

LONDON, ENGLAND.

July 9th, 1926.

From - The LONDON Spiritual Assembly,

To - The Spiritual Assembly of

Dear Co-Workers in the Service of the Cause of God,

Letters from the Bahai Spiritual Assemblies in many countries have brought glad-tidings of various blessed activities in those lands, but from Persia the news of the persecutions suffered at the hands of the ignorant have stirred our hearts.

The Persian believers in England have sent telegrams to the Persian Government deploring the sacrifice of the Friends and asking for their protection for the welfare of the country.

May the unity of the believers everywhere in this appeal to law and protest against disorder and destruction strengthen the authorities in establishing justice and peace for all.

The significance of the Tablets revealed by Abdu'l-Baha for those whose blood has been shed in His Path is ever greater and deeper as the Cause progresses through each test.

Blessed be those whose feet are firm!

"If all the Bahais be destroyed by the evil wishers and there remain but one, that one, singly, and alone should be capable of withstanding all who live on earth and of spreading the fragrances of holiness.

Therefore when any terrible or calamitous tidings reach you from the Land of Desire, ye must not grow cold, sad or be affected thereby. Nay rather ye must immediately in the utmost firmness arise for the service of the Kingdom".

"O ye who are set aglow with the Fire of God's Love! Blessed are ye for having been chosen by God for his Love in this New Age, and joy be unto you for having been guided to the Great Kingdom! Verily your Lord hath chosen you to show the Path to the Kingdom of God among people!!"

In the Supreme Concourse they have found balm, on earth their faith is as a flame consuming the dread darkness of ignorance for their land.

Abdu'l-Baha has said of oppressors -" If they understood, they would not oppress, nay rather, would they arise to serve the Cause with faithfulness".

.... Ignorant Pharisees have arisen with the utmost hatred instigating persecutions. They imagine that persecution and suffering will hinder the promulgation of the Cause; whereas no rampart is able to obstruct the descent of the Waves of the Most Great Sea; no veil can conceal the Rays of the Sun of Truth; no wall can stay the wafting of the Divine Breeze; and no power is able to resist the Spirit of God!"

He has warned us that the world will pass through a period of strife and discord while the people are adjusting themselves to the conditions of the New Era.

The followers of Baha'u'llah remain firm and confident knowing that the Will of God must be accomplished and remembering the Words of Abdu'l-Baha:-

"When you breathe forth the Breath of the Holy Spirit from your hearts into the world, commerce and politics will take care of themselves in perfect harmony. All arts and sciences will become revealed and the knowledge of God will be manifested. It is not your work but that of the Holy Spirit which you breathe forth through the Word. This is a fundamental truth".

Sad indeed it is that discord should arise between men who should be as brothers, but we thank God that the spirit of the new day is even now showing itself in this country, and that in recent disputes, men opposing one another on the questions involved, have for the most part shown the utmost goodwill and friendliness to one another at the same time.

Those who are still in darkness marvel that such things should be, but we who know the Teachings of Baha'u'llah rejoice and pray that more and more may be found to breathe forth the Breath of the Holy Spirit.

The visits of Believers from other countries bring always anew a consciousness of the Power of Baha'u'llah in welding hearts. Abdu'l-Baha has revealed that through this power the whole earth will be united, so the Bounty of these early unities is dynamic for the future.

The Friends everywhere will be glad to know that Miss Martha Root has arrived in London and that on June 9 she spoke at the Bahai Meeting in Lindsey Hall. She came from the Hague, and her first work was to draft a letter for the newspapers regarding the recent sad persecution of our Bahai Friends in Persia and this letter she has sent out to numerous newspapers, so that the authentic information may be filed for reference even when it may not be published.

She will address many meetings in London and environs and will attend the Esperanto Congress in Edinburgh where she will speak on the Bahai Cause. It is hoped that she may be in England for several months.

Her permanent address will be:-

Care of The American Consul,
London, England.

Mr. and Mrs. Romer from New York have come to live in London for several years, and the English Friends are happy to welcome them for themselves and for their devotion to the service of the Blessed Cause.

Letters from Russia bring happy news.

In Moscow the Friends enjoy every privilege, the status of their Spiritual Assembly has been approved, and facilities for spreading the Bahai Teaching have been allowed. The Friends cooperate with the group of followers of Tolstoy as this Group is interested in the Bahai Movement. They expect soon to publish a magazine in English, Russian and Persian.

In Baku the Friends are active and encouraged.

In Ishkabad the Group of Young Bahais have made good progress also, they arrange meetings every month in honour of the memory of the late renowned Bahai workers, and in these meetings, they give the whole story and life and work of these famous men, so that the listeners may learn how to follow their example.

The work of the Young Bahais is praised by everyone, and parents are proud of their children's remarkable efforts to spread the knowledge of the Cause.

From Turkestan and Caucasus we hear of good progress in Esperanto as a means of communication. Many people are studying the language and encouraging others to do so.

Circular letters from Persia keep us in touch with various well-known Bahai centres and their activities, and through the kindness of Mr. Ziaoullah Asgarzadeh these letters not in English are translated for the information and encouragement of all the friends.

The new London Spiritual Assembly and the new National Spiritual Assembly for England are as follows:

London:- Mr. Ziaoullah Asgarzadeh, Lady Blomfield, Mrs. Claudia Coles, Mrs. Cropper, Mrs. George, Miss Herrick, Miss Rosenberg, Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Slade.

National: Mr. Asgarzadeh, Lady Blomfield, Mrs. Claudia Coles, Mrs. George, Miss Rosenberg, Mr. Simpson.
From Bournemouth - Miss Grace Challis.
From Manchester, Mr. J. Joseph, Mr. Craven.

Everywhere the feeling is growing stronger that those who are standing as believers through their love of Abdu'l-Baha, obedience to His Will, and consciousness of the Manifestation of Baha'u'llah in this day, can best help Shogi Effendi by deeper study of the Holy Utterances so that their Light may shine through all deeds and words from true knowledge of their Divine Remedy for the ailment of each soul, and the purification of each heart.

The steps are thus defined by Abdu'l-Baha:-

"The first real work is attraction to the Fragrance of God, enkindlement with the Fire of the Love of God, reading the Verses of Unity, and beholding the Lights from the Dawning-Place of Mystery, (as the sun rises out of the darkness).

After that, cometh the training of the soul, purification of character, and service to humanity".

In humility and reverence and devotion may we be mirrors

