



THE UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

17 December 1984

REGRETFULLY ANNOUNCE SAD NEWS EXECUTION SIX BAHAI FRIENDS IN TIHRAN:

DR RUHULLAH TA'LIM FROM KIRMANSHAH, DR FIRUZ ATHARI, MR INAYATU'LLAH HAQIQI, MR JAMSHID PUR-USTADKAR, MR JAMAL KASHANI, MR GHULAM-HUSAYN FARHAND.

LAST FIVE PREVIOUSLY NOTIFIED TO YOU AS AMONG THOSE CONDEMNED TO DEATH. FATE OF REMAINING 19 IN BALANCE. ALL EXECUTIONS TOOK PLACE ON THE SAME DAY 9 DECEMBER. DETAILS ARE UNKNOWN AS NEITHER RELATIVES FRIENDS WERE INFORMED. FACT OF EXECUTIONS DISCOVERED EIGHT DAYS LATER.

ADVISE PUBLICISE FACTS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND INFORM AUTHORITIES. SITUATION GRAVE.

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

18 December 1984

FURTHER OUR TELEX 17 DECEMBER WE SORROWFULLY ANNOUNCE NEWS EXECUTION BY HANGING OF DR FARHAD ASDAQI ON 19 NOVEMBER AFTER FOUR MONTHS IMPRISONMENT AND TORTURE. MR DIYA'U'LLAH MANI'I-USKU'I AND MR 'ALIRIDA NIYAKAN - THESE TWO MEN DIED IN TABRIZ PRISON 13 AND 11 NOVEMBER RESPECTIVELY AFTER TWO AND A HALF YEARS IMPRISONMENT. CAUSE DEATH NOT ESTABLISHED.

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

3 January 1985

DISTRESSED INFORM YOU THAT RECENTLY IRANIAN GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCED ANOTHER OPPRESSIVE MEASURE AGAINST BAHAI FRIENDS. IN ORDER TO BE RELEASED, PRISONERS MUST SIGN FOLLOWING UNDERTAKING:

"I THE UNDERSIGNED (DETAILS OF PERSONAL STATUS INCLUDING RELIGION) UNDERTAKE NOT TO HAVE IN MY POSSESSION ANY BOOK, PAMPHLET, DOCUMENT, SYMBOL, OR PICTURE OF THIS MISGUIDED, ZIONIST, ESPIONAGE GROUP OF BAHAI'S. IF ANY OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED ARTICLES BELONGING TO THIS HATED UNDERGROUND MOVEMENT IS FOUND ON MY PERSON, OR IN MY HOME, THIS WILL BE TANTAMOUNT TO MY BEING OF THOSE 'WHO WAR AGAINST GOD' AND THE ATTORNEY-GENERAL WOULD BE FREE TO DECIDE AGAINST ME IN THE MANNER HE DEEMED FIT".

THE TERMINOLOGY 'WHO WAR AGAINST GOD' IS A TERM USED BY PRESENT REGIME TO SIGNIFY A CRIME DESERVING SENTENCE OF DEATH. BAHAI PRISONERS HAVE REFUSED SIGN SUCH AN INFAMOUS DOCUMENT FALSELY IMPUGNING THEIR FAITH. MOREOVER SIGNING SUCH A DOCUMENT WOULD LEAVE BAHAI'S OPEN TO HAVING SUCH ITEMS PLANTED ON THEIR PERSON OR IN THEIR HOMES.

WAVE RECENT ARRESTS OF BAHAI'S SUGGESTS THAT AUTHORITIES PLAN EXERT PRESSURE ALL BAHAI'S TO SIGN SUCH AN IMPOSSIBLE UNDERTAKING. OBVIOUSLY FAITHFUL FRIENDS WILL REFUSE TO SUCCUMB SUCH CONTEMPTIBLE PLAN.

WE REQUEST YOU PUBLICISE AND INFORM GOVERNMENTS OF DETERIORATING SITUATION BAHAI COMMUNITY IRAN.

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE

National Spiritual Assembly

NATIONAL SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY

At a recent National Spiritual Assembly meeting, certain decisions have been taken, which we feel will be of interest to the Community at large, and we therefore list them below for your information.

PUBLICATIONS

If the Baha'i Publishing Trust does not stock items which are published by other Trusts or agencies, the friends are free to purchase them from elsewhere, including outside the country. Moreover, the Baha'i Publishing Trust has a responsibility to publicise those books it does not stock, and inform the community where they can be obtained.

UNIVERSAL HOUSE OF JUSTICE : PLEA FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

It has been brought to our attention that while the current circumstances in Iran make it extremely difficult, if not impossible, for photographs of the persecutions to be taken by the friends, it is likely that those who fled the country may have taken out with them photographs or other graphic materials depicting the persecutions. We have been requested to inform the Baha'i refugees who have settled in our country, or who are passing through, of the need for such materials to be made available to the World Centre as soon as possible. It would be necessary for a description to accompany each photograph, including name, date, place, occasion, etc. These photographs can be sent on behalf of the donors to the National Office, which will then forward them on to the World Centre.

TO ALL TEN YEAR CRUSADE PIONEERS

The Universal House of Justice has appealed for written accounts of our Ten Year Crusade pioneers to be sent to the World Centre. The House has requested biographical information, photographs, and a sketch of their services during that period of time. Please send your material to the Universal House of Justice, and a copy to the Secretary of the International Goals Committee, Mrs. Kathy Hardy-Hemmati (address: 9 Dunlop Terrace, Penicuik, Mid Lothian).

WRITINGS OF 'ABDU'L-BAHA IN PERSIAN

A compilation of the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Baha in Persian has been published by the World Centre. With very few exceptions, the items in this volume have not been published before. The book will be available through the Baha'i Publishing Trust.

(The above 3 paragraphs will be in the Persian Page of the NEXT Journal)

WORLD DEVELOPMENT MOVEMENT

A wealth of material on development is being prepared and made available by the World Development Movement. We are bringing this to your attention as an aid for local communities who wish to organise social and economic development projects.

APATHY STEALS! DON'T LET IT STEAL YOUR VOTE Area Conventions Feb 2 & 3



CHECK YOUR DELEGATES!

CONVENTION AREA	NUMBER OF DELEGATES
1. Northern Ireland	4
2. North West Scotland	2
3. North East Scotland	2
4. East Scotland	2
5. South West Scotland	4
6. North West England	2
7. North East England	2
8. Yorkshire & Humberside	6

9a. Manchester	3
9b. Merseyside & Isle of Man	1
10. Cheshire & North Wales	3
11. South and Central Wales	5
12. West Midlands	2
13. South West Midlands	2
14. East Midlands	2
15. South East Midlands	2
16a. Cambridgeshire	2
16b. Norfolk & Suffolk	2
17a. Essex	2
17b. London East	5
18a. Central England	4
18b. London North	4
19a. West Central England	3
19b. London West	4
20. Kent & London South East	5
21a. Hampshire & Islands	3
21b. London South West	5
22. Sussex	5
23. South West England	4
24a. Devon	2
24b. Cornwall	1

PLEASE NOTE:

You must check the number of delegates for your area. For Example Area 24b has 1 delegate. The ballot paper you have been issued with has six spaces. Only vote for the correct number of delegates. Voting for an incorrect number, whether too many or too few, will invalidate your ballot. If you cannot attend your Area Convention send your ballot by post to the secretary of the host community as soon as possible. Full details on these points are given on the actual ballots themselves.

