

Home of Abdul Baha
Mount Carmel, Haifa Syria
June 4th 1915

Dear friends!

A few officials from Acca arrived this morning and took much of the time of the Beloved. He took them through the garden and showed them its beauty and verdancy. Then he invited them to take their lunch with him which invitation they accepted with pleasure. How blind and heedless are these people that they do not realize his spiritual station! They sit in his presence for hours, are charmed with the flow and inimitable simplicity of his conversation, enjoy his epigrammatic sayings, laugh heartily over his jokes, relish his witty and pointed remarks and all this time are they unconscious of this vital fact: with whom are they associating, in whose company were they spending the most precious moments of their lives, what did they gain from his wit and wisdom? If they had the capacity to understand this point, to comprehend this truth, their moral and intellectual progress would have been rapid, the illumination of their mind and hearts assured and their stations in the Kingdom of Abha secured. But how different is the condition of those souls who become conscious of the quickening stimuli of the spirit, who throw off the dead weight of theology and superstitions, who rise serene and high as the lofty peaks of the everlasting hills, who bid to sham and hypocrisy: 'get thee behind me, satan', who discard all the useless conventions and paraphernalias and who emerge out of ^{the} dark and marshy forests of man's phantasies and ideas and get into the sunlight of God's ideals and statutes! These are the freedmen, the heirs of the treasures of reality and the bondsmen of the Love of God.

The pilgrims who stood in the presence of Abdul Baha were of such characters and displayed such attributes. They were men who had divested themselves of every ecclesiastical wrappings and clothings and appeared before the Lord in the pristine purity and sinlessness of childhood. It was then made possible for them to be baptized with ^{the} water of the Knowledge of God, the fire of the Love of God and the power of the Holy Spirit.

In the afternoon the landowner was at the gate and the Beloved was ready to take drive when he received a note from a prominent citizen of Filicris just arrived Warfa to lend him and his friends the carriage to go to Acca and return. immediately he ordered Isfandeyar to take the landowner in the stable, unhitch the horses and prepare the carriage for them. Then he hired a carriage and he asked Morza Badi.