

The
LONDON BAHAI BULLETIN

No. 59.

December 1942.

NINETEEN-DAY FEASTS.

Masá'il (Questions: Saturday December 12th at 3.0 p.m.

Hostess: Miss M. Wellby.

Sharaf (Honour): Held on Saturday, Jan. 2nd 1943, at 3.0 p.m.

Hostess: Miss Z. Warman. Chairman: Miss V. Isenthal.

SUNDAY MEETINGS, at 3.0. p.m.,

December 6th	"Uniforms and Unity"	Miss V. Isenthal
" 13th	"These Tremendous Claims"	Mr. W. Wilkins
" 20th	"The Universal Fast"	Mrs. K.V. Brown
" 27th	"God's Plan for Mankind"	Miss A.E. Baxter

STUDY CLASSES, Thursdays at 6.30 p.m.

3rd December	Mrs. Brown
10th "	Mr. Wilkins
17th "	Mr. Balyuzi
24th "	No Study Class
31st "	Mr. Ferraby.

"God says in the Qur'án, 'Take ye hold of the Cord of God, all of you, and become ye not disunited'. In the contingent world there are many collective centres which are conducive to association and unity between the children of men. For example, patriotism is a collective centre; nationalism is a collective centre; identity of interests is a collective centre; political alliance is a collective centre; the union of ideals is a collective centre; and the prosperity of the world of humanity is dependent upon the organisation and promotion of the collective centres. Nevertheless, all the above institutions are, in reality, the matter and not the substance, accidental and not eternal - temporary and not everlasting. With the appearance of great revolutions and upheavals, all these collective centres are swept away. But the Collective Centre of the Kingdom, embodying the Institutes and Divine Teachings, is the eternal Collective Centre. It establishes relationship between the East and West, organises the oneness of the world of humanity, and destroys the foundation of differences. It overcomes and includes all the other collective centres. Like the ray of the sun, it dispels entirely the darkness encompassing all the regions, bestows ideal life, and causes the effulgence of divine illumination. Through the breaths of the Holy Spirit, it performs miracles; the Orient and the Occident embrace each other, the North and the South become intimates and associates, conflicting and contending opinions disappear, antagonistic aims are brushed aside, the law of the struggle for existence is abrogated and the canopy of the oneness of the world of humanity is raised on the apex of the globe, casting its shade over all the races of men. Consequently, the real collective centre

is the body of the divine teachings, which include all the degrees and embrace all the universal relations and necessary laws of humanity. "

('Abdu'l-Bahá: Bahá í Scriptures, p.530.)

"O Son of My Handmaid.

Didst thou behold immortal sovereignty, thou wouldst strive to pass from this fleeting world. But to conceal the one from thee and to reveal the other is a mystery which none but the pure in heart can comprehend."

(Bahá'u'lláh: Hidden Words, p.38)

"Members of the human race! Hold ye fast by the Cord which no man can sever. This will, indeed, profit you all the days of your life, for its strength is of God, the Lord of all worlds. Cleave ye to justice and fairness, and turn away from the whisperings of the foolish, them that are estranged from God, that have decked their heads with the ornament of the learned, and have condemned to death Him who is the Fountain of Wisdom. My name hath uplifted them to lofty grades, and yet, no sooner did I reveal Myself to their eyes than they, with manifest injustice, pronounced the sentence of my death. Thus hath our pen revealed the truth, and yet the people are sunk in heedlessness.

"Whoso cleaveth to justice, can, under no circumstances, transgress the limits of moderation. He discerneth the truth in all things, through the guidance of Him who is the All-Seeing. The civilization, so often vaunted by the learned exponents of arts and sciences, will, if allowed to overleap the bounds of moderation, bring great evil upon men. Thus warneth you He Who is the All-Knowing. If carried to excess, civilization will prove as prolific a source of evil as it had been of goodness when kept within the restraints of moderation. Meditate on this, O people, and be not of them that wander distraught in the wilderness of error. The day is approaching when its flame will devour the cities, when the Tongue of Grandeur will proclaim "The Kingdom is God's, the Almighty, the All-Praised".

(Gleanings from the Writings of Bahá'u'lláh, p.342)

SALE - IN AID OF THE PUBLISHING TRUST APPEAL

19-DAY FEAST, DECEMBER 12TH

PLEASE SEND GIFTS IF YOU CAN - IN ANY CASE COME AND BUY