HUMAN RIGHTS pt 2

THE BAHAI DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

It was submitted by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United States and Canada, in February 1947, on behalf of all eight National Assemblies then in existence.

It is written in rather grandiose language which in parts would be improved by simplification, but it needs to be studied as it immediately points to the vital differences between the Baha'i approach and that of the United Nations Declaration.

1. Established by the title - "Obligations" before "Rights". Obligations of man to God, to society and to himself.

2. Human Rights are God-given-rights as He has endowed all mankind with qualities, virtues and powers, and that the purpose of human existence is to fulfil the possibilities of God's endowment.

3. Humanity is evolving and maturing and as new qualities unfold so the social structure must change. The national state has reached the limits of independent development and a new international order need to be born based on the wholeness of human relationships and the recognition of the oneness of mankind.

4. Prophetically it states that by delaying our response to the call to our age to unite, "we give opportunity and encouragement to subversive forces whose weapon is confusion and whose aim is chaos."

5. It states that its purpose is not to "catalogue every desirable human right" but to suggest an approach to the subject.

6. It lists seven essential human rights, three of which are left untouched in the UN declaration.

I. **The Individual** - man is a spiritual being as well as being a member of society.

II. **The Family** - while the human person is the spiritual entity of mankind, the family is the divinely created social entity. The equality of men and women is touched upon.

III. **Race** - exclusive race rights to be exchanged for the rights and privileges of a multi-racial society.

IV. **Work** - The bald "right to work" of the UN declaration contrasts most strongly with the lengthy section on "work" in the Baha'i declaration. Work in a trade, craft, art or profession is the core of a person's life, not merely the source of livelihood; it ranks as worship if done in the spirit of service; work establishes the right to a living and also gives the right to a share in the profits. When a world view predominates and world institutions are formed, the nature of international competition will change (again most prophetic). World peace is a first step to a sound economy.

V. **Education** - the purpose is defined as also is the role of the prophets as universal educators. The whole man should be the object of education and education is continuous throughout life. It states: "Systems producing rigidly moulded attitudes....can no longer claim to be educational."

VI. **Worship** - Article 18 of the UN declaration deals with the right to freedom of religion, to change one's religion and to manifest it in "teaching, practice, worship and observance." The Baha'i concept goes far beyond that and brings in loyalty to mankind and the devotion to the cause of world unity. It mentions progressive revelation and concludes that world order is only the administrative aspect of

brotherhood, and just as a man has a right to a social order, he also has the right to a world faith.

VII. **World Order** - is also treated as a fundamental right and it is an obligation of humanity to form such an order. Federal world government and it states that "until world citizenship is guaranteed.... human rights.... developed in the past are undermined by the disruption of modern society". However, governments have a right to loyalty and obedience except when they "interfere in the individual's faith in God and His prophets. Its final paragraph uses the words and ideas given by Shoghi Effendi in his "World Order" letters.

BAHA'IS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

When we examine closely the developments which have taken place in the world in the 36 years since the UN declaration, we must marvel at the enormous advances which have been made, particularly in comparison with the slow, slow progress of the past 4,000 years. since 1948 there have been no fewer than 22 conventions or Covenants adopted, 13 declarations made, and 11 major international conferences held, all on human rights issues. 121 states have ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination; 96 for the Slavery Supplementary Convention, 92 for the Status of Refugees and 80 for the Covenant of Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Even so, the activists in these fields are impatient with the tardiness of some countries, and frequently there is an outburst in the media when some area or people suffer from an obvious denial of basic human rights and freedoms.

Few people however, pause to ask why it is that so much progress has been made in such a relatively short time in human history. The changes have been revolutionary rather than evolutionary, and there must be a reason.

As Baha'is, we believe it to be the release of the spirit flowing through Baha'u'llah as God's Manifestation for today, and the immense speed up in all forms of development as well as in the universal recognition of human rights, is due to mankind's coming of age.

With this knowledge and with our dedication to the call of Baha'u'llah, we continually seek to be in the vanguard of progress, responding to the guidance of Shoghi effendi, continued by the Universal House of Justice and supported by the work of the Baha'i International Community, the Baha'i world has given its full support to the United Nations, particularly in the field of human rights.

We have, in spite of the differences of emphasis we give to the subject, observed Human Rights Day, been very involved in Human Rights Year (1968) and are now in the United Kingdom seeking, during the International Youth Year, to promulgate the Universal declaration, stress its provisions, and make all young people aware of its existence and importance as a common standard for all mankind.

While falling short of the higher standard given to us by Baha'u'llah, while failing to emphasise the greater spiritual needs of man, while being restricted by its purely national application among the UN member states and while it cannot be fully implemented even in its present form until the Lesser Peace is established, it is still a giant step forward and should be seen as such by all mankind.

In our efforts to get it to the attention of all schools throughout the United Kingdom, we shall need to work hard and tirelessly, to seek the cooperation of others sympathetic to the plan and to inspire other organisations to support the project. This in itself will be a worthwhile and very challenging

campaign for all our youth but more than this, it will help us all realise the wider issues involved, to see the greater vision of our Faith, to become more aware of the fundamental verities of the Cause, to be introduced to new facets in our Scripture and to develop a growing awareness of just how much Baha'u'llah, in the words of the Universal house of Justice, "repeatedly and variously declared the 'progress of the world' and the 'development of nations' as being among the ordinances of God for this day".

It will also, God willing, bring us into contact with many more people, who, like ourselves, realise that there is much to be desired in the present-day approach to human rights and who will, when hearing of Baha'ullah's "Call to the Nations" respond in a positive way.

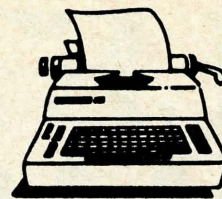
Phillip Hainsworth



No material received after this date can be considered for inclusion in the next issue.

The Thomas Breakwell School is urgently seeking a qualified infant teacher with at least three year's experience to take its class of 5-7 year olds. The classes are held every Sunday 10.00 - 12.00 during term time. Please contact the Director of the school, c/o the Baha'i Journal should you be interested.

From the Editor



Allah'u'Abha!

Dear Baha'i Friends,

In this issue we draw the friends' attention to the inauguration of the International Youth Year. It is our chance to make a great impact.

It is also necessary to remind the Friends that we **cannot** deal with items of news regarding births, marriages, deaths and declarations. These should all be sent **directly** to the Department of Records at the National Office. We can only print what they give us. Please help us to avoid disappointing you.

An apology must go to the Thomas Breakwell Baha'i School whose name disappeared from the article about it in the previous issue.

Thanks must go to Ramin Habibi once again for the loan of his printer (we should be back to normal for the next issue) and for the late night services of Hilary Freeman and Shiva Shirinzadeh Finch who did a great deal of the typing at short notice. Finally our thanks to all those believers who take the time to write out their contributions and send them in.

A happy New Youth Year to you all!

THE EDITOR

The Baha'i Journal is published monthly by the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United Kingdom, and printed by Headley Brothers Ltd, Invicta Press, Queens Rd, Ashford, Kent.

