

Bahá'í Centre, 158A, Old Brompton Road, S.W.5.

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"The Divine Springtime is Come, O Most Exalted Pen, for the Festival of the All-Merciful is fast approaching. Bestir thyself, and magnify, before the entire creation, the name of God, and celebrate His praise, in such wise that all created things may be regenerated and made new."

(Bahá'u'lláh)

Beloved Friends,

We are once again approaching the Festival of Ridván, the election of the local Spiritual Assembly, and the National Convention. On the day when we all foregather to hear the outgoing Assembly give an account of its stewardship, and to elect the new Assembly, we will have entered "the Festival of the All-Merciful". It was on that very day - the 21st day of April eighty-five years ago - that "the Promise of All Ages" was fulfilled. Nothing can express the measure of our joy.

This year in London, the Festival of Ridván will culminate in the National Convention. Our Community stands as host to our fellow-believers coming to London either as delegates or visitors. It is indeed a privilege. Let us rise fully to the occasion and give our fellow-believers that warmth of love and fellowship and welcome which distinguishes a live and vibrant Bahá'í Community above all else.

With loving Ridván Greetings,

Yours in His Fellowship,

The London Spiritual Assembly.

A Message from the National Spiritual Assembly

Last month the National Spiritual Assembly asked David Hofman to meet our Assembly. We asked him to write down the message which he brought for inclusion in this Bulletin and here it is:

Dear Bahá'í Friends, On behalf of the N.S.A. I am asked to say that the difficulties which your Community faces are a matter of deep concern to the National Assembly. We know how depleted are the ranks of your active workers, and how overburdened those who continually serve. The National Assembly has real sympathy with you.

We feel that you should be proud of your contribution to the Six-Year Plan, and never let the present difficulties obscure your bright future. You are still the largest Community in the British Isles, if not in numbers, certainly in the measure of your contribution to National work. The Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer of the National Spiritual Assembly, and one other member, all come from London, as well as the Chairman of the National Teaching Committee. Your roll of pioneers, and your contribution to the fund, are very fine, and altogether London plays a major part in the Plan, and therefore in the destiny of the British Isles.

Our beloved Guardian spoke of the importance of London as the capital of the British Empire. More recently he has told us that after the Six-Year Plan, we must take the Message to that Empire to its various races in far flung parts. May not the two statements go together, and the future of the London Bahá'í Community be interwoven with the activities which must follow the successful conclusion of the present Six-Year Plan? You are building your own future, and proving the Master's words that you are steadfast and loyal. With loving and respectful greetings.

David.

Delegates to National Convention

The following are the delegates elected:

John Ferraby	15 votes	Gladys Backwell	10 votes
Hasan Balyuzi	15 "	Donald Millar	9 "
Mary Basil Hall	12 "		

(complete results will be published in the next month's Bulletin)

Our Pioneers

Evelyn Baxter has gone to Bristol; Ataullah Khoshbin is going to Cardiff.
Our love and gratitude go to them.

Our Community

We welcome joyously and lovingly the following friends from abroad into our Community: Dr. Amir Homayouni; Dr. Manuchehr Moayyed; Manuchehr Sabetian; Parviz Faridiyan.

Annual Meeting and the Election of the Spiritual Assembly

First day of Ridván - Wednesday, April 21st at 7 p.m.

Our delegates will consult with the Community at this meeting and also at the 19-Day Feast of Jamál on April 28th.

Nineteen-Day Feasts

The Feast of Jalal (Splendour) - Friday, April 9th at 7 p.m.
Hostesses: Kathleen Hyeth and Gladys Backwell.

The Feast of Jamál (Beauty) - Wednesday, April 28th at 7 p.m.
Hostess: Vivian Isenthal.

Memorial Meeting

A Memorial Meeting will be held on April 28th at 6.30 p.m. prior to the 19-Day Feast for the father of Mrs. Shirin Fozdar, and John Marshal.

The Ninth Day of Ridván - April 29th

The Feast will be held at the Centre at 7 p.m. Your contributions in kind are invited.

News and Reviews

1. The Feast of Nawrúz at the Alliance Hall was very well attended. It was indeed a very happy and festive occasion.
2. Marion Little on her way back to the United States after an eight months' tour of the Goal Countries in Europe, stopped in London for a few days. She spoke at our Wednesday evening meeting on March 17th, and told us of many thrilling things about the teaching work in Europe which is going on at full speed. We felt so proud and humbly grateful.
3. Isobel Slade returned to London during March, and we were so happy to have her with us again, but we are pleased to know that she has again embarked on an extended Teaching visit to Edinburgh, and will be away at least until April 21st.