

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

(for Bahá'ís only)

Issued by: The Spiritual Assembly of the Bahá'ís of London
London Bahá'í Centre: 27 Rutland Gate, Knightsbridge, S.W.7.
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** "If men followed the Holy Counsels and the Teachings of the
** Prophets," said 'Abdu'l-Bahá, "if Divine Light shone in all hearts
** and men were really religious, we should soon see Peace on earth and
** the Kingdom of God among men. The Laws of God may be likened unto
** the soul and material progress unto the body. If the body was not
** animated by the soul, it would cease to exist. It is my earnest
** prayer that spirituality may ever grow and increase in the world,
** so that customs may become enlightened and peace and concord may be
** established."
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19 DAY FEAST

Friday, 1st January 1965 (8 p.m.) Hosts: L. S. A.

Tuesday, 19th January 1965 (8 p.m.) Hosts: Mrs. Rose Jones and Irene
Miss Le Gray and Mr. McIlree

Children (all ages) of Bahá'í parents are welcome. It is desirable that the children get into the habit of attending 19 Day Feasts and Bahá'í Holy Days' celebrations.

WORLD RELIGION DAY, 1965 MEETING

Saturday, 16th January, 1965

Eight speakers, representing Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Zoroastrian Faith, Christianity, Jewish Faith, Bahá'í World Faith, United Nations Association, will address the gathering. These will be distinguished personalities, like the Archdeacon of London, Rev. W.W. Simpson, Chairman, Religious Section, U.N.A., High Priest of the Zoroastrians in Europe, and others.

You are welcome with your non-Bahá'í friends. Invitation cards will be sent to your friends if you send their names and addresses urgently to the Secretary, L.T.C., at the Bahá'í Centre.

Please reach Kensington Central Library Hall by 7.30 p.m. and occupy the rear seats in the hall, leaving the front ones for our non-Bahá'í friends and distinguished visitors. Please make the work of our ushers easier by offering your fullest co-operation. Thanks.

London Bahá'í Centre : at 7.45 p.m.

<u>Thursday</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
7th Jan.	Jack Steed	'But One God - and Science'	Earl Cameron
14th Jan.	R. Jaganathan	'God's Changing Laws'	Barry Millar
21st Jan.	Audrey Cameron and Hugh McKinley	'Concord out of Conflict'	Marion Shaker
28th Jan.	Mariam Hardwick	'The Divine Cycle'	Ali Collestaneh

Fireside Evenings : Barnet Area

Every second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at
14, Northumberland Road, Barnet (Herts.)

West London Area

11th January: Speaker - Charles Webb
Subject - 'What Price Unity?'
Chairman - Vivian Isenthal

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LONDON WELFARE COMMITTEE

This committee is appointed to serve the personal needs of the London friends and offer such help and advice they can, if needed. There may be some Bahá'ís in our Community, who are unable to attend 19-Day Feasts, because of illness or infirmity or some other reason. Bahá'í companionship is a great vitalizing influence, and it will be arranged by the Committee if those in need get in touch with it. The Committee will also like to know the names and addresses of those who are new to our London Community so that it can arrange for their quicker assimilation in our large circle of friends.

The Committee can be addressed c/o 27 Rutland Gate, S.W.7. Please include your telephone number if any, for prompt contact and action.

NINE YEAR PLAN

London L.S.A. had consultations with the L.S.A. of Reading, Wokingham R.D., Watford, Northampton, for taking the Beloved Faith to Slough and Bedford.

BRITISH BAHÁ'Í JOURNAL

Vivian Isenthal is appointed by the Assembly as our London Correspondent for the Journal. There are lots of interesting activities going on in our Community all the time and Vivian will ensure that their reports get suitable insertion in this national Bahá'í organ.

BAHÁ'Í DECLARATION

London Assembly was pleased to accept the declaration of a young lady from Bermuda. She is Miss Carol Ann Stines. She attended a number of meetings in West London area and is known to the Bahá'ís of that region particularly. We wish her well, and many happy years of devoted service to the Faith.

DECLARATION CARDS

All friends would like to know that N.S.A. has instituted a new procedure for those who wish to declare their intention to accept the Faith, as new believers. Each one may, if he/she so chooses, write a letter as before, but must complete a standard declaration card prescribed by the N.S.A. If any of your friends wish to declare and become a Bahá'í, please get in touch with L.S.A. Secretary for the declaration card.

