

Bahá'í Centre, 103 Earls Court Road, W.8.

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RAHMAT, KALIMÁT 108

July 1951

"Ignite, then, O my God, within my breast, the fire of Thy love, that its flame may burn up all else except my remembrance of Thee, that every trace of corrupt desire may be entirely mortified within me, and that naught may remain except the glorification of Thy transcendent and all-glorious Being. This is my highest aspiration, mine ardent desire, O Thou Who rulest all things, and in Whose hand is the kingdom of the entire creation. Thou, verily, doest what Thou choosest. No God is there beside Thee, the Almighty, the All-Glorious, the Ever-Forgiving."

(Bahá'u'lláh)

Dear Bahá'í Friends,

Never in the history of the world has a small group of peoples been honoured by God to the extent the Bahá'ís are at this present time. To be bidden to hold out hope to a fear-stricken world and to help build the Kingdom of God on Earth! What a privilege! So great that it is impossible to 'take in' the immensity of it.

Permanent building must be done by adding units one to another and to each one of us is apportioned the particular unit we should work with and for. To carry out our appointed task adequately we need to recognise and accept our spiritual responsibilities, to divest our own minds of conventional thought and to re-adjust our lives to enable us to carry on that work in love and unity with our Baha'i co-workers.

Our guidance is direct. According to our Guardian's letter of February 25th, in this tiny corner of the Earth's surface our contribution to the mighty theme is made clear to us. "Propagating the Faith among the people dwelling in the British Isles through active teaching", and in the near future to take "whatever measures will facilitate the future recognition of the Faith by the civil authorities in the localities where its followers reside, and eventually by the central government in Westminster". "Within the means at their disposal." This is one of our great problems. Our Treasurer never knows in advance what means will be available. How can work be planned with the ever present uncertainty about adequate funds to carry it out?

In Persia, for some time past, a method has been used by which the members of the communities are asked to estimate the amount they will be able to contribute in the course of the year, so that a guaranteed sum is known, and can be relied on. This is entirely confidential and does not prohibit them making larger donations if they desire or circumstances make it possible to do so.

Our Treasurer will soon send out a form that we may state our contributions to the Fund. Here we should meditate over these words of our beloved Guardian:

"We must be like the fountain or spring that is continually emptying itself of all that it has, and is continually being refilled from an invisible source. To be continually giving out for the good of our fellows undeterred by the fear of poverty and reliant on the unfailing bounty of the Source of all wealth and all good - that is the secret of right living."

With loving greetings,
The London Spiritual Assembly.

LONDON TEACHING COMMITTEE SECTION

Public Meeting Tuesday, July 17th, at 7.30 p.m. Alliance Hall, Palmer Street,
S.W.1.

(St. James' Park Underground Station)

Speaker: Prof. Z.N. Zeine, M.A., F.R.A.S.

Subject: "The Great Illusion"

This is the third of the series of four public talks given by Professor Zeine, under the general title "Signs of the Times".

Printed cards will be available. Please tell all your friends and help to get the hall filled. This meeting in the middle of the summer, when some will be away, needs our special efforts.

Thursday Evening Meetings at the Centre. These meetings will be continued during July, each Thursday at 7.30 p.m. The topic for July is: "The Pattern of Bahá'í Life". Thursday meetings will be discontinued during August.

A Fireside Meeting is held every Tuesday at the home of Mrs. Slade, 129 Ebury Street, S.W.1., at 7.30 p.m.

Fireside Meetings

Are you holding a Fireside Meeting yet? Are you planning to start one soon? Or have you got a nice room for entertaining, but no contacts to invite? If so, maybe we could put you in touch with somebody who has friends to invite but has not a suitable place to meet. If you only know one person you can talk of the Faith to, to invite them in for a talk is the best possible beginning, and who knows to what bigger efforts it may lead you?

Nobody has yet advised the Committee of a new fireside or asked us for help. Please don't forget that we are ready and eager to give any assistance we can, and moreover that we are intensely interested in any news of your efforts.