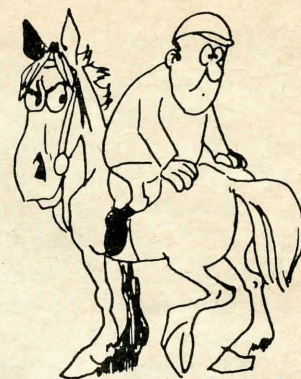
Copies are distributed free of charge to all Baha'i homes in the United Kingdom.

The Baha'i Journal is for circulation amongst Baha'is only.

All material should be sent, before the deadline, to the Editor, Baha'i Journal, 27 Rutland Gate, London SW7 1PD.

LET'S GO RACING!

Greetings to everybody everywhere from the N.T.C.!



In the last Journal we enjoyed a humorous article on "American Football" - at least, we hope you enjoyed it as much as we did. So, continuing in a sporting style, herewith the N.T.C's contribution...

"THE RACING PAGE"

(Horse Racing Commentary)...

Racing at Rutland Gate:

THE UNITED KINGDOM VICTORY STAKES

All races run over 23 furlongs (months), with only 15 furlongs to go and the halfway point at 12 furlongs (Ridvan 1985).

2 o'clock The South of England Challenge Cup

Line up: 6 horses in the field.

No. 21A Hants and Wight This horse is carrying rather a lot of weight with 7 goals and only 5 LSAs, plus a small handicap with a modest water jump! Nevertheless going courageously in spite of the need for some encouragement from the stands.

No. 21C Channel Islands Rather an 'outsider' with a considerable handicap needing steady support from outside. Exciting news of a pioneer couple trying hard for Jersey (the goal) will put this horse on the road to victory. One more couple, and a steady input of teaching teams during the coming summer months should make this horse a winner.

No. 23 West of England Carrying by far the most weight with 9 goals including 4 unopened districts, handicapped with one LSA currently under numbers and a large area (4 counties) to cover. Since Area Teaching Conference, No. 23 has been picking up valiantly. Maintaining the fine spirit, this horse could well surprise us all, especially if some more help from outside could be forthcoming.

No. 24A Devon Maintaining a steady gallop and a fine spirit, placed about the middle of the field, but with a pioneer due to move into the unopened district any minute, the 4 LSAs striving for the 4 goals present a balanced and united front for the race to victory.

No. 24B Cornwall Coming up fast on the far side to challenge Sussex for the 'all goals achieved'! May well overtake at the halfway post when a lapsed assembly (Restormel) joins the running. It will be neck and neck to see which of these two lead the remaining 12 furlongs to the winning post.

2.30

The Northern Ireland Community Trophy

No.1

This is a difficult race with special handicaps, but with a truly wonderful manpower in the saddle. Situation at the 15 furlong post (Jan. 1985) shows some formidable hurdles still to be jumped as 9 LSAs chase 10 goals plus 3 LSAs under numbers! It means going flat out without flagging to pass that winning post, and help from the stands would surely be greatly appreciated, plus some powerful injections of prayers regularly and often.

3 o'clock

Eastern Counties Handicap

Line-up of 4 horses:

No. 16A

Cambridgeshire Leading the field with all goals achieved and only needing to maintain its place to the winning post. Nevertheless, to make this race a total victory, LSAs in 16A should be looking out to lend some dynamic support to the other horses racing.

No. 16B

East Anglia Over on the far side of the course, carries quite a handicap over a wide area. Nevertheless 5 LSAs with only 5 goals to achieve, and outside support from lucky Cambridgeshire and the news of pioneers moving into Suffolk Coastal and Mid Suffolk should make this race a walkover for this horse.

No. 14

East Midlands This horse has a most daunting handicap - 23 districts in 3 large counties, and only 4 LSAs in the saddle! Goals include 3 assemblies and 6 unopened districts, plus a very wide area to cover. Definitely this horse is a priority for help from outside, including special doses of prayers at regular intervals and frequent teaching visits. Nevertheless, a fine spirit prevails and there has been some noteworthy motion during the past few months, with more planned in the near future.

No. 15

South East Midlands This horse is also carrying some considerable weight - 6 goals to achieve including 1 assembly and 3 unopened districts. However 5 LSAs spread throughout the area achieve a balance which hopefully will maintain an increasing pace of activity to the winning post.

3.30

The Welsh and West Midlands Hurdles

This is a truly strenuous race for the line up of 4 horses, over very rough ground indeed. The going is hard and gruelling right up to the very last furlong in spite of the advantage of a fine set of Motorways and outstanding coastal and mountain scenery to entice pioneers.

No. 10

Cheshire & North Wales Currently leading the field, although still with 7 goals to achieve of which 3 are unopened districts. Exciting news, though: Congleton may be opened at last, soon! Also with 12 districts to maintain over a mountainous terrain. A strict diet of prayer has done a lot to get this horse into a fine

position to win, together with a lot of of nutritious 'spiritualisation' plus 'intensified personal teaching' as the number of recent declarations testifies.

No. 12 West Midlands Running next to No. 10 this horse is rather heavily handicapped, with only 2 LSAs, and with 8 goals to achieve, including 4 unopened districts and 3 assemblies distributed over a wide area of both solid industrial and wild rural terrain. There has been some good steady movement in the right direction in the last 2 furlongs which strengthened one community and formed a new group (Sandwel). This fine spirit may well carry it over the remaining hurdles, nevertheless this horse needs every support from the stands to win the day.

No. 13 S.W. Midlands Very similar to No. 12, covering an even larger area of 3 counties +, this horse suffered a setback when a district was left unopened, adding to the already impressive handicap of 7 goals to achieve. The good news is that a pioneer couple are about to move into a lapsed county assembly goal. Hopefully the Area Convention will help this horse to put a spurt on and get the momentum increased over the remaining 15 furlongs.

No. 11 Central & South Wales Over on the far side of the field, this horse has not been having an easy time until now, and has by far the heaviest handicap - 12 goals to achieve! However, the manpower is there, and with a bit more movement, miracles can still be expected. As it is, at least one lapsed Assembly (Rhondda) will join the running at the halfway post, with another (Monmouth) in the offing as a bonus. News of a declaration in an unopened district will get this mount over yet another hurdle. Urgent help is needed in the Aberystwyth region to save an assembly.

4 o'clock The Scottish Thistle Challenge Cup

Like the 3.30. this is a handicap race over mountainous terrain with some formidable water jumps to be taken into consideration. There are 4 horses in the line-up:

No. 2 Highlands & Islands With 3 LSAs staunchly striving for 2 more assemblies and 2 unopened districts, this horse has suffered one or two setbacks in the past few months, but the fine spirit prevailing should maintain and even build up a good momentum to the finishing post.

No. 3 N.E. Scotland & Shetlands With only one goal to achieve at this stage of the race, and fine recent activity in the goal area, and 5 LSAs standing by for input, this horse should get to the winning post without difficulty.

No. 4 East Scotland With 3 LSAs plus another presently under numbers, the 3 group goals still to be won have been given movement in the right direction with 3 sets of pioneers recently moving in. With such staunch manpower in the saddle, the race should be a walk-over.

