

# BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

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## THE EUROPEAN GOALS

The European and Asian Teaching Committee announces with unbounded joy and humble gratitude that on the last day of the Holy Year there were pioneers in all of the seven European territories.

Mr. Eskil Ljungberg (Göteborg, Sweden), Thorshavn, Faroes.

Miss Brigitte Hasselblatt (Glasgow), Lerwick, Shetlands.

Mr. Charles Dunning (Sheffield), Kirkwall, Orkneys.  
Miss Geraldine Craney (Nottingham), Stornoway, Hebrides.

Miss Evelyn Baxter (Oxford), and Mr. Ziaullah Asgarzadeh (London), St. Helier, Jersey, Channel Islands.

Miss Una Townshend (Dublin), Malta.

Mr. Abbas Vekil (Baghdad) and Mr. Hugh McKinley (Brighton), Nicosia, Cyprus.

Extracts from letters written by these stalwart servants of Bahá'u'lláh, tell their story:

HEBRIDES. '... you know, when I arrived here I thought surely it must be the end of the earth but already I am beginning to love it. All the time I am conscious I am looked after and taken care of by Bahá'u'lláh and I feel happy.' (Second day.)

SHETLANDS. 'Loving greetings from the 'friendly islands' to you all! How I would love you all to see this beautiful place and meet these lovely people! ... I have made more friends here in two weeks than I ever made in one year in London. To-day I was invited to lunch indirectly through a lady whom I had met last Sunday at a musical evening. We only exchanged a few words, but apparently every stranger gets talked about and known very quickly. After the first introductory words you are no longer an unknown quantity, you are called by your first name and considered a friend. This very kind lady had heard of the Faith before through some children's literature that was sent to her from Manchester. I consider her my first real contact, as she is the first one who asked me for literature and assured me of her interest in the teachings ... Every day some new channel has been opened or some fruitful conversation held. I could write it all over the pages that I am very, very happy here! ... I can never thank you all enough for all your prayers, which carry me and sustain me, for all your love and help and co-operation. May the Beloved bless you and guide you in your activities!'

MALTA. 'From what I've seen of Malta and the Maltese I like it very well. The people are really very nice and friendly and easy to talk to and joke with; one could never feel a foreigner with them.'

FAROEES. 'I have been here two whole hours and I am very happy to be here. God has been so Great. He has already sent me a contact that speaks English and is quite interested. As far as I can see he will be the first Bahá'í in this place, I feel it in my bones. He told me, when I told him that I have come here to live and to love the people, that the Island is very much in need of it as they live in fear. Naturally he thought it strange, and when he left me he thanked me for coming ...'

CYPRUS. 'Loving greetings to you all from the Bahá'í Group of Nicosia. A new pioneer will be arriving in Cyprus soon—Master Leroy Vekil, and his father is very proud of him that he arose to pioneer for the Cause at his age.'

JERSEY. 'We hasten to inform you of the formation of the Jersey Bahá'í Group at the Feast of 'Izzat, with Mr. Asgarzadeh as Treasurer and Miss Baxter in the dual role of Chairman-Secretary. We had the joy of Mr. Hazari's company. We continue to pray for the settlement of pioneers and for weak assemblies.'

EUROPEAN AND ASIAN TEACHING COMMITTEE

### Visit to the Lord Mayor

When Mayor-Elect, Alderman A. Moss, now Lord Mayor of Manchester, visited and was greatly impressed by the Shrines in the Holy Land. Upon return he indicated that he would be willing to see a Bahá'í deputation when he took office, and the deputation visited him on July 15th, 1953.

He spoke of his meeting with Mr. Haney, and their visit to the Gardens and Shrines. The Lord Mayor seemed particularly impressed by the good relations which existed between the Bahá'ís and the Government of Israel, and also told how on a State occasion, a procession of religious leaders had been led by the Guardian. He said that he had not yet had the opportunity of meeting Shoghi Effendi, but that, if possible, he hoped to return to Haifa during his term of office on an official visit, which visit he hoped would coincide with the completion of the Shrines. He seemed quite enthusiastic about all that he had seen and heard at Haifa, and said he had brought back with him many books about the Faith.



## FROM THE GUARDIAN

### *Haziratu'l-Quds*

As difficulties had arisen in connection with the property the National Assembly had been considering purchasing, a report was sent to the Guardian asking for guidance. The Guardian's reply on October 4th was:

'Advise take no risk. Owing possibility higher outlay, urge search other places as near as possible.'

Following receipt of this cable, the search was extended to areas further from the centre of London than those hitherto covered.