CHILDREN OF BAHÁ'Í PARENTS

We should remember that the children born of Bahá'í parents are in fact Bahá'ís. It is the obligation of the parents to instruct them suitably in the Bahá'í World Faith along with the Messages of the established religions of the world. At the age of 15 years, the child is deemed to have reached a reasonable state of maturity and of his/her free will make a declaration as a Bahá'í youth. In that event there is definite voluntary identification as a Bahá'í and the youth is expected to follow the laws and commandments of Bahá'u'lláh and at the same time enjoy the 19-Day Feasts and other functions meant for Bahá'ís only. If he/she has not identified as a Bahá'í at 15, it can be done later. However,

till this declaration is made, the person cannot be classed as a Bahá'í.

This information is vital for all Bahá'í parents having young children. If you have any query, please consult with the L.S.A. Children of Bahá'í parents, reared in the right atmosphere and given correct training, will be the torch-bearers of our Beloved Cause in the future. They are our sacred trust and we cannot fail them in any way.

UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

One of the goals, prescribed by the Universal House of Justice for the Nine Year Plan, is to reinforce the Bahá'í ties with the United Nations. To support and achieve this goal, it is strongly urged that we take concrete steps to establish close and friendly relations with the local branch of the United Nations Association. Please do what you can in this direction and keep L.S.A. informed about your participation in U.N.A. activities.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Our London Community is getting larger and larger. The area assigned to London L.S.A. is quite vast. These two factors make active participation of all the Bahá'ís all the time a little difficult. The Assembly has consulted repeatedly on this important problem and is of the opinion that, subject to the approval of N.S.A. and Universal House of Justice, some suggestions of a practical nature be presented to the N.S.A. to establish more than one L.S.A. for London region. The Assembly has therefore asked Eruch Munsiff to examine various implications and prepare a tentative plan for its initial consideration. Eruch would welcome any suggestions you may have in this important matter.

Edith Johnson has left for America and Mimi Tormasabi has gone to Haifa. We shall miss both these devoted servants of the Cause. Ivan Dundas has also returned to his home in British Guiana.

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C H I L D R E N ' S S E C T I O N

Hullo Children! This time, there is a good and true story of two important personalities, Shaykh Ahmad and Siyyid Kāzim. Here it is . . .

Many years ago, in Persia, there lived a very wise old man. His name was Shaykh Ahmad, and he knew that every once in a while God sent a new Prophet, or Messenger, to teach the people about Himself.

He had already sent many Prophets. There were Krishna, Moses, Zoroaster and Buddha, and the Christ and Muhammed. Now, Shaykh Ahmad was very happy because he knew that it was time for God to send a new Messenger.

Shaykh Ahmad had a friend whose name was Siyyid Kāzim. When Shaykh Ahmad told him about the New Prophet, Siyyid Kāzim believed all that he said. They travelled together all over Persia, telling everyone they met the good news. They asked the people to watch and listen carefully, so that they would recognize the

New Prophet when He came.

Many believed as they did, and so there were people travelling all over Persia, searching for Him.

For a long time Shaykh Ahmad and Siyyid Kāzim searched for the Promised One. Because Shaykh Ahmad was an old man, he knew he might never see the One for whom he searched. Just before he died he asked his friend, Siyyid Kāzim, to go on looking until he found the New Prophet. Siyyid Kāzim promised that he would never stop looking, even if he spent the rest of his life doing so.

So, Shaykh Ahmad, that wise old man, died without ever seeing the New Prophet or even knowing His name. But, because of his teachings, many people knew that it was time for a New Prophet, and were searching very hard to find Him.

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After Shaykh Ahmad died, his friend, Siyyid Kāzim, continued to look for the New Prophet, and to tell others about Him. There were many students, or Disciples of Shaykh Ahmad, and Siyyid Kāzim became their new leader. He worked very hard to spread the teachings of Shaykh Ahmad.

Siyyid Kāzim was a young man of 22 years when he first became a friend of Shaykh Ahmad. He was a very wise young man. From the time he was a young child he had shown signs of being wise and good. By the time he was eleven years old, he knew the whole Qur'án by heart. The Qur'án is the Holy Book of Muhammed, and it is very long.

When he was fourteen years old, Siyyid Kāzim had already learned by heart a great many prayers and traditions. And by the time he was eighteen years old, he wrote a composition that was read by the wisest men in Persia. So you can see that he was a very clever and good man. He was gentle and kind, and never boasted. He thought a lot about God and prayed to Him often. Everyone who knew him, little children and grown-ups too, respected and loved him very much. It is no wonder that Shaykh Ahmad asked him to keep looking for the Promised One.

So Siyyid Kāzim continued to search for the New Prophet. He was young, he believed that he would find Him, and learn His name, and be able to follow Him.

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We shall continue this interesting story in next month's Bulletin. Hope you are finding it interesting. If you can, tell this story to your friends correctly in your own words.

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