



BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

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LIVING THE BAHÁ'Í LIFE

The blessings of the Ancient Beauty are being showered upon the followers of the Greatest Name. Our efforts to serve Him and humanity are being crowned with victories throughout the world. As we give thanks for these splendid achievements, as the Cause of God spreads in every land, as our institutions become more perfected, as the number of believers increases over the face of the planet, our individual lives must increasingly mirror forth each day the teachings of Bahá'u'lláh and we must so live our lives that all will see in us a different people. The acts we perform, the attitudes we manifest, the very words we speak should be an attraction, a magnet, drawing the sincere to the Divine Teachings.

Bahá'u'lláh tells us that prejudice in its various forms destroys the edifice of humanity. We are adjured by the Divine Messenger to eliminate all forms of prejudice from our lives. Our outer lives must show forth our beliefs. The world must see that, regardless of each passing whim or current fashion of the generality of mankind, the Bahá'í lives his life according to the tenets of his Faith. We must not allow the fear of rejection by our friends and neighbours to deter us from our goal: to live the Bahá'í life. Let us strive to blot out from our lives every last trace of prejudice — racial, religious, political, economic, national, tribal, class, cultural, and that which is based on differences of education or age. We shall be distinguished from our non-Bahá'í associates if our lives are adorned with this principle.

If we allow prejudice of any kind to manifest itself in us, we shall be guilty before God of causing a setback to the progress and real growth of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. It is incumbent upon every believer to endeavour with a fierce determination to eliminate this defect from his thoughts and acts. It is the duty of the institutions of the Faith to inculcate this principle in the hearts of the friends through every means at their disposal including summer schools, conferences, institutes and study classes.

The fundamental purpose of the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh is the realization of the organic unity of the entire human race. Bearing this glorious destiny in mind, and with entire reliance on the promises of the Blessed Beauty, we should follow His exhortation:

"We love to see you at all times consorting in amity and concord within the paradise of My good-pleasure, and to inhale from your acts the fragrance of friendliness and unity, of loving-kindness and fellowship."

13 July, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

MARTYRDOM IN THE PHILIPPINES

With feelings of deep sorrow we relate to the Bahá'í world the distressing circumstances surrounding the murder of three Iranian Bahá'í students, pioneers to the Philippine Islands.

Parváz Sádiql, Farámarz Vujdání and Parváz Furúghí were among a number of Iranian Bahá'í youth who answered the call for pioneers. With eleven others they registered at the Universities in Mindanao with the intention of completing their studies and proclaiming the Faith of Bahá'u'lláh. These three had conceived the plan of making teaching trips to a rural area inhabited by Muslims. When on July 31 the authorities of Mindanao State University were notified that they had left the campus the previous day and had not yet returned, search parties were immediately formed and the assistance of the police and local authorities obtained. After enquiries and search, led entirely by President Tamano of Mindanao State University, the bodies of the three young men were found in a shallow grave. They had been shot, grievously mutilated and two had been decapitated. The bodies were removed and given Bahá'í burial in a beautiful plot donated for the purpose.

Immediately upon receipt of the tragic news, Vicente Samaniego, Counsellor in Northeast Asia, in close cooperation with the National Spiritual Assembly of the Philippines, acted vigorously on behalf of the Bahá'ís and was given the utmost cooperation and sympathy by the authorities, police, military and civil. A convocation was called, attended by more than 900 students, faculty members and University officials. Prayers were said in English, Arabic and Persian. The President of the University gave a talk in which he said that the murdered Iranian students were not ordinary students, for with them is the Message of Bahá'u'lláh which is the way to unity. The Council of the Student Body asked that their new Social Hall be renamed Iranian Student Memorial Hall. Three thousand people marched in the funeral procession and six hundred went to the burial site to attend the interment.

A dignified burial was conducted by the Bahá'ís in the presence of University authorities and friends.

The relatives and friends of these three young men, who gave their lives in the service of the Blessed Beauty, are assured of the loving sympathy and prayers of their fellow believers. The sacrifice made by these youth adds a crown of glory to the wonderful services now being performed by Bahá'í youth throughout the world. Bahá'u'lláh Himself testifies:

"They that have forsaken their country in the path of God and subsequently ascended unto His presence, such souls shall be blessed by the Concourse on High and their names recorded by the Pen of Glory among such as have laid down their lives as martyrs in the path of God, the Help in Peril, the Self-Subsistent."