### *Virgin Territories*

British Somaliland was nowhere explicitly mentioned in the Guardian's exposition of the goals of the Ten Year Crusade, although 'Somaliland' was given to the Egyptian National Assembly for consolidation. As consultative body for territories of the British Commonwealth, the British National Assembly asked the Guardian for clarification and the Guardian replied on October 10th:

'Advise assist Egypt by pioneer British Somaliland.'

### *Progress of the World Crusade*

The Guardian cabled the American National Assembly on September 20th, 1953:

'Transmit following joyful tidings National Spiritual Assemblies Bahá'í World. World Spiritual Crusade, mightiest agency yet conceived (for the) systematic execution 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan, befittingly ushered in through successive, magnificent victories won Bahá'u'lláh's crusaders virgin territories every continent globe.'

Four months elapsed since its glorious inauguration amidst climax festivities commemorating Centenary inception His Mission immortalized (by) opening no less twenty-eight territories, islands—nine Europe, eight America, six Africa, five Asia—constituting dispersal unprecedented its rapidity, scope (during) eleven decades Bahá'í history.

Number pioneers responded call settlement open, unopened territories planet passed three hundred mark: over hundred fifty America, over fifty Europe, over forty Africa, over forty Asia. Number prospective pioneers virgin areas over forty. All Western hemisphere (and) African areas allocated United States National Assembly, as well as all European areas allocated various National Assemblies, assigned.

Roll Honour designed perpetuate memory exploits spiritual conquerors already inscribed (with) names following pioneers, together (with) respective territories, amounting almost fourth number required attainment paramount objective opening phase Ten Year Plan:

Sohail Samandari, Italian Somaliland; Mary, Rex Collison, Dunduzu Chisiga, Ruanda Urundi; Izzatul-lah Zahrai, Southern Rhodesia; Ghulamali Kurlawala, Daman; Gail, Jameson Bond, Franklin; Roshan Aftabi, Goa; Rise Perkal, Jack Huffman, Kodiak Island; Mr., Mrs. Arthur Crane, Key West; Saeed Nahvi, Shyan Behrarilal, Pondicherry; Udainarayan Singh, Sikkim; Fred Schechter, French Somaliland; Virginia Orbison, Balearic Islands; Mr., Mrs. Amin Banani, Greece; Abbas Vakil, Cyprus; Gertrude Eisenberg, Canary

Islands; Dick Stanton, Keewatin; Mr., Mrs. Jenabe Caldwell, Aleutian Islands; Edith MacArthur, Queen Charlotte Islands; Hushmand Manuchihi, Lichtenstein; Eskil Ljungberg, Faroe Islands; Mildred Clark, Loyce Lawrence, Lofoten Islands; Salisa Kirmani, Shirin Nurani, Karikal; Ziaollah Asgarzadeh, Evelyn Baxter, Channel Islands; Kay Weston, Magdalen Islands; Julius Edwards, Northern Territories Protectorate; Doris Richardson, Grand Manon Island; Charles Dunning, Orkney Islands; Nellie French, Monaco.

Countries (in which) Bahá'ís reside now aggregate over hundred fifty. Over seventy added course nine years separating first, second Jubilees.

Festivities Holy Year, so splendidly inaugurated, attaining high water mark occasion Ninetieth Anniversary declaration Mission Founder Faith, approaching end. Appeal entire body His followers exert concerted, superhuman effort celebrate, through acceleration dispersal, conclusion world-wide rejoicings (and) pay worthy tribute His memory, through as close approach two hundred mark as possible (of the) total number sovereign States, Dependencies, Islands comprising orbit His irresistibly expanding Faith, achieving thereby a feat paralleling (in the) eyes posterity triumphant completion superstructure Sepulchre its Co-Founder (at the) Bahá'í World Centre, Holy Land.'

### **Mrs. Middleton**

The passing of Mrs. M. Middleton is reported from Sheffield. Although a comparatively new believer, she had endeared herself to the members of her Community and to other Bahá'ís who had the opportunity to meet her. She never had the vitality to enjoy the greatest benefits and she suffered a long wasting illness with patience and resignation. Those who were at Teaching Conference in January 1953 will remember her pale tired face, and the obvious enjoyment she felt in meeting so many new friends. She was a faithful, sincere and lovable soul.

## **BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING TRUST**

### **JUBILEE SOUVENIR**

The Bahá'í Publishing Trust is now selling copies of this Souvenir Booklet, which was designed to be useful for teaching long after the Holy Year was finished. The messages from prominent people, the maps and statistics, the photographs make the booklet, which contains also a brief introduction to the Faith, a unique teaching medium for presentation to those unacquainted with the Faith. As the Holy Year is now over, the price of the booklet has been reduced to 1/6 to make it more readily usable for teaching.



