



The

# CARRAVAN

Volume 1  
**Sultán** (Sovereignty)  
174 B.E.



“ There are no officers in this Cause. I do not and have not 'Appointed' anyone to perform any special service, but I encourage everyone to engage in the service of the Kingdom. The foundation of this Cause is pure spiritual democracy and not a theocracy. ”  
- Abdu'l-Baha



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THE FREE BAHAI FAITH

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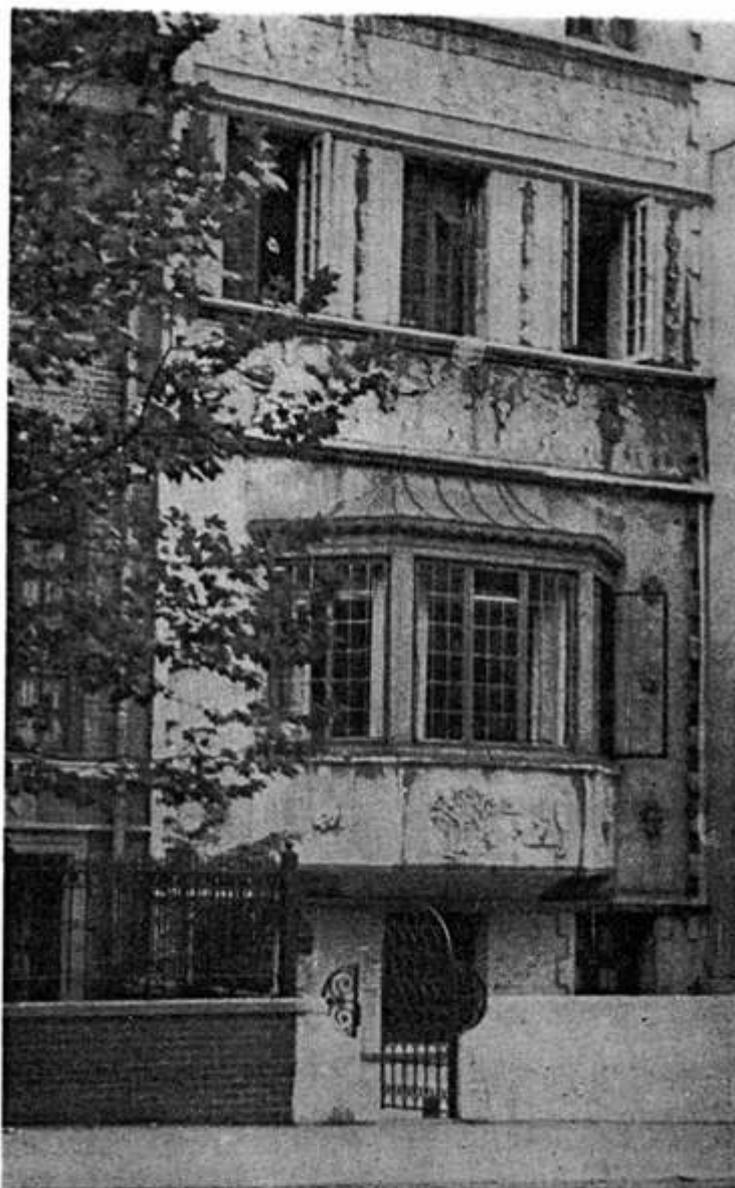
## **My God,**

**Whom** I worship and adore! I bear witness unto Thy unity and Thy oneness, and acknowledge Thy gifts, both in the past and in the present. Thou art the All-Bountiful, the overflowing showers of Whose mercy have rained down upon high and low alike, and the splendors of Whose grace have been shed over both the obedient and the rebellious.

**O God** of mercy, before Whose door the quintessence of mercy hath bowed down, and round the sanctuary of Whose Cause loving-kindness, in its inmost spirit, hath circled, we beseech Thee, entreating Thine ancient grace, and seeking Thy present favor, that Thou mayest have mercy upon all who are the manifestations of the world of being, and deny them not the outpourings of Thy grace in Thy days.

**All** are but poor and needy, and Thou, verily, art the All-Possessing, the All-Subduing, the All-Powerful.

**Baha'u'llah**



*Residence of Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Chanler  
now Caravan House*

**The New History Society was formed in the year 1929 by Mirza Ahmed Sohrab along with Lewis Chanler and his wife Julia Chanler.**

**The Goal of its existence was to spread the teachings of the Baha'i faith.**

# FOREWORD

It is an honor for us, that today we have been bestowed with the grace of the Divine Manifestation, to revive what was once the strongest call of freedom and conscience amongst the faithful in light of the teachings of Baha'u'llah and Abdul Baha'.