19 September, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

CONVENTION

As the Third International Convention will take place during Ridván 1973, it has been decided that next year National Conventions shall be held either on the week-end immediately before or immediately after the 23rd of May. Choice of which week-end is left to the discretion of each National Spiritual Assembly.

27 June, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

NSA NOTE:

The National Convention for the Bahá'ís of the United Kingdom will take place at EALING TOWN HALL on 19/20 May, 1973.

ARCHITECT REQUIRED

We are sure that the friends in every land will be filled with a sense of joy and gratitude at the knowledge that the time has come for the building of the seat of the Universal House of Justice upon Mount Carmel.

We wish you now to convey to the believers in your country, either through your newsletter, or in whatever way you judge appropriate, our request that any Bahá'í architect who is interested in designing this building write immediately to the Universal House of Justice submitting a curriculum vitae, samples of his or her work or of architectural concepts that would demonstrate his or her skill and capabilities, and any other information about him or herself which will aid us in determining which architect should be selected for this historic task. We wish to stress that we are not holding a competition and are not at this time asking for ideas or designs for the building itself, although any architect is free to submit whatever material he wishes if he thinks this will assist us in judging the quality of his work.

As the work required is of a particular nature that may not appeal to all architects, you should include in your announcement a statement that the building must be of a character that will harmonize with the existing edifices on Mount Carmel, namely the Shrine of the Báb and the International Archives Building and the monuments to the members of the Holy Family, and that the cubic capacity of the building will probably be somewhere in the region of 26,000 cubic metres, with a floor area of approximately 4,000 square metres.

You should also consider whether there are in your country any non-Bahá'í architects who may be interested in this project and be of the desired quality. Would you then please convey to such architects, preferably by personal interview, the nature of our needs, showing them the photographs we enclose, and suggesting that they write directly to the Universal House of Justice if they are interested.

It is hoped that the architect for this important project can be chosen without undue delay, and we shall appreciate your taking action as soon as you can.

18 June, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

NORTHERN IRELAND

We have noted the report of difficult conditions prevailing in Northern Ireland as related in your letter of August 1, and we can entirely sympathize with the feelings of frustration which must overtake the stalwart friends there when they find the people so irresponsive to the Teachings.

However, we feel they should never give up hope, for it is often in the darkest hours that the light of truth becomes most apparent. Indeed, one has only to recall the experiences of the Dawn-breakers to find reassurance.

In our own time, we remember the tremendous spread of the Faith in war-torn Vietnam, and the appeal of the Teachings to youth in lands where there has been much social upheaval.

The friends in Northern Ireland should be given every encouragement to redouble their efforts to contact those waiting souls who, finding nothing but disillusionment in the present conflict, are seeking a solution to their problems. Your National Spiritual Assembly should be prepared to send pioneers, if necessary, to maintain the five local Spiritual Assemblies there, even if they have to come from outside the British Isles, in which case you should let us know.

Please convey our warm appreciation to the friends for all they are doing to advance the Cause, and assure them of our constant prayers that divine blessings and bestowals will reward their labours.

9 August, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

RIDVÁN 1973

At Ridván 1973 we shall, God willing, witness the successful conclusion of the nine-year-long, world-encircling enterprise which inaugurated the second epoch of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan. The victorious culmination of this initial stage of the tenth part of the majestic process set in motion over six thousand years ago will prepare the way for the next stage in the series of crusades destined to achieve the penetration of the Light of God's Faith into the remaining territories of the planet and the erection of the entire machinery of Bahá'u'lláh's Administrative Order throughout the world.

On the Twelfth Day of Ridván, the members of the National Spiritual Assemblies gathered in the Holy Land for the Third International Convention will participate in the commemoration of the One Hundredth Anniversary of the Revelation of the Kitáb-i-Aqdas. To enable all believers throughout the world to share in the observance of this highly significant centenary, national and local celebrations for Bahá'ís only should be held on that day.