No. 5 S.W. Scotland This horse responded magnificently in the opening furlongs of the race and quickly established a

new assembly (Kilmarnock). Nevertheless, this horse has more weight to carry than any other in this race: 6 goals including 3 unopened districts, and an LSA currently under numbers. However, with 9 LSAs going flat out for the remaining furlongs, and maintaining the good spirit in spite of special handicaps, the outlook is positive for complete victory in the last lap.

4.30

The Northern Counties Trophy

All mounts in this race have over 20 districts to cope with, and individual handicaps which make the running anybody's win. Only 3 horses in the line-up:

No. 6

North West England With a top end (Cumbria) spread over a wide area, and the south end (Lancashire) carrying all the weight of goals, it is obvious that the majority of activity will need the best possible support from the 4 LSAs nearest to the work area, plus some travel teaching teams from outside. However, with some well co-ordinated movement in the right direction, the hurdles should not be insurmountable.

No. 7

North East England In spite of the shortage of manpower in the saddle (3 LSAs only), this horse is facing up to the challenge in fine spirit - and what a challenge! One county goal (Middlesbrough) needing special support, 4 groups and no less than 6 unopened districts! Definitely needing every support from outside during the remaining furlongs of the race.

No. 8

Yorkshire & Humberside Deceptively the race for this mount is widespread over 4 counties, with the manpower in the south-west and the goals in the east. Handicaps include 3 of the 11 LSAs under number and 9 goals to achieve! NOT a walkover, but the very fine 'DATADAY' newsletter is spurring on the activity, and a fine spirit of confidence in the victorious outcome of the race prevails.

5 o'clock

At last! The race you have all been waiting for. Your bets (prayers) please, for

The London & Manchester Tandem Handicap

By far the largest line up, no less than 10 horses running, all of them in double harness. The stakes are high, and, at this time it could be anybody's race:

Nos. 9A & B:

Manchester & Merseyside On the far north of the field, these two mounts are getting it together nicely and may well lead the field due to the compact area. Manpower just a little bit sleepy so far and some consolidation of the gains will be needed with, perhaps, a bit more "Universal Participation" and this horse should reach the winning post in fine style.

Nos. 17A & B:

Essex & London East Plenty of movement here in Essex but perhaps a little more movement needed in B which is sadly limping with 3 LSAs under numbers. Needs to make a bit more use of the excellent travel facilities to get this couple going well together to the finishing post.

With 4 goals and a handicap of 5 LSAs under numbers, in spite of plenty of manpower, this pair have no cause to be complacent.

Nos. 18A & B: Central England & London North This pair are going very well indeed, co-ordinating beautifully and are a pleasure to watch. Nevertheless, there are handicaps (2 LSAs under numbers and still a lot of weight to carry with 4 new assemblies to form, plus 2 groups and a lapsed assembly to re-establish. Again, there is no room to rest and take it easy.

Nos. 19A & B: West London, Oxon & Berks This pair got away to an excellent start ahead of the field, with one new LSA (Hillingdon) doubling its numbers at the seventh furlong! With all the goals in A, this horse is the most energetic of the two, and some sustained support from West London is now necessary to win the day.

No. 20 Kent & London S.E.

No. this horse does not look like a pair but this and the next, 21B, are in the same situation as the others, and the deceptive situation indicates that more co-ordination is needed between the town and country interaction. Alas, Kent not only has nine goals to strive for but a handicap of one LSA under numbers (Sevenoaks). But the good news is that one unopened district (Gillingham) may soon be opened again. A revitalizing Area Convention, plus regular doses of the excellent Area Newsletter, should pick up the momentum and get this race well in hand.

No. 21B Surry & London S.W. With only 4 goals to achieve and one lapsed assembly (Sutton) due to join the running again at the halfway post, this horse should have no difficulty in passing the winning post with flying colours. Handicaps, however, include an LSA currently under numbers (Waverley), and a major handicap in that this is the 'twin' of No. 21A which ran in the two o'clock, and so some precious energy will need to be consecrated to ensuring that both reach the end of the race in style. More assistance from the large communities in London S.W. will be needed to help with the race.

The N.T.C. plans to give up-date reports on the progress of this race at intervals of 2-3 months, and the next 2 'furlongs' should make it very exciting as we come up to the halfway post at Ridvan 1985. We all know that we are encouraged to vie with each other when teaching the Faith, so Gee-Up and Tally Ho"... Each One Teach One!!

This article replaces our usual "In Concert" news-sheet this month, so we leave you with this quotation from a letter written on behalf of the Guardian, Shoghi Effendi:

"... The Baha'is are the leaven of God, which must leaven the lump of their nation. In direct ratio to their success will be the protection vouchsafed, not only to them but to their country. These are the immutable laws of God, from which there is no escape: 'for unto whomsoever much is given, of him shall be much required'"

- The Gift of Teaching, p.36

Children's Page

Dear Children, Are you happy? I hope so! 'Abdu'l-Bahá always asked the people He met if they were happy. There are many ways that we can be happy ourselves and bring happiness to others ~ one way is to be helpful and serve our friends and families.

Bahá'u'lláh says that service to God is especially important and that serving others is praising God.

If we look at the life of 'Abdu'l-Bahá we can see straight away how we should try to conduct our lives. Service to God, to Bahá'u'lláh, to family, friends and enemies was the pattern of 'Abdu'l-Bahá's life.

The poem on this page tells of how we can all serve the Faith, even in a very small way, even if we think we're too shy or not clever enough or too young.

'Abdu'l-Bahá says that everyone can serve!

'Service'

We're talking in our Feast today —
Making plans, my parents say,
Thinking of what we can do
To tell the world our Faith is true.

Mrs. Brown says she will give
A talk about the way we live,
And Paul and John are going to sing
About the love our Faith can bring.

All say that they'll do what they can
To bring the Faith to every man —
But what can I do? What of me?
Not much, as far as I can see!

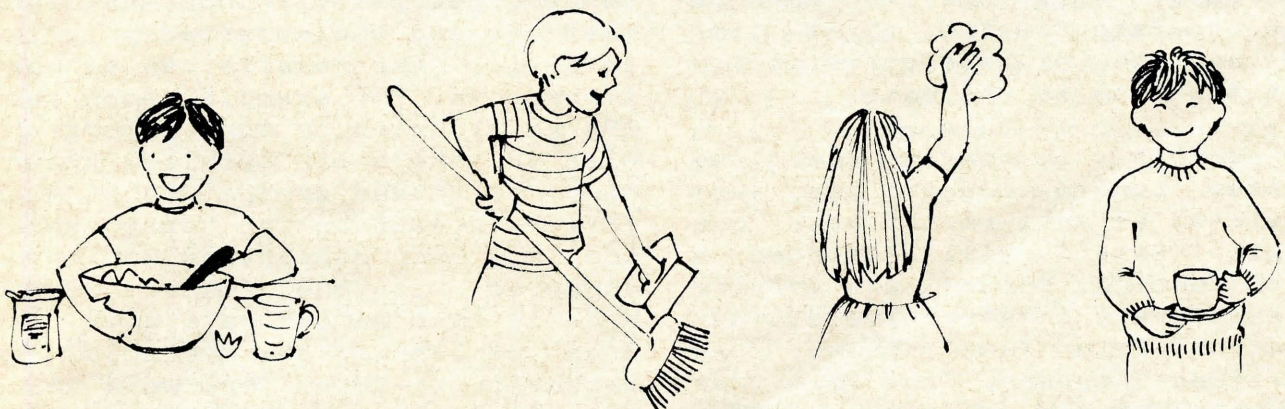
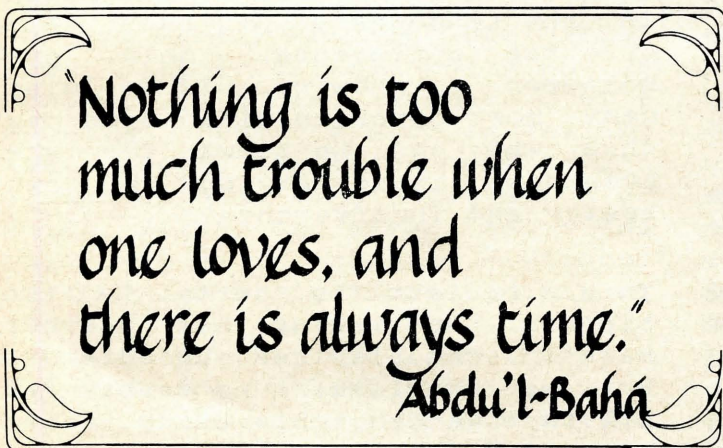
I'd give a talk, but I'm shy and small
And I can't play guitar at all;
It isn't fair — what can I do?
I'd love to help — I wish I knew.

