

L O N D O N      B A H Á ' Í      B U L L E T I N

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

No.157

KAMÁL, ASMÁ' 108

August 1961

"The Daystar of Truth that shineth in its meridian splendour beareth Us witness. They who are the people of God have no ambition except to revive the world, to ennoble its life, and regenerate its peoples. Truthfulness and goodwill, have at all times, marked their relations with all men. Their outward conduct is but a reflection of their inward life, and their inward life a mirror of their outward conduct. No veil hideth or obscureth the verities on which their Faith is established. Before the eyes of all men these verities have been laid bare, and can be unmistakably recognised. Their very acts attest the truth of these words."

(Bahá'u'lláh)

Nineteen-Day Feasts

Feast of Kamál (Perfection)      Wednesday, August 1st at 7.30 p.m.  
Hostess: Miss D. Muqaddam

Feast of Asmá' (Names)      Monday, August 20th at 7.30 p.m.  
Hostess: Mrs. V. McKinley

LONDON TEACHING COMMITTEE

A Special Meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 7th, at the home of Mrs. Slade, 129 Ebury Street, S.W.1. at 7.30 p.m. to meet Professor and Mrs. Bishop Brown of U.S.A. These friends are now travelling in Europe and will spend a few days in London. Last year they represented the Bahá'í World Community at one of the U.N.O. Conferences for inter-governmental organisations. All Bahá'ís are invited to come and bring their contacts.

Thursday evening Meetings at the Centre. It has been decided after all to continue these meetings during August and they will take place as usual every Thursday at 7.30 p.m. The theme for August will be "The Promised Day is Come".

A New Kind of Meeting. We start a new innovation in September. To meet requests from believers for Sunday meetings, we shall start a series of Devotional Meetings. These will be held on the first Sunday in every month and will be combined with a social occasion for the friends to meet one another. Tea will be served from 4 p.m. and a devotional meeting will be held at 5 p.m. The first of these meetings will be held on Sunday, September 1st. So please book the date and time: September 1st, tea 4 p.m., Devotional Meeting 5 p.m. sharp. The Devotional Meeting cannot be interrupted by late-comers!

Programme Cards announcing the time of Thursday meetings, and the address of the Centre, are now available at the Centre. These are intended for wide distribution. They are the size of a visiting card, so can be slipped in letters, left inside a library book, etc. Please take a supply and make good use of them.

Contacts. One of London's primary needs is many more contacts. For a city of such size, our list is pathetically small and there must be many more people who would be glad to know of the Faith. We must find them. Many ways can and have been suggested from time to time, such as going to various society meetings, advertising in local papers, putting a notice outside a newsagents. We can try all these in our various districts and we can think of more. We appeal to all the London friends to devote half an hour each week, either alone or with one or two other Bahá'í friends, to considering how they can introduce the Cause to fresh people.

Firesides. Are you planning to have a fireside in the autumn? Now is the time to be thinking about it, so that you can start off quickly in September.

Public Libraries. Has your local public library any Bahá'í books? Will you investigate and see if they have. If they have not, we suggest you ask the

librarian if he would not like to have one and tell him where they may be obtained. Or if there is only a comparatively old book, maybe they would like a more up-to-date book as well. And when everyone has dealt with their local library, they could perhaps try some of the adjacent ones; most London boroughs have a good many branch libraries.

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A sample of programme cards is included with this Bulletin.

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Have you booked for Summer School yet?  
There is still time. This is very important.

#### Buying Books on Deferred Payment

The members of the London Bahá'í Community are invited to buy books at the Centre, on an instalment system, up to a total of £2 at a time - payment to be completed as convenient within two months.

#### Local Africa Committee

The Community at the Feast of Rahmat made the following recommendation to the Spiritual Assembly: "That the L.S.A. considers the appointment of a local Africa Committee to develop contact with Africans in London and stimulate enthusiasm for the Africa project."

The Spiritual Assembly has accepted this recommendation and has appointed the following committee: Arthur Cole, Elisabeth Gorvett, Cyrus Mansuri, Eruch Munsiff, H. Tahqiqi.

#### Community Welfare

In the light of consultation at the Feast of Rahmat, regarding the appointment of a Welfare Committee, the Spiritual Assembly has appointed a visiting Committee, composed of Mr. and Mrs. Kamming and Mr. Alapur Alai. This Committee will arrange visits to friends who are ill, and will be assisted by Miss Beryl de Gruchy, Lady Hornell and Mrs. Ada Nazar.

#### Our Community

We extend the most loving welcome to Dr. Harold O'Toole of Ashford, Middlesex. Dr. O'Toole's declaration of faith was accepted by the National Spiritual Assembly, but since his residence is very close to London, he is now counted a member of our Community.

We have been very happy to meet Miss Shahidi of Mashhad, Persia, on several occasions. Miss Shahidi was in London for medical treatment.

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## News and Reviews

1. With a laden heart, we have heard the news of the bereavement of our dear Marguerite Preston in Kenya. Many of us remember her as Marguerite Wellby prior to her marriage in 1945. Her husband, Terence, passed away suddenly while under operation. Our love and tender sympathy go to her.

2. Hasan and Isobel Sabri took their boat train from Liverpool Street on July 6th, bound for their pioneering post in Dar es Salaam, Tanganyika. A number of the London friends, and friends from other parts, were at the station to bid them God-speed. London is fortunate in being the scene of the departure of our pioneers to Africa.

3. The outside of the London Centre is being decorated, and we are most grateful to our dear friend, Richard St. Barbe Baker for the gift of two tubs of trees that now adorn the entrance to our Centre.

REPORT OF THE LONDON YOUTH & SOCIAL COMMITTEE

A picnic was held on Saturday, 7th July, 1951, and a number of the Bahá'í Youth attended this. We went to Epsom Downs, which we found delightful at this time of the year.

In future, to save the expenses of the Committee, all notices of entertainment will be displayed on the Notice Board at the Centre, where it is hoped the Friends will read and attend the meetings etc.

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We have received the following from the Manchester Spiritual Assembly:

To Secretaries of all British L.S.A.'S.

Festival of Britain - Exhibition of Faiths of the British Commonwealth:

Dear Bahá'í Friend,

This is to bring to your attention the news that the Manchester Assembly is arranging an Exhibition of Faiths of the British Commonwealth at our Centre, from September 8th (Saturday) to September 15th (Saturday) inclusive.

At this state we can state that our intention is to present such an Exhibition to indicate the contribution made by the Faiths represented to the onward march of civilisation.

It is expected that the Jewish, Christian, Islamic, Hindu, Buddhist and, of course, Bahá'í Faiths will be among the contributors, and the week's activities are to include a Symposium of Faiths, films on racial amity, a musical unity evening, and one devoted to "Questions and Answers". As soon as our final arrangements are made a programme will be sent to each Community and we look forward to welcoming our dear friends who find it possible to visit us during the week of the Exhibition.

Further, if any Community or individual believer possesses books, documents, photographs, or articles of devotional use or any aspect of any Faith which they can loan us for the week, they may be assured of their safe return and our appreciation of their practical help in making our undertaking more effective and comprehensive.

Hoping, dear friends, that we may merit mention in your prayers for the successful prosecution of our aims in helping the publicity and consolidating of the Cause in the North West, and with loving Bahá'í greetings to you all,

In the Spirit and Service of El Bahá,

Pauline Senior,

Secretary to the Manchester Assembly.

We wish our friends in Manchester every success, and pray that their meritorious efforts shall be confirmed.