## PROGRESS IN AFRICA

At the end of the Holy Year three out of the four virgin territories allotted to us in Africa had been opened: South West Africa by Ted Cardell, British pioneer from Nairobi, British Cameroons by Enoch Olinga of Kampala, Uganda, and Madeira by Elizabeth Hopper and Adah Schott, two friends from the United States. British Togoland is at the moment still unopened.

In addition, several other friends from Kampala have gone to goals outside East Africa. Rex and Mary Collison and Dunduzu Chisiga opened Ruanda-Urundi, assigned to India, Max Kunyerezi has gone to Brazzaville, thus opening French Equatorial Africa for Egypt, and Samson Mungono went to Kamina in the Belgian Congo, a territory for consolidation. From Nairobi, besides Ted Cardell, four friends have gone to open new countries: Fred Schechter, American pioneer, moved on to French Somaliland, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Laws, also from America, have gone to Basutoland, and Claire Gung from Britain, who was in her second African pioneer post at Nairobi, has transferred to Southern Rhodesia. From Dar-es-Salaam, Jalal Nakhjavani has gone to French Cameroons, an Indian goal, and Enayat Soheili to Nyasaland, a consolidation territory.

Besides this stream of friends moving to new countries, a number of East African believers have gone pioneering in their own area, to open new towns to the Faith. Uganda, where there was a record response to the appeal for pioneers, has, besides manning its own goal towns, been able to send several pioneers to open new towns in the adjacent territories of Kenya and Tanganyika. Enos Epyeru has gone to Eldoret and Anthony Mukhobe to Kapsabet in Kenya, whilst Tito Wanantusi has moved to Mwanza, Tanganyika, and Peter Mutabazi expects to go next month to Bukoba where there is much interest in the Faith and one believer has been accepted. Bukoba, though in Tanganyika, is much nearer to Kampala than to Dar-es-Salaam and will have to be developed mainly from Uganda. Towns inside Uganda which have been opened by pioneers are: Masaka, Gulu, Lira, Pallisa, Tororo and Arua. Uganda has produced the first African woman pioneer, Mrs. Agrippina Olei.

A pioneer from Nairobi is now in Mombasa and some declarations have been received, though not yet accepted. In addition Nairobi have done extension teaching work in the Kisumu area and there is now a believer at Kisumu and several at Maseno, not far away.

Dar-es-Salaam, besides extension teaching in neighbouring villages which has achieved several declarations, are hoping to send an African pioneer to the far south of Tanganyika, to the Mbeya district, where there is already one contact who has made a declaration.

In the Gold Coast Major and Zara Dunne, having settled in a home and a job, are teaching energetically and report some good contacts. Moreover Godwill Fiawoo, who accepted the Faith while studying in the U.S., has returned home to the Gold Coast and is living in Keta.

AFRICA COMMITTEE

**'With souls entirely dedicated to his Cause . . .'**

I beseech Thee . . . to make of my prayer a fire that will burn away the veils which have shut me out from Thy bounty . . .

LONG OBLIGATORY PRAYER

It behoveth thee to consecrate thyself to the Will of God. Whatsoever hath been revealed in His Tablets is but a reflection of His Will. So complete must be thy consecration, that every trace of worldly desire will be washed from thine heart. This is the meaning of true unity.

G.W.B. 338

Happy is the man that pondereth in his heart that which hath been revealed in the Books of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsisting. Meditate upon this, O ye beloved of God, and let your ears be attentive unto His Word, so that ye may, by His grace and mercy, drink your fill from the crystal waters of constancy, and become as steadfast and immovable as the mountain in His Cause . . .

It is incumbent, in this Day, upon every man to place his whole trust in the manifold bounties of God, and arise to disseminate, with the utmost wisdom, the verities of His Cause. Then, and only then, will the whole earth be enveloped with the morning light of His Revelation.

G.W.B. 13

Whatsoever is revealed by Thee is the desire of my heart and the beloved of my Soul . . .

Thou seest, O my God, how my spirit hath been stirred up within my limbs and members, in its longing to worship Thee . . .

LONG OBLIGATORY PRAYER

### BAHÁ'Í PUBLISHING TRUST

THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH, 1844-1952

Every Bahá'í should have a copy of this book, for it is impossible to follow adequately the progress of the Ten Year Crusade without it. The Guardian sets out and classifies the various goals of the Crusade and indicates which National Assembly is responsible for each territory. The book also contains an up to date presentation of factual information about the Faith which is most useful for impressing its standing on those who judge a Faith by such material evidence. A map of the Ten Year Crusade designed by the Guardian himself accompanies each book.