Oh! Now, what's this I see,
All kindly faces turned to me!
My father says — 'What will you do?'
Oh, I don't know at all — do you?

We can all do something, however small
He says, it isn't very hard at all,
We know just what you can do —
Bahá'ís in your school are so few.

So ask your teacher if you please,
If your class can say prayers for peace,
And tell her that we'll say some too
As all Bahá'ís in the world will do.

Yes! Something helpful for me to do —
We all should help while we're so few
And Bahá'u'lláh is so happy to know
We play our part to help His Faith grow.



PROJECT THE FAITH INTO THE PUBLIC EYE

Without doubt the Project for the International Youth Year is the single most important project that the United Kingdom Baha'i community has undertaken in recent years, perhaps ever.

Yet this project, to acquaint all the secondary school youth in the country with the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, is not primarily a Baha'i project. So why is it so important?

One of the benefits that the community will gain from this exercise is the publicity that the project can generate. Already there have been several newspaper reports. This month's cover is similar to an advertisement that is appearing in RE News and Views, a magazine for Religious Education teachers throughout the country, which is sent to every school in England and Wales. In the International Youth Year magazine, a report has already appeared outlining the Baha'i project, and conveying the enthusiasm the committee felt towards it. As time progresses, more and more organisations, both youth and otherwise, will meet the Baha'is face to face for the first time and see the valuable contribution that the Baha'is can make.

For example, in London, where the Greater London Council has just completed an anti-racist year one single Baha'i girl attended a youth meeting. Following a morning of relatively constructive discussion a film was shown. As sometimes happens, the film was terrible, it was decidedly racist-but anti-white and anti-police, to such an extent that the youth

there began to boo the police every time they appeared on the screen. Whatever constructive work had been achieved during the morning session was destroyed by this film. The conference would have been a waste of time, and indeed would have worked against the whole idea of the conference. However, an opportunity was given for questions and comments from the floor. Among the first to speak was this one Baha'i. She pointed out that the film was racist - that it was anti-white, which made most stop and think for she is very dark skinned. She went on to point out that the film was also biased against the police, which could only worsen the situation. Following these points the discussion became more constructive and the atmosphere became more relaxed and tensions eased.

This is an excellent example of how just one Baha'i can affect many. The saddest thing about this conference was the fact that although many of the Baha'i youth in the London area had been told of the conference, only one bothered to show up. If we miss many more opportunities such as this who can we blame for the breakdown in society but our own apathy and indifference?

This project is certainly the biggest undertaking that the UK Baha'i community has undertaken. But we should have no doubts at all that we can achieve our goal. When the Baha'is throughout this country get going, know what they must do and wholeheartedly arise to do it, the results can be most impressive. For example, each year MPs get lobbied by many groups who wish to make their opinions known. Many of these groups have much larger resources to draw upon. Look how many supporters CND have, compared to the few thousand Baha'is that we can call upon. Yet when we lobbied the MPs about the situation in Iran, MPs were heard to remark that they had never seen such effective lobbying! So it is not merely "by the force of

numbers" that we shall succeed, but by our spirit and resolve.

Perhaps the most radical aspect of the project is the fact that we are **not** promoting the Baha'i Faith. The pamphlet which comes with (not in) the schools information pack is there to be offered as information about the Faith should the school want it. The rest of the material is what is the most important. Communities have been asked to reproduce the Declaration of Human Rights not the Baha'i pamphlet. Inside the declaration schools are told where to get more information on the Baha'i project, not the Faith itself.

Why is this? Surely we should be more concerned with spreading the message of the Faith and telling people what Baha'u'llah has written, not some committee of United Nations lawyers or whatever. We cannot hope to get the same response from schools if we are merely telling them about some strange eastern religion as we will, indeed already have received from the schools telling them about something which can affect us all. The Declaration of Human Rights can offer something which the Faith cannot, (without further investigation and lack of bias) it can capture the imagination of teachers who can immediately see its values. It has many Baha'i ideals incorporated within it, as you can see from the article elsewhere in this issue, so all is not wasted!

By undertaking this project the Faith is promoting itself, not as a religious sect seeking converts but as a humanitarian body actively seeking the betterment of society. The faith will come to the attention of other groups and organisations who may share similar ideals, and thus wish to find out more about the Faith. The proclamation opportunities are literally endless. But we must be ready to seize our chances and put

forward the Baha'i point of view. There is no doubt, and this cannot be stressed enough, that the year which lies ahead of us is the most important year that the Baha'i youth in this country, indeed the world, have yet faced. It is incumbent that the youth are not left to "do their own thing" by those, no longer youth, who have tended to run the affairs of the youth in the past. The youth must bear the brunt of the burden, but they must be supported by the entire community. This year will be a test for the entire community, we must prove ourselves to be a team. American football strikes again!

In undertaking this mammoth project the Baha'i youth, for it is on their shoulders that the brunt of the burden shall fall, must arise, dedicate, organise and commit themselves as never before. How many times have we heard the voices, crying out at our National Convention, our Teaching Conference and even in our assembly meetings that it is the youth who must be at the spearhead, that it is the youth who must use their boundless energy and zeal for the Faith? And yet, how many times have we seen the responsibilities shouldered by the more "adult" members of the community, with the youth pushed into second place, to act almost as cannon fodder, merely providing the manpower whilst others call the plays? Now, without doubt it is the youth who must call the play, it is the junior members of our community who must lead the senior ones. The catchphrase and motto of this year is "Youth can move the world" and it is up to the youth to prove this, to themselves as well as to other members of the Baha'i community and to their peers.

Perhaps in the future, Baha'is studying the growth of the Faith in this country, will look back on this year and quote another figure, who had the same energy, that the Baha'i youth must now show.... "Never.. has so much been owed by so many to so few".

