toward this person the utmost respect, for he has shown great courage to invite you to his church - thus you may hold there Bahai meetings and invite the souls to the Divine Kingdom. You must show toward this personage infinite honor. Although he is a Minister yet has he demonstrated such fearlessness as to make his own church the gathering-place of the Bahais. He has not all manifested any fear or apprehension nor has he thought of the censure and the reproach or the people and has he become conducive to the diffusion of the Fragrances. Employ toward him the utmost love."

Another Tablet to the Paris Bahai Assembly is as follows :-

"O ye friends of God and the maid servants of the Merciful! The Congratulation for the Day of the Declaration of the Bab - May my life be a ransom to him - was received. I was made exceedingly happy that such a glorious Feast was held in Paris. The majority of mankind are either pursuing their own pleasures or amusements or engrossed in the accumulation of worldly riches and are intoxicated with the songs of

the world of nature. But the believers of God have spread a heavenly Table and celebrated the Festival of the Dawn of the Morn of Guidance! This is indeed the source of great joy; for they were occupied in the mention of the name of God, read the verses of Unity and glorified the Sun of Reality with the anthems of the Kingdom of the Merciful. It is assured that such Festivals will be held regularly in the future and a wonderful Melody will be raised from Paris which shall surprise all the rest of mankind "

The Boston believers are honored with the following glorious Tablet:-

"O ye friends and the maid servants of the Merciful!

Truly I say, your letter imparted joy and happiness and it became the cause of hopefulness; for it was an indication of the effect of the Counsels and Exhortations of Abdul Baha. If a soul peruse carefully the Tablets of the Blessed Perfection such as the Hidden Words, Eshraghat, Tajallayat, Tarazat, Glad-Tidings and the Words and lives in accord with one Admonition of the admonitions of God he shall attain to the summit of perfection, will become the centre of merciful

susceptibilities, the origin of the virtues of humanity and the lights of the Kingdom will dawn from his face and character.

"O ye believers of God! These Exhortations and Counsels emanated from the ^{supreme} Pen of the Blessed Perfection not to read them only but to live in accord with their contents. There are many persons who read these Tablets, praise the loftiness of these sentiments but do not live according to one of its words. Now praise be to God that you are moved and stirred through the Appeal of Aledul Baka, are thereby attracted and have passed a resolution to live in accord with these Counsels. Therefore make ye an effort so that the lights of the advice of the Blessed Perfection may shine from the pure glass of your hearts; reflect its splendors upon all the human organs and the signs of severance and attraction with the Love of God may appear and become manifest from your faces and characters. Day and night I am praying and beg for you Divine Confirmations and ^{seek for you} ~~supreme~~ aids; so that all of you may become heavenly and the lights of the Kingdom of Abba may illumine your hearts and souls"

Again this morning the Beloved received Mirza Ali Akbar and a number of other friends and exhorted them to become the valiant soldiers of the Kingdom of Akbar and the standard bearers of the Army of Light. Then he came out into the garden, walked around for a few minutes and sat on a chair in the sunshine, asking me to give him the book of Tablets so that he may correct those lately revealed. For nearly one hour he was doing this delightful work. Then he came to us and spoke about the science of aviation, predicting the time when every rich man will own an aeroplane in the same manner that they are now owning automobiles.

Many students went to Acre today and returned in the evening. For only a few minutes they met him in the garden, as he was on his way to his customary walk.

In the evening he was a guest at the house of Mirza Mohsen where a prominent Arab gentleman was there to meet him. He had there his supper and stayed till late. I wished so much to be there to hear him speak. I can never get enough of his golden words.