We call upon each community to undertake, during the period between the First Day of the Most Great Festival and the commemoration of the Declaration of the Blessed Báb, a widespread proclamation campaign which would include publicity on the completion of the Nine Year Plan and the holding of the Third International Convention at the Bahá'í World Centre in the Holy Land.

30 June, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

NSA NOTE:

Actions to implement this letter will be announced shortly.

IMPORTANT NEW ASSIGNMENT

It gives us great happiness to inform you that the Hand of the Cause Zikr'u'lláh Khadem has accepted the important assignment of collecting and maintaining records and information about Bahá'í Holy Places and historical sites throughout the world. This highly important project will assure succeeding generations of the availability of precise information concerning the buildings and places associated with the lives of the Báb, Bahá'u'lláh, 'Abdu'l-Bahá and of some great events in the early history of the Cause.

We call upon you to cooperate fully with Mr. Khadem as he sets about his task of bringing together all the pertinent documents including Tablets and, where available, photographs of the places visited or associated with the Herald, the Author, and the Exemplar of our Faith. He will be writing to you in due course requesting such information and documents as you may be able to provide.

26 July, 1972

The Universal House of Justice

BAHÁ'Í TRAVELLERS AND CREDENTIALS

Because there are many visitors travelling around in Europe, we want to remind all the National Assemblies once more of the absolute obligation to make sure that any visitor claiming to be a Bahá'í has an up-to-date credential. We must not accept any explanation for the lack of a credential, such as that it was left at home or they forgot to obtain one. They must write and get it and show it or they cannot be treated as a Bahá'í and admitted to 19-Day Feasts or be used for teaching.

Even if a married couple visit, one of whom has a credential and one has not, the one who has no credential must be treated in the above way even though the other partner who is in good standing may vouch for the Bahá'í authenticity of his companion. A credential must be seen for anyone before they are accepted. This is very important.

CONTINENTAL BOARD OF COUNSELLORS IN EUROPE
September, 1972

EDITORIAL

The National Assembly has instructed the Bahá'í Journal Committee to exercise the utmost economy in this issue in view of the shortfall in donations, which has necessitated cutting back expenditure wherever possible. International News, News from the Communities and photographs as well as various other interesting items have therefore been cut out and we apologise to those friends whose material does not appear. It is our prayer that the next issue, due to appear in December, will not be so restricted and we have set a **DEADLINE FOR MATERIAL at 15 November 1972.**

This should be sent to the Editor, Mrs Lois Hainsworth, Treen, Allerton Park, Leeds LS7 4ND.

The list of firesides and other meetings is not included with this issue, not only for the reason outlined above, but also because only thirty replies were received to the request in the last issue for details of all such meetings to be sent to the Editor. Surely there are more than thirty regular weekly or monthly meetings taking place in the United Kingdom!

Since the first great Plan of the Universal House of Justice was launched at Riqvân 1964 the armies of Bahá'u'lláh have advanced on all fronts and won amazing victories throughout the world. In the United Kingdom, although results have not been spectacular, there are many hundreds of new believers and the great majority of the Bahá'is in this country are in fact fruits of the Plan, who have come into the Cause of God since 1964.

What is the Nine Year Plan? What are the goals? What has been achieved and what remains to be done? How can I help? These are the questions still being asked by many of the new believers. The National Spiritual Assembly hopes to give answers in this article so that during these last fleeting months the prayers and efforts of the entire community may be concentrated on winning every remaining goal.

First every Bahá'í should know that the Nine Year Plan is part of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's Divine Plan, launched and directed by God's chosen instrument, the Universal House of Justice. As indicated by the beloved Guardian it is the first of a series of plans stretching out into the distant future for the eventual spiritual conquest of the entire planet. We, the privileged members of the Army of Light, are in fact helping to lay the foundation of the Kingdom of God on earth.

At the outset the Universal House of Justice set a number of goals for each of the then existing fifty-six National Spiritual Assemblies.

The tasks to be achieved by the Bahá'is of the British Isles are listed in the stirring and inspiring letter of April 1964. A copy has been inserted with this "Journal" so that each one of us can tick off from the list all the goals which have already been won and see clearly what remains to be done. For easy identification a number has been added to each item.

