

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

No.138

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QUDRAT, QAWL 106

"The Ancient Beauty hath consented to be bound with chains that mankind may be released from its bondage, and hath accepted to be made a prisoner within this most mighty Stronghold that the whole world may attain unto true liberty. He hath drained to its dregs the cup of sorrow, that all the peoples of the earth may attain unto abiding joy, and be filled with gladness. This is of the mercy of your Lord, the Compassionate, the Most Merciful. We have accepted to be abased, O Believers in the Unity of God, that ye may be exalted, and have suffered manifold afflictions, that ye might prosper and flourish. He Who hath come to build anew the whole world, behold, how they that have joined partners with God have forced Him to dwell within the most desolate of cities."

(Bahá'u'lláh)

PRESENT-DAY MARTYRS

Dear Friends, As you all know, money is desperately needed for the Baha'i Funds, local and national. The Guardian has ranked sacrifices called for to increase the Baha'i Fund with those required from souls who arise to pioneer.

We are deeply appreciative of the efforts the London friends are making to fulfil their pledge of support of the Fund. Contributions have consistently reached a level which would be thought excellent by any ordinary society or religious group. This is the more praiseworthy because a number still deprive themselves of the spiritual bounty of contribution to the Fund of the Cause of God.

Results are good, but good results are not enough in this critical hour. Only the most excellent sacrifice is worthy of the last few months of the Plan. If we cannot pioneer, let us prove ourselves worthy of the martyrs by achieving a similar standard of sacrifice in finding money that others may go. Nothing is too small to count. It is the size of the effort God reckons, not the size of the gift.

Our beloved Guardian has confidence we can rise to the soul stirring heights he demands of us and make those sacrifices the hour requires. You only can know how your own contribution to the Fund can be increased. You only can know whether you are capable of touching those peaks over which the souls of the Bábís soared in blissful agony. "This is a day for very great things," said 'Abdú'l-Bahá to a believer. The time has come for each of us to achieve that greatness of which we are capable.

With loving greetings,

In Bahá'í Fellowship

LONDON SPIRITUAL ASSEMBLY.

The Feast of the Birth of Bahá'u'lláh

Saturday, November 12th at 3 p.m.*

The Feast will be held at the Alliance Hall, Palmer Street, Westminster.

(Next to Caxton Hall. St. James' Tube Station).

The Day of the Covenant - Saturday, November 26th.

Feast will be held at the Centre, at 3.30 p.m.

You are invited to contribute to these Feasts in kind.

The Passing of 'Abdú'l-Bahá

Commemoration meeting will be held at the Centre on Sunday, November 27th at 6 p.m.

Note: The actual time of the Passing of 'Abdú'l-Bahá is 1 a.m. on November 28th. But the day in the Bahá'í calendar is from sunset to sunset, and if the Commemoration meeting is held in the evening of November 28th, it will not be on the right day. Acting on a recent recommendation from the Community at a 19-Day Feast, the Assembly is arranging the Commemoration of the anniversaries on the right day in accordance with the Baha'í calendar.

Below is the devotional programme for the meeting at the Centre on November 27th. Friends might like to use it in their homes at the actual hour of the passing of the Master. Accommodation at the Centre makes it impossible to hold a meeting there at 1 a.m.

Programme for the Commemoration Meeting

1. Prayer of Visitation - "Some Special Bahá'í Prayers and Tablets". P.38.
2. "Friends! The time is coming when I shall be no longer with you." "The Passing of 'Abdú'l-Bahá" P.30 - 31.
3. Prayers - "Some Bahá'í Prayers". Nos. 65, 80.
4. Readings: "The Will and Testament of 'Abdú'l-Bahá"
 - (a) "All Praise to Him", P.7, to ".....Well is it with him that seeketh the shelter of his shade that that shadoweth all mankind". P.8.
 - (b) "O Ye that stand fast in the Covenant...." P.11, to "....Let them that are men of action follow in their footsteps." P.13.
 - (c) "O Ye beloved of the Lord! In this sacred Dispensation....." P.17, to "....Such are the attributes of the truthful", P.18.
5. Prayer - "Some Bahá'í Prayers". No.83.

19-Day Feasts

19-Day Feast of Qudrat (Power) - Friday, November 4th at 7 p.m.
Hostess: Miss Dorothy Dewhirst.

19-Day Feast of Qawl (Speech) - Wednesday, November 23rd at 7 p.m.
Hosts: Mr. and Mrs. Kamming.

Wednesday Evenings at the Centre - 7.30 p.m.

These meetings need the full support of the Community.

National Teaching Conference

In order to profit by the visit of Mrs. Amelia Collins, member of the National Spiritual Assembly of U.S., the date of the Conference is changed to December 3rd and 4th. It will be held in Manchester. November Journal will give full details.

BRIGHTON - OUR ADOPTED GOAL TOWN

An intensive teaching Course is inaugurated for November and December, opening with a reception on November 1st at which Miss Ethel Dawe of Australia will give an address. In addition to Wednesday evening meetings (7.30 p.m.) at The Institute, Queen Square, Fireside Meetings will also be held. Speakers for November are: David Hofman (9th); Hasan Balyuzi (16th); Richard Backwell (23rd); John Ferraby (30th).