London Teaching Committee.

Commemoration of the Martyrdom of the Báb Monday, July 9th Two meetings will be held, at 1 p.m. and 7.30 p.m. After the evening devotional programme, Prof. Zeine will speak on the history and the significance of the Martyrdom of the Báb.

Nineteen-Day Feast Feast of Kalimát (Words). Friday, July 13th at 7.30 p.m. sharp.

DON'T FORGET ! BAHÁ'Í SUMMER SCHOOL Thwaite Hall,
Cottingham.

August 18th - September 1st

Please book now. We have been asked to give definite figures in advance this year, so we need your booking quickly.

Our Community We extend a most loving welcome to Miss Vajdiyyeh Mohtadi, who has come from Birmingham, to take a course in Midwifery, here.

Miss Mahbubeh Shakib left for Tihran on Monday, June 18th. On the same day Mr. and Mrs. Musa Bânani and their daughter and son-in-law Violette and Aliullah Nakhjavani, together with Philip Hainsworth left by air to pioneer in Tanganyika. Mr. Nakhjavani was in London for three weeks prior to his departure for Africa. It was indeed a privilege to see him at a Nineteen-Day Feast. He also gave a talk at a Thursday evening meeting, which was greatly appreciated. Our prayers go with them all.

Mrs. Whitmore, of the Glasgow Community, and Mr. Izzatulla Alai, the father of Alapur Alai, are in hospital in London. We send them our deepest love and pray for their speedy recovery.

Jalil Ardakani was indisposed for a while. We are happy to report that he has now recovered.

Committees

Librarian, Lending Library: Elizabeth Gorvett.

Reference Library is in charge of the Archives Committee which is composed of: S. Golden Kilford, Elizabeth Gorvett, Alapur Alai, Hasan M. Balyuzi.

Book Sales Manager: Gladys Backwell

Youth & Social Committee: Elizabeth Gorvett, Jeanne Kranen, Vajdiyyeh Mohtadi, Renate Torop, Alapur Alai, Jalil Ardakani, Bruce McCombe.

THE BAHÁ'Í FAITH IN THE INTERNATIONAL REAM

"A unified world community, working in the same direction and for the same end, in whichever part of the world they reside" were some of the encouraging words used by Sir Ramaswamy Mudaliar, K.C.S.I., a leading Indian politician and a great thinker, who is intimately associated with the work of U.N.O. Referring once again to the Bahá'í Faith, he added: "I find in it a restatement of all those ideals and fundamental principles contained in my own Faith."

The occasion on which these statements were made, was a Tea-Party, given by Mr. and Mrs. Eruch Munsiff, with Sir Ramaswamy Mudaliar as the chief guest. Others present were a Hungarian Count and Countess, the daughter of a leading London financier, a young director of a West-End advertising and publishing firm. Lady Hornell, Mrs. Isobel Slade, Miss Renate Torop and Mr. Hugh McKinley had the satisfaction of hearing Sir Ramaswamy Mudaliar speak to the distinguished persons present about our Beloved Faith.

It is indeed very gratifying to note that men of distinction and world-wide repute not only see the immense potentialities of the Baha'i Faith, as a supreme redeemer of the afflicted humanity, but speak freely and frankly about it's greatness. This is a positive and assuring proof, which should immeasurably stir our devoted band of believers to work energetically and with speed to help establishment of the World Order of Bahá'u'lláh.

A Report from the Youth & Social Committee

On Sunday, 17th June, the Youth & Social Committee held its first picnic. This was originally planned for Epping Forest, but, owing to the late arrival of some participants, this was changed to Hampton Court.

Nine youth and their friends were present, and spent a lovely afternoon in the open air in glorious summer weather; all brought sandwiches, and a communal tea was eaten.

All were amazed by a visit to the maze! We are sorry that no more of the youth could come. However, further outings are planned, including a trip down the Thames by boat, and a possible visit to the South Bank Exhibition.

We do earnestly invite all the London youth to respond to our invitation and support our plans.