New Parliamentary Debate

In obedience to the National Assembly's call to local Baha'is to contact their MPs after the last general election and remind, or inform, them of the continuing plight of the Baha'is in Iran, the Baha'is in the district of Daventry contacted their MP, Mr Roger Freeman, who is also the representative of Kettering. Together with other local Baha'is they were able to meet with him on three different occasions and he agreed to ask for an adjournment debate on their behalf. He then set about, with his researchers, investigating the Faith and the situation. On Wednesday 19 December after nine consecutive attempts he was given a cancellation for the penultimate debate on the last day of parliament before the Christmas recess. The debate was set for 2pm on Friday 21st December, and his secretary informed the National Office and the Daventry Baha'is.

Early on Friday morning two carloads of Baha'is set out from the area for London and the House of Commons. Before the debate, Roger Freeman met the Baha'is in the central lobby of the House and gave them a guided tour before they went into the public gallery where three members of the National Assembly were waiting for the Debate to begin.

After the debate the Baha'is again met Mr Freeman to thank him before setting off for home. The two main Northamptonshire papers carried lengthy reports of the debate submitted by Mr Freeman's office. The debate was also mentioned in "Today in Parliament" or Radio Four.

The following are extracts from the Hansard covering the debate:

Mr. Roger Freeman (Kettering):

While the persecution increases, the Government should increase their pressure on Iran. Full advantage should be taken of the recent improvement in relations between the two countries—an improvement which I wholeheartedly welcome. Regrettably, the openings for

such action may be limited. The House will realise the many limitations upon direct pressure and persuasion, but the Government should continue to pursue this matter within the forum of international organisations.

The opportunity exists for the Government to exploit the thaw in relations for the good of the Baha'i. Those who are suffering in Iran, and those in my constituency, other constituencies and throughout the world, who live in constant fear for the lives of their families and friends in Iran, beg the Government to do all that they can and to use all their goodwill and muscle, directly and indirectly through international organisations, for the sake of the Baha'i community in Iran.

2.12 pm

The Minister of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Mr. Richard Luce): My hon. Friend the Member for Kettering (Mr. Freeman) has done the House a service by raising this important matter, and I congratulate him warmly on the great deal of thought that he has put into the issue and on the knowledge that he has displayed of the plight of the Baha'i people in Iran. I assure him that I listened carefully to his views.

This matter causes the Government much concern. Indeed, they have taken several positive steps to try to help the Baha'i community in Iran, and I shall describe some of those steps in a moment. My hon. Friend echoed the disquiet that has been expressed by many hon. Members for many months, if not years. I have received many letters from hon. Members expressing anxiety on behalf of their constituents about the position of the Baha'i community in Iran. I will go further and say that I maintain close contact with representatives of the Baha'i community in the United Kingdom. Only yesterday I met the Secretary of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of the United Kingdom, Mrs. Hardy, who also visited me in 1983 to express her worries about the Baha'i community in Iran. The assembly in this country keep me and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office officials carefully briefed about developments there and their own anxieties—above all, about the imposition of the death penalty on many Baha'is. I can assure my hon. Friend that we shall continue to keep in very close touch with the leaders of the community in this country.

As for Iran, one of several countries in which human rights abuses cause us great concern, the Baha'i community is subject to real and particular suffering. Our overriding concern as a Government, and that of my hon. Friend, is the safety and well-being of those to whom we are trying to give help. We must never at any stage do anything that we believe might jeopardise their prospects. Western representations on behalf of the Baha'i community have, on occasions, served only to strengthen Iranian feelings against the Baha'is. Britain is not the country best placed to make bilateral representations on behalf of the Baha'is. Our historical involvement in Iran is an important factor that militates against our success in this matter at the moment. We must take care not to take action which is counter-productive. I am sure that my hon. Friend would agree with that.

Equally, we shall not be afraid to voice concern and disquiet where that is necessary, appropriate and helpful. Against that background, in general, our best approach on the issue is to act in concert with our partners in the Ten

and to couple that with action in international forums. A good deal has been done in both those respects.

I shall consider carefully the other points made by my hon. Friend. The plight of the Baha'is is a matter of legitimate international concern, and Her Majesty's Government will continue to take whatever action we judge to be the most helpful in partnership with the international community. I assure my hon. Friend that the anxieties of the Baha'i community will remain a matter of deep concern to my right hon. and learned Friend the Foreign Secretary and myself in the coming months.

The Pinnacle Called 2 O'Clock Friday

On the dark side of the moon I had managed to scramble out of my cave. A vague feeling in my bones that there was something more than the darkness and damp - cramping and confining - which had so long malformed the limbs and dulled the eyes. Conditioned to move in a small dark space.

At times drawn to turn towards the cave entrance, there had been a faint detection of a clearer air with an indefinable something of a strange beauty - and I unaware of what beauty was. But drawing, drawing me as though some point within me was tethered to something far away, and pulled taut by distance, it tugged me outwards, upwards.

Then slowly, threading the labyrinths, arrival into the air of freshness and comfortable dryness, standing upright in its loving ambience. The indefinable beauty was warmth; I breathed it in, it warmed my skin, and I rested in its comfort.

Then again the gentle but insistent tugging on that inner thread; its length had been shortened, and the cave was now out of distance. I must now move towards the source of this beauty. From out the dim light strong helping hands, steadying and pulling me upwards, ever onward, into strong mountain air, and now a peak outlined ahead against a new bright haze.

The tugging on the thread so continuous now, and shoulders of

strength offered to a tired pilgrim so long on the way, in love and caring. Then, in the supreme silence of that highest peak, steadied by one hand at my back I was bidden to fly into the light. One hand, one word at the point of change, and lo, Baha'i birth.

Eyes open, I could see that they had come from near and far to be a gathering of lanterns; a great light, and strength supportive in this new atmosphere; creating the vibrant and luminous air for all future life of the glorious beings to come as God's work unfolds in man.

Having reached this point I am looking back with love and gratitude to the whole of work of creation, and in these last weeks to Ruth, Cyrus, Heather, Julian and Vivian.

Ruth Molloy (on her declaration)

Los Angeles History Conference

The second Los Angeles Baha'i History Conference was successfully held this summer (30 August - 2 September). After a keynote speech by Dr Jalil Mahmoudi on the relationship between Sociology and History, the conference dealt with three substantive areas of Baha'i History (the Middle East, the West, and the Third World). There were also panel presentations on Baha'i Studies methodology, archives and libraries, literature, philosophy and theology.

A total of 19 papers were received or presented. Participants came from various parts of the United States, Honduras, Britain, and Haifa. It is intended to publish several of the papers, and a further conference is planned for next year.

Dr Peter Smith

A TRIBUTE TO IAN MELLIN
A truly courageous soul of Baha'u'llah
who was killed by a car on 2 March 1984

I remember you, O holy soul of God,
Your half ounce of tobacco accompanying you everywhere you trod;
The fire of your beautiful heart, blazing wherever you went.
Now your earthly existence and heavenly love is spent.

Your face was not the handsomest face that God did create,
But to love Him and serve Him was to be your earthly fate.
I remember how that you did travel on your own for miles,
And I always knew in my heart that it was for the Angels you smiled.

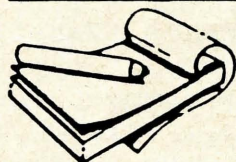
How proud this country should be
Of your dedicated service to God and humanity!
I thank and praise God that I could know you in this time,
And the heavenly realms we shared, yours and mine.