HOME FRONT

Achievements

1. A group has been established in the Inner Hebrides (Mull); a local Spiritual Assembly in Ryde, I.O.W. and a group in Guernsey.
2. We now have more than 500 localities.
3. The number of local Spiritual Assemblies has been raised to ninety-seven including one in each of the islands or island groups listed.
4. The process of incorporating further local Spiritual Assemblies to raise the number of thirty-four is in hand.
5. NO PROGRESS.
6. There has been a twelve-fold increase in book turn over; the work of the Trust has been expanded and centralised in Oakham where properties have been acquired.
7. Booklets have been published in Irish and Welsh.
- 8.-12. All these goals in Eire have been achieved except the incorporation of the National Spiritual Assembly which is being pursued.

Remaining Goals

1. At least one more believer is needed in the Isle of Man to form a group there.
2. The county of Tyrone in Northern Ireland is not yet opened.
3. Four Assembly goals remain, KIDDERMINSTER (7), NORTH BERWICK (6), ST. ANDREWS (7) and CRAIGAVON (6). Two lapsed local Spiritual Assemblies must be reformed, SWANSEA and SWINTON. In addition no fewer than nineteen local Assemblies have now less than nine adult members. They are CHELMSFORD, CHESTER, DERBY, SALISBURY, SHREWSBURY, SUTTON COLDFIELD, DUMBARTON, HAMILTON, LERWICK, STORNOWAY, ABERYSTWYTH, BANGOR (WALES), LLANELLI, CASTLEREAGH RD, LARNE RD, HARINGEY and HOUNSLOW. In addition Assemblies must be formed in the counties of BRECON, RADNOR and DENBIGH.
4. Incorporation of Assemblies as above.
5. Under the existing Marriage Acts there does not seem to be any way of achieving this goal at present.
6. A booklet in Gaelic is under review.

OVERSEAS GOALS

Achieved

13. We were relieved by the Universal House of Justice of responsibility for the Line Islands.
- 15.22 All these goals in the Guianas have been achieved.

During the Plan our pioneers have served or are serving in assigned overseas goals in the Balearic Islands, Cyclades, Cyprus, Faroes, Malta, Sardinia, Dahomey, The Gambia, Ghana, Malawi, Sierra Leone, S.W. Africa, Uganda, Tanzania, Fiji, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Swaziland, Hongkong, Pakistan, New Caledonia, Thailand, Trinidad and Guyana.

We have contributed £700 each towards the acquisition of Házíratu'l-Quds in Victoria, Cameroons (25) and in Blantyre/Limbe, Malawi (27). \$1000 was also contributed for the purchase of a Házíratu'l-Quds in Venezuela.

Remaining Goals

14. The community in Cyprus has gradually been built up against the background of civil strife with two fiercely opposing national factions. The Spiritual Assemblies of Famagusta (8) and Nicosia (7) are now within reach. In the Faroes, the valiant pioneers with one adult native believer (5 in all) and several youth are working vigorously but will probably need more pioneer help.

Recent reinforcements in Malta including long-term visitors who are trying to become established as permanent residents have brought the goal within sight but a constant flow of travel teachers and more pioneer help are still needed. Pioneers are still needed to fulfill our assignment in Tanzania.

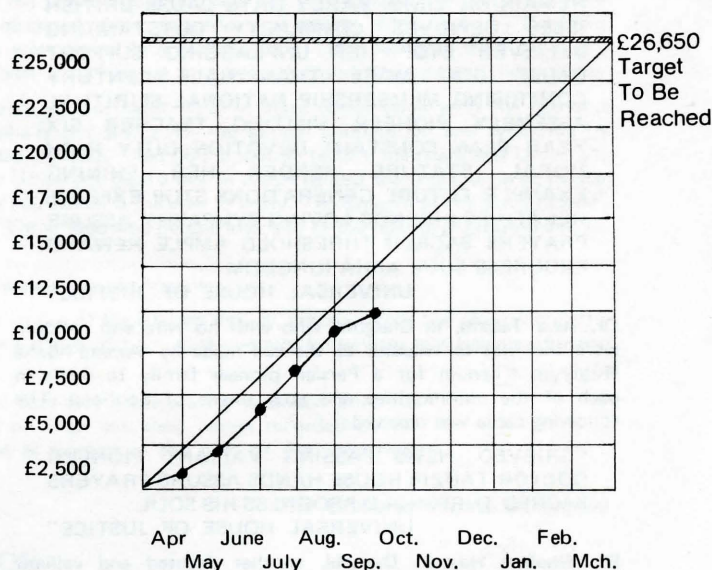
Great sacrifices have been made and great victories have been won by this community in the unfoldment of both "the vital mission at home, in their boroughs and counties whose ultimate aim is the awakening of the masses of their countrymen to the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh and their enrolment under the banner of His Cause" and in its "historic overseas mission" for which the development of the homefront "must be regarded as the base".