This magazine is not a mere publication and its purpose is not entertainment. Rather this Magazine was once and will once again be a source of inspiration for the truly faithful who are steadfast in their faith in face of the onslaught of the enemies who choose to belittle the Divine words and render meaningless the divine teachings for their material good.

We, the Free Baha'i, are not a sect or a schism in this divine Faith but to the contrary, are the true and real followers of the teachings of Baha'u'llah. The Prefix of "Free" is only an indicator that we are Free from the tyranny of the illegal administration, Free from the commands of those who have no authority, Free in mind to follow the teachings of Baha'u'llah without asking for permits, Free to read the divine books, Free to discuss, Free to teach, and Lastly Free in our duty towards the Great Manifestation.

We encourage the Faithful to conduct, as commanded by the Master, "An independent investigation of Truth" to establish firm foundations for their beliefs, and we encourage everyone to share the result of these investigations with us as we will be sharing our results with you.

This magazine is a small effort, but then every great thing starts with a small effort, to share amongst the faithful small bits of nourishment to satisfy their hunger of salvation and to keep them abreast with what has happened and what is happening today in and about the Faith.

We start from here and we hope to, with divine grace, enter your heart with kindness and love.

Loving Baha'i Greetings

Humbly,  
On behalf of the Free Baha'i Team

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**“Love is the most great law  
that ruleth this mighty and  
heavenly cycle, the unique  
power that bindeth  
together the diverse  
elements of this material  
world, the supreme  
magnetic force that  
directeth the movements of  
the spheres in the celestial  
realms.”**

*(Selections from the Writings of  
'Abdu'l-Bahá)*

# The Principles of the Free Baha'i Faith

The Free Baha'i Faith in essence remains truly faithful to the teachings of The Manifestation of God Baha'ullah and to the guidance of The Master Abdul Baha without any external or material interpretation. Based on these teachings and guidance the goal of faithful, being the followers of the True Baha'i Faith, can be summarized into these 12 Guiding principles.

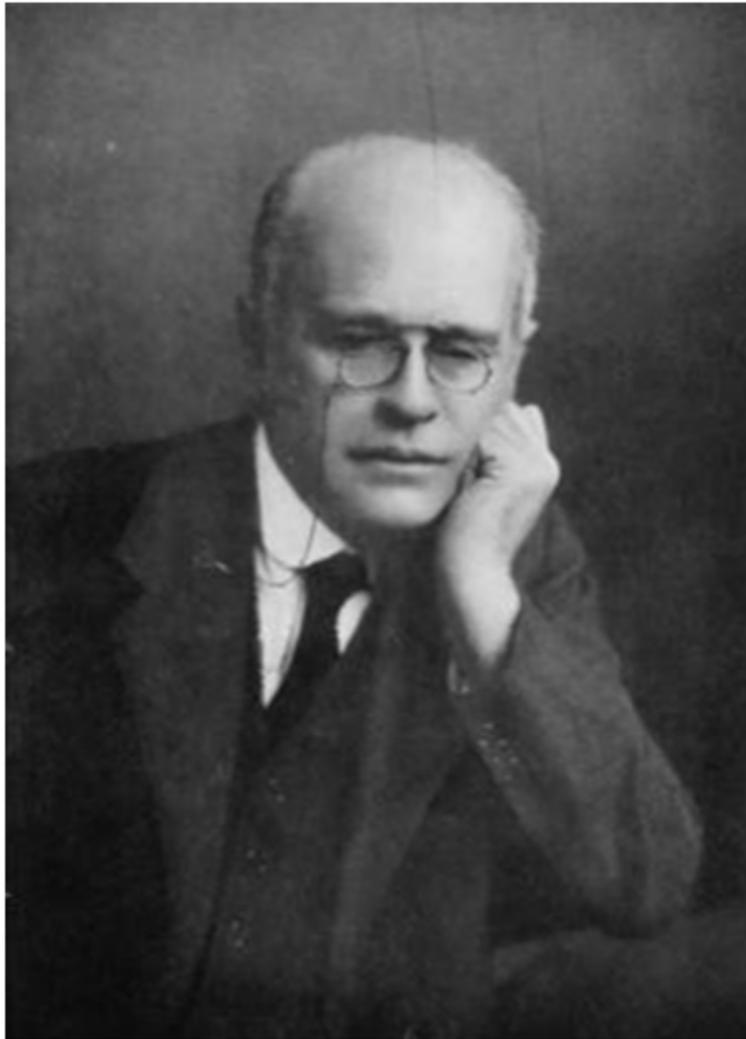
1. The Oneness of Humanity
2. Independent, Unfettered Investigation of the Truth
3. Religion is Progressive, All having a Common Foundation
4. Religion must be the Source of Unity
5. True Science and True Religion must Correspond
6. The Equality of Men and Women
7. Removal of all Prejudice
8. Universal Peace upheld by a Spiritual World Government
9. Universal Compulsory Education
10. A Spiritual Solution to the Economic Problem