If ever you may look down from the Kingdom above,
Please know I remember you, O soldier of His Love.
I shall always remember your strong lion spirit that you left behind,
For you are unique and there are few of your kind.

The suffering you had you did confide in me,
Please know it was my honour and shall always be -
The death of your wife and your young child -
When I looked up through my tears, it was you who smiled.

There will always be a space in my heart for you,
And I know that you were one of the chosen few.
How Baha'u'llah is waiting with His arms open wide:
For you are His true servant, and forever with Him will you abide.

Eleanor F. Culver



Please Note

The National Assembly would be grateful if any of the believers could make any helpful suggestions regarding making reductions in the costs of auditing the accounts of incorporated Local Assemblies.

The Thomas Breakwell Baha'i School (see "Back to School" in last issue) announces a nationwide competition, open to Baha'is of all ages, to choose the best logo and motto for the school.

Suggestions and artwork, along with name, sex, age (if under 21), and address should be sent to the school, c/o the Baha'i Journal, by April 21 at the latest.

A NEW TEACHING VIDEO

"The Earth is but One Country" (an introduction to the Baha'i Faith)
28 mins.

For sale to individuals and Baha'i communities at cost: £7.20 from the NTC office or 40p extra for post & packing. Available in VHS and Betamax (please specify)

This video is for use as a teaching aid in firesides, and is especially useful for showing in schools, clubs, colleges etc.

This video is the first of its kind to be produced in the United Kingdom and is a useful and dignified production. It was launched at the National Teaching Conference following approval by the National Assembly, and has already been used in schools with very good results.

Community News



LONDONDERRY

The nearest Local Assembly to that of Londonderry is in the town of Letterkenny across the border in County Donegal.

As a piece of practical co-operation between the North and South of Ireland, children of the two communities are attending the same Baha'i class every second sunday.

This is but one example of the growing relationship between the two Assemblies.

VALE ROYAL

During National Baha'i Week, Baha'is from Vale Royal (Cheshire) met the Chairman of the district council, and presented him with a framed quotation on "Consultation" written in copperplate and illustrated with pressed, dried flowers. The Chairman was very impressed with the quotation and said that he would display it where all the councillors could read it.

He, in turn, presented a tie and a pen to the Baha'is, and was pleased to accept literature on the Faith and the persecutions in Iran during the pleasant visit when many questions were asked.

TAMWORTH

The Tamworth group recently presented a book to the Mayor and Mayoress. The Mayoral couple gave a friendly, unhurried audience to two of the Baha'i group, expressed

sympathy for the persecuted Baha'is of Iran and commented that the Borough Council investigated the faith before approving its inclusion in the list of approved local religious organisations.

When published the list will be freely available in libraries, council offices etc. This results in valuable publicity and is free of charge.

The local MP is kept in touch with events in Iran by way of the bulletins issued by the National Assembly which are handed to him at his local committee rooms. He too has expressed his sympathy and gratitude at being kept informed, especially as he was in Iran some years ago.

DUNDEE

This community have entered a number of projects which may be useful to other communities.

The community was fortunate to be part of the forndation of a new Sharing of Faiths group in the city and have joined with Christians, Hindus, Jews, Sikhs and Moslems in producing an exhibition to show the many hopes and attitudes that the different Faiths share. Visits to the different services of worship are planned.

The community is promoting a "One World Cookbook" with recipies donated by friends from many culinary traditions. Proceed will go to the Fund.

With the aim of attracting more enquirers the Dundee Baha'is joined with other Baha'i communities in promoting a large, inter-community advertisement for National Baha'i Week. By virtue of uniting in this venture more space could be afforded than by one group, and pioneer groups were included at very little cost. As a result of this Dundee now has three new enquirers.

To attract more discussion the

community has also started a book group which meets regularly, choosing a different Baha'i book for all members to read each time.

The community is also active in inter-community deepenings, held in different surroundings each month. There is little doubt in the community that unity and working together bring progress and effects reaching far beyond each individual effort.

The younger members of the community have not been forgotten with holiday parties for the children from communities as far afield as Edinburgh.

TAYSIDE AND N.E. FIFE

A series of inter-Faith events distinguished the Remembrance Sunday religious activities in the parish of Kemback, near Cupar, Fife. At the 12 o'clock service, conducted by the Rev. Alastair Calder, members of the Baha'i Faith from Dundee, Perth and North-East Fife shared in the worship, and afterwards joined the congregation in the act of Remembrance at the war memorial.

Thereafter parishioners and their guests walked to the nearby cemetery for the planting of two trees. The first, in memory of the thousands of Baha'is who have died for their religious beliefs in Iran, was planted by the parish minister, the Rev. Alexander Strickland. The other, close by, was planted by Mr Calder in memory of the late Mr H. Sabit, a devout local Baha'i who died earlier this year and is buried at Kemback. Several members of Mr Sabit's family, who live at the Old Mill, Dura Den, attended the ceremony.

After the tree planting, each of the Church of Scotland ministers read a Baha'i prayer for unity, and Mrs Pamela Sabit offered a moving prayer at the resting place of her late father-in-law.

The Birth of Baha'u'llah was later marked by prayers and readings at

the Sabit home, followed by a social gathering, with the Rev. Strickland and representatives of his congregation as guests. "Harmony" was achieved when the Baha'is and their Christian friends joined in a spontaneous recital, with the church organist providing piano accompaniment for a selection of well-loved songs, including, appropriately, Elgar's "Song of Liberty".

SALISBURY

As an example of community welfare the Salisbury Baha'is have contacted the Social Services, Age Concern, and the Red Cross and offered to take meals to people during the Christmas period when the normal Meals on Wheels and Home Helps do not operate. Each participant takes a traditional meal to not more than 6 old people who would not otherwise have contact with anybody over that period due to their normal contacts being with their own families. The Baha'is also agreed to return after lunch for a chat and to offer a visit to their own homes for tea and some form of social entertainment such as carol singing.

The result of this has been that many organisations have heard in fair detail about the Faith, its independent standing, and the Baha'i Holy Days. The Baha'is can see this developing in several ways, for instance, Age Concern encourages people to provide hospitality on occasional irregular times to old people who have no family or close friends. It would be nice to think that local caring organisations may not have to worry about Christmas again because they know that the Baha'is will take care of it for them.

Area Conventions
Feb 2 & 3

You Write....

Dear Editor,

I am writing to you to express a delight in a recently-released video "The Earth is But One Country" filmed by Mr Vafa Ram.

Without seeming too forceful, it has presented the Faith with a very down to earth approach, appealing to all ages and views. It lays down the foundations for we the Baha'is to build upon.

On showing the video to an audience from 16 upwards, it left a great many eager for more knowledge of the faith, which presented me with the opportunity to expand on some of the principles and ideas already underlined in the video.

This video is a wonderful introduction to the Faith and I urge the Baha'is and Local Spiritual Assemblies to obtain a copy, as it is a handy tool for teaching the Faith of Baha'u'llah.

I would like to thank, on behalf of all the Baha'is, I am sure, all those who helped to produce the overall effect, that is a gift and aid to the Baha'i community.

Natasha Saminaden

Dear Editor,

Here are two items which may serve as an encouragement to individuals and committees:

About four years ago I worked for a spell as a volunteer teacher with the Stockport English Language Project. This is a scheme for providing tuition in English as a foreign language to non-English speaking residents in the Stockport area. You don't need to be a teacher to work as a volunteer, as tuition is also given to the volunteer teachers.