Price 4/6



These words of the Guardian in 1947 indicated the foundation bricks without which no community can function as a full member of Bahá'u'lláh's World Order. We would perhaps do well to ponder the extent to which our own particular local community falls short of these essential ingredients and prayerfully consider how the situation can be remedied.

With all humility we offer the following practical suggestions:

1. Let as many as possible of the members of an Assembly gather together for consultation.
  2. Let each then review in turn the way he or she came to embrace the Cause and those aspects of the Cause which most specially attracted and those features which continue to satisfy most.
  3. Let no doubt remain of the efficacy of the Cause and of our need to subordinate our own interests, to arise and serve and to be prepared to carry out collective decisions, local or national.
  4. Let each then acknowledge with prayer the fact that he would dedicate himself fully to Bahá'u'lláh's service were it not for the various obstacles he faces and let each be ready to recognise this, and that all problems can be solved or at least mitigated through consultation.
  5. Let the members then review the problems of each sympathetically to see in what way help can be provided. All should speak in turn before discussion of any one particular problem.
  6. Let each set of problems then be taken in turn as though belonging to somebody not in the Assembly and considered by the whole body to seek a solution so as to free the overburdened soul for further and more varied service.
  7. Let a small project be proposed for development, perhaps in teams, perhaps altogether, and studied in detail so that each can take some part in it. Let it be recognised that a project in which all can in some way share is that much richer and that much the more effectively carried through.
  8. Let the exalting experience of success lead to more ambitious and audacious projects.
  9. Let each establish with the treasurer the channel whereby he or she can help finance the work.
  10. Let a record be kept and a report be made.
- Problems susceptible of solution and known to each of us as fruitful causes of difficulty, which none should baulk at disclosing, are many and varied. Here are some of them:

- (a) need for baby sitting;
- (b) a sick marriage partner;
- (c) pressure of business;
- (d) tiredness from working overtime;
- (e) the expense of fares to and from meetings;
- (f) college studies;
- (g) a fancied slight by another believer;
- (h) resentment of attitude or conduct of a believer;
- (i) 'such and such a teaching method has been tried unsuccessfully years ago';
- (j) belittling the capacity of fellow believers.

Each of us can think of many, many others.

NATIONAL TEACHING COMMITTEE

AUSTRALIA are planning their work on the home front in three phases, with two three-year and one four-year plans. After an application by the National Assembly a section of fifty graves has been set aside in the Northern Suburbs Cemetery in the Sydney area for the exclusive use of Bahá'ís.

BAHREIN. There are now reported to be five local Assemblies and two groups on this island, a result owed not a little to opposition and even persecution.

CANADA have already selected thirty new goal cities at home for development to Assembly status. Now have thirty local Assemblies, have appointed twenty-six committees for various purposes, including seven Regional Teaching Committees. A week's Summer Conference, with attendance ranging from 90 to 120, was held at a Y.M.C.A. camp in Ontario in August.

CHILE. Two Bahá'ís, Mrs. Fabienne Guillon and Mr. Carlos Martinez, who have a private school at Santiago, have offered to take care of the children of any Bahá'ís who want to go out as pioneers to places where it would be unsuitable or dangerous to take their children.

FRANCE. The new Haziratu'l-Quds in Paris was inaugurated by Dr. Ugo Giachery, Hand of the Cause, on July 4th.

INDIA, PAKISTAN AND BURMA. A suitable pamphlet has been selected for translation into the forty languages that constitute one of their goals, and have delegated responsibility for translation and printing to Karachi (for three), to the Indonesian group (for two), to Kuching (for four), to the Shangham group (for seven). New school at Panchgani has been considerably enlarged and can now accommodate more than 100 boarders.

UNITED STATES. National Bahá'í Youth Week, which ended on November 1st, in addition to a Youth Conference and planned study provided a specific goal for every youth to try to mention the Bahá'í Faith to at least one person every day. A homeland goal for the current year has been set: 73 cities in 37 States are to be claimed for the Faith through the settlement of at least one Bahá'í in each. A university publication of the University of Chicago has published a picture of the House of Worship at Wilmette and an article on the Faith. Among nearly 32,000 visitors to the House of Worship between its public dedication on May 2nd and the end of July was Mr. Rousen Tarashina, head of the Soto Sect of Japanese Buddhists numbering some 25 millions.

### Change of Address

*Nottingham Secretary.* Mrs. Keery, 11 Park Avenue, Woodthorpe, Nottingham.

*Stockport Secretary.* Miss M. Sullivan, c/o 2 The Drive, off Rectory Lane, Prestwich, Lancs.