We see now what has to be done. The remaining local Assembly goals on the homefront must be formed swiftly, the few virgin countries opened and every gap in existing Assemblies filled without delay. Our three island goals in the Mediterranean and the North Sea demand sustained effort until they are secured. Every overseas pioneer assignment must be filled. For all these **PIONEERS AND TRAVEL TEACHERS ARE NEEDED NOW, BACKED BY THE FERVENT PRAYERS OF THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY.** It is a tradition that the British lose every battle but the last one and the stage is now set for the last great battle of the Nine Year Plan. By the grace and bounty of Bahá'u'lláh we can and must next Riqvân report to our great commanders, the Universal House of Justice, nothing less than total victory.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

LIFEBLOOD OF THE CAUSE

Rate of Contributions



Amount required from donations for the year 129	£26,650
Amount required for the period March 21–Sept. 20	£13,325
Amount donated for the period March 21–Sept. 20	£10,000

DONATION DEFICIT £3,325

Please read the graph carefully to see the amount of donation rates needed to **MAINTAIN** the flow of **LIFEBLOOD** and what is needed to **CLOSE THE GAP**.

Please send donations to Mrs Betty Goode
8 Knowle Road
Stafford 5.

OBITUARIES

With heavy hearts we sadly record the passing of our beloved colleague on the National Spiritual Assembly, **Joe Jameson**. While delivering a talk at the public meeting in the Hazratu'l-Quds on Thursday evening, September 28, during which he quoted from the HIDDEN WORDS: "I have made death a messenger of joy to thee", he suddenly collapsed and within a few minutes was dead. This grievous loss was reported immediately to the Universal House of Justice. Their answering cable was a solace to our stricken hearts:

"DEEPLY GRIEVED SUDDEN PASSING DEDICATED STALWART JOE JAMESON STOP BRITISH COMMUNITY ENRICHED HIS OUTSTANDING SELF-EFFACING SERVICES STOP EXTEND FAMILY LOVING SYMPATHY ASSURANCE PRAYERS SACRED THRESHOLD BOUNTIFUL REWARDS ABHÁ KINGDOM

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE"

He was truly one of those souls of whom it might be said was "A shining light in the firmament of his generation". The funeral took place on Wednesday, October 4, from 27 Rutland Gate and in the presence of his wife and sons, other relatives and a host of Bahá'í friends the body of our dear Joe was laid to rest in the North London Cemetery near to the grave of the beloved Guardian.

On that very day, Joe's 'spiritual father' **Dick Backwell**, who must be numbered among the greatest of Bahá'í scholars in the history of the Faith in the British Isles, died in hospital in Northern Ireland after a long illness. The Universal House of Justice sent the following cable:

"GRIEF PASSING EARLY AGE RICHARD BACKWELL GREATLY ASSUAGED TERMINATION HIS SUFFERING CONTEMPLATION DISTINGUISHED RECORD SERVICE SOUTH AMERICA BRITISH ISLES SPIRITUAL RADIANCE EVENING EARTHLY LIFE STOP EXTEND FAMILY FRIENDS LOVING SYMPATHY ASSURANCE ARDENT PRAYERS SACRED THRESHOLD PROGRESS SOUL ABHÁ KINGDOM THIS OUTSTANDING BELIEVER

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE"

In recent weeks we have suffered other grievous losses of distinguished Bahá'ís.