It was a wonderful opportunity to inform people about Baha'i Teachings, and the organisers

themselves asked for more information and books. This was, as I mentioned, four years ago. Then a few weeks ago the phone rang and I found myself talking to the organiser of the scheme. She said they were producing a monthly magazine, and devoting a section each month to a different religion. She asked if we would be kind enough to provide an article on the Baha'i Faith. The article was printed in full, and distributed to students, teachers, and other interested parties. I am sure that similar schemes must exist in other areas. The positive contribution of Baha'i Teachings in such a multi-faith organisation cannot be overemphasized.

Similarly, as a result of Manchester's involvement with multi-faith groups, and Baha'i involvement with the Sacred Trinity R.E. Centre in Salford, Manchester was asked to nominate a Baha'i delegate to attend a conference in Manchester. This conference is to produce a new syllabus for the teaching of R.E. in Greater Manchester - quite an exciting prospect!

So please keep planting those tiny seeds. When they start to sprout, there's really no stopping them.

C. Eckersley

Dear Sir,

The Baha'is of Monmouth are happy to report that a prize, to be known as "The Hakim Baha'i Memorial Prize" is to be presented to the best student each year in medical microbiology at the University of Wales College of Medicine, Cardiff. (This prize has been donated in memory of the martyr, Dr Manuchihr Hakim).

Also, on Sunday 16 December, a member of our group read from the Baha'i Writings in Esperanto at an interdenominational service conducted in Esperanto in Bristol.

With loving Baha'i greetings,
Mrs Ann Dickinson.

Dear Sir,

We are aware that the Fund needs £5,000 per week and is receiving about half this amount. To help with this shortfall, our Assembly has decided to contribute some of the cost of the Baha'i Journal which is distributed free. Each adult pays 50p per copy - £4.50 in total.

Other communities may wish to follow our example. Of course this could only be done on a voluntary basis, and the money

would be given in addition and quite separate from the Feast donations. Someone other than the local Treasurer could collect and send the money, to make the distinction clear.

Warmest Baha'i love,

Carrie Varjavandi,
Secretary, Local Assembly of Perth & Kinross

(Editorial comment:

Many thanks. Each Journal issue costs about £850 to print and post - 3,000 are produced each time).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Participation in Bahá'í elections is the privilege and sacred responsibility of every adult believer.

شرکت در انتخابات
بهای امتیاز و
مسئولیت مقدس هر فرد
مؤمن ذی رأی است



6 FEB PUBLIC MEETING, SOUTHEND Balmoral Community Centre, Salisbury Avenue, Southend, Essex. 8 p.m. Wednesday evening. Details from Angela Tidswell, [redacted] Essex. Tel. Southend [redacted].

A series of deepening institutes at the Eastbourne Health Hotel: 8 February, 2 March, 6 April, 4 May. Further details from Mrs Marion Prentice, Tel. [redacted] [redacted]. Use of sun beds and other Health Hotel equipment will be available during the weekends. (Please note, friends can benefit from the \8 British Rail "Conference" ticket,

covering travel from London and Home Counties, and as far north as Northampton.

16 - 17 FEB WEEKEND SCHOOL "THE MEANING OF LIFE" Edinburgh Baha'i Centre, 26 North Fort St., Edinburgh, starting at 10.30 a.m. Speakers, Dr Ridvan Moqbel, Mr Robert Jelly. Accommodation: for bookings please phone Farnoush Hayati on (031) 447 6298. Registration fee \1.00 per day including lunch, plus \1.00 ticket for a Saturday evening concert.

21 FEB Thursday, 6.30 p.m. "The Future of Man as Prophesied". Level 8, Physics Building, Imperial College, London. Organised by the Imperial College Baha'i Society. Speakers from the major world religions will give their views on the topic.

23 FEB International and Interfaith Youth Conference. Lowther St Community Centre, York. Contact John Butler [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

23 FEB 7.30 p.m. Intercalary Barn Dance, Leiston, Suffolk. Proceeds for the Iranian Relief Fund. Baha'is and friends. Further details from Mrs McKinley, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], Saxmundham. Tel. [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

23 - 24 FEB BAHAI SOCIETIES CONFERENCE: "Youth - participation, development and peace". Newcastle-upon-Tyne. For further details contact Chris Lee, 111 Denton Road, Newcastle, NE15 7HB. Tel. (0234) 50829. Or Mrs Nita Forouhi, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. Tel. [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

30 MARCH - 2 APRIL MINI SPRING SCHOOL IN SCOTLAND: Castle Douglas, Stewartry. Charge for accommodation \4 per day ex. evening meal. Please bring sleeping bags. Really cheap hostel/dormitory accommodation for about 40. Other accommodation available outside. Registrar and information: Mrs Jackie Mehrabi, Tel. [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

6 APRIL from 10.30 a.m. Come and meet Daryoush and his family at Inglestone, The Terrace, Chale, Isle of Wight, on Easter Saturday. Clive is bringing a slide-show; we will enjoy music, fellowship, and deepen in the Faith. Drinks and soup provided; please bring sandwiches. Tel. 73 1013.

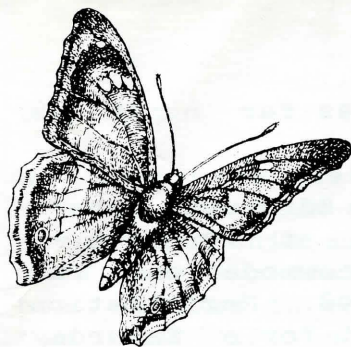
APRIL CELTIC CONFERENCE on all aspects of teaching, deepening and development in the Celtic areas. To be held in Bangor, North Wales. Details from Dewi Hughes, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

MAY SCOTTISH TEACHING CONFERENCE IN PERTH: Stand by for further details.

JULY EUROPEAN YOUTH CONFERENCE in Antwerp, Belgium, 26 - 29 July. Theme: YOUTH CAN MOVE THE WORLD. Further details to follow.

Thursday public meetings, National Centre, 8 p.m. 7 Feb., Miss Sandra Hardy, "Women and Religion", 14 Feb., Mrs Lesley Habibi, "Progressive Revelation", 21 Feb., Dr Ludher (subject to be announced), 28 Feb., Mr Hugh Adamson (subject to be announced).

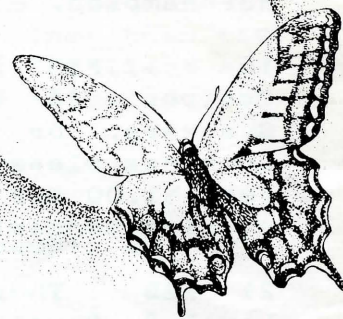
PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR ITEMS FOR INCLUSION IN THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS ARE SENT IN AT LEAST TWO MONTHS BEFORE THE DEADLINE. CHECK THE INFORMATION - DATE, VENUE, WHAT IT IS, SUBJECT, WHO TO CONTACT FOR FURTHER DETAILS, COST (IF ANY), TIME AT WHICH IT STARTS, ETC.



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BY GAIL RADLEY

ILLUSTRATIONS BY RICHARD MORGAN



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