Mrs. Isobel Slade, in her ninety-eighth year, a steadfast outstanding believer for more than fifty years. The cable from the Universal House of Justice clearly illustrates her high station:

"PASSING ISOBEL SLADE SEVERS ONE FEW REMAINING LINKS EARLY DAYS CAUSE BRITISH ISLES DEPRIVES COMMUNITY OUTSTANDING BELIEVER STOP HER UNFLAGGING SUPPORT CAUSE GOD MORE THAN HALF CENTURY COMPRISING MEMBERSHIP NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY PIONEER VISITING TEACHER SIX YEAR PLAN CONSTANT DEVOTION DUTY HIGH MORAL STATURE RENDER HER SHINING EXAMPLE FUTURE GENERATIONS STOP EXPRESS RELATIVES FRIENDS LOVING SYMPATHY ASSURE PRAYERS SACRED THRESHOLD AMPLE REWARD PROGRESS SOUL ABHÁ KINGDOM

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE"

Dr. Aziz Tahzib, in Glasgow, who with his wife and children were the first to respond to the call made by 'Amatu'l-Bahá Rúbíyyih Khánum for a Persian pioneer family to settle in each of the communities and goal towns of Scotland. The following cable was received:

"GRIEVED NEWS PASSING VALIANT PIONEER DOCTOR TAHZIB HOUSE HANDS ASSURE PRAYERS SACRED THRESHOLD PROGRESS HIS SOUL

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE"

Dr. Gholam Hossein Davachi, another devoted and valliant servant of Bahá'u'lláh, who died at his pioneer post in North Berwick.

Mr. Harry King, for many years Treasurer and stalwart pillar of the Belfast LSA.

Mr. 'Abdu'l-Hossein Na'imi, a distinguished Bahá'í from Persia, who, shortly after arriving at London Airport on a visit, collapsed and died. He too has been laid to rest near to the grave of his beloved Guardian.

Mr. Jim Hobson of Burnley, aged only forty-eight, a firm believer of that young and vigorous community, who died suddenly on August 19.

Mr. Emil Maier, who with his wife, Stella, came to England from Austria and in his declining years joyfully enrolled under the banner of Bahá'u'lláh.

Mrs. Elise Ham, after a great deal of suffering and a long illness, died on August 13 in Cardiff. She was buried in a plot alongside the grave of Charles Dunning.

Our hearts go out in loving sympathy to all the bereaved families and friends.

Now in the Abhá Kingdom these great souls will surely radiate the light which

"... is responsible for the progress of the world and the advancement of its peoples." "These souls and symbols of detachment have provided and will continue to provide the supreme moving impulse in the whole world of being".

By their aid we can and must far surpass our assigned goals of the Nine Year Plan and advance towards that glorious future which the beloved Guardian predicted for the British Bahá'í community.

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

HUQÚQU'LLÁH

To the dear Persian friends living in the British Isles.

Mr. Salim Nounou, Huqúqu'lláh Trustee in the Continents of Europe and Africa has recently appointed **Mrs. Mary Kouchezadeh** as his representative to further the interests of Huqúqu'lláh in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. Her address is:—

Mrs. Mary Kouchezadeh,
2 Hastoe Park,
Aylesbury, Bucks.

Mr. John Long will continue to receive the contributions of Huqúqu'lláh and will issue his special receipts for them. His address is:—

Mr. John Long,
2 South Street,
Oakham, Rutland.

حقوق الله
بیطانیا
احبابی آلهن و اماه الرحمن از کشورش ایران ساکن
طبق نامه که اخرا از جناب سلیم نونو نمیده محترم حقوق
در قارات اروپا و افریقا به محفل ملی الطست و اصل برده
خانم مهر آذر کوچه زاده را به نمایندگی خویش در الطست
و امیرلند منصوب نموده اند و از این تاریخ بیدر ایشان
مشوق یا ران عزیز ایرانی ساکن جزایر بریطانیا در مورد
این فریضه و جہانگیرخواہد بود تا پیش از پیش احبابی
آلهن باین فیض اعظم ناٹل گردند و این حکم محکم کتاب
مستطاب اقدس را کہ سبب "برکت و نعمت و رفعت
و عزت بوده و بہت" اجراء نمایند.
جناب جہان لانگ امین صندوق بین المللی محفل ملی الطست
کافی السابق و مجود را دریافت داشته و رسیدہ خواهد داد