## **“O CHILDREN OF MEN!**

**Know ye not why We created you all from the same dust? That no one should exalt himself over the other. Ponder at all times in your hearts how ye were created. Since We have created you all from one same substance it is incumbent on you to be even as one soul, to walk with the same feet, eat with the same mouth and dwell in the same land, that from your inmost being, by your deeds and actions, the signs of oneness and the essence of detachment may be made manifest. Such is My counsel to you, O concourse of light! Heed ye this counsel that ye may obtain the fruit of holiness from the tree of wondrous glory.”**

**Bahá'u'lláh  
The Hidden Words**

# Why is Dr C.A Mitchell important for the Baha'i Faith ?



Dr Charles Ainsworth Mitchell (20 November 1867 – 5 January 1948) was a British chemist and forensic scientist who made a special study of the microscopic and chemical study of handwriting. He was a Fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry and the Royal Society of Chemistry, and member of the Society of Public Analysts. He was editor of *The Analyst* for 25 years, president of the Medico-Legal Society (1935–1937), and vice president of the Society of Chemistry (1937–1940).

Dr Mitchell was born on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1867 in Thetford, England, the third son of Dr. T. H. Mitchell. He was educated at King William's College, and Exeter College, Oxford, graduating in 1889. In 1899 he married Edith Boyle Keely.

As a chemist and a scientist, Mitchell's work covered a wide range of topics. He became a fellow of the Royal Institute of Chemistry in 1897 and of the Royal Chemical Society in 1916. In 1907 he advocated using a pinhole camera to photograph the sun in an article in Knowledge and Scientific News, a method which he notes was known as early as 1615 but seemed to have been forgotten. In 1911, he advocated the switch from lead to copper pipes for drinking water. His reasoning was that copper would better be able to alert the drinker to an excess of poisonous sulphates in the water. In 1920, he became editor of The Analyst, a journal of the Royal Society of Chemistry, and in less than 25 years of his editorship the journal expanded in scope and saw an increase in reputation.

In 1911 he was head of the inspection bureau of the Scotland Yard. He frequently served as an expert witness. In 1915, he gave testimony about the invisible ink used in the case of German spy, Anton Kuepferle.

In 1925 he analysed documents and seals of Mary, Queen of Scots and claimed to show that Mary was innocent of conspiracy to assassinate Queen Elizabeth I of England. He said that William Maitland, Mary's secretary, forged Mary's hand in the documents which led to Mary's execution. In 1929, he was an advocate of the use of fingerprints to determine identity, a method which he traced to Sir William Herschell in 1853, who saw the method used in to document an individual's identity in India, where he was a commissioner. He showed that monkeys may be identified by fingerprints and that the same could be done with the markings on a cow's nose.

He was hired by the Lady Ruth White to analyze the Will and Testament of Abdul Baha. White opposed parts of the Will that suggested the establishment of a hierarchy in the Bahá'í Faith. His report concluded in agreement with Lady Ruth Whites allegations, that the document was a forgery. The Lady Ruth White placed a copy of Dr Mitchell's signed report of the handwriting analysis done by the latter with the U.S. Library of Congress in the year 1930.

#### **Dr Mitchell's other works include:**

- Inks: their composition and manufacture (1904)
- Science and the Criminal (1911)
- Edible Oils & Fats (1918)
- Differentiation of inks in writing Analyst (1908)
- Pencil Markings in the Bodleian Library (1922)

The Will and Testament of Abdu'l Baha is the "Centre of the Covenant" and a fundamental part of the Baha'i faith. Lady Ruth White was always aware of Shoghi Effendi's licentious nature and being a kleptomaniac. Although the Lady Ruth White was very close to the Master, He never even once mentioned about Shoghi Effendi as his successor. However, two years after Abdu'l Baha's death, His Will and Testament was released for public viewing which surprisingly had Shoghi mentioned as the successor and the guardian of the faith.

#### **References:**

Wikipedia - Ruth White (Author)

Wikipedia – C. Ainsworth Mitchell

Handwriting Analysis of the Will of Abdu'l Baha available on freebahais.org

"Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity.  
Be worthy of the trust of thy neighbor, and look upon him with a  
bright and friendly face.  
Be a treasure to the poor, an admonisher to the rich, an answerer  
to the cry of the needy, a preserver of the sanctity of thy pledge.  
Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech.  
Be unjust to no man, and show all meekness to all men.  
Be as a lamp unto them that walk in darkness, a joy to the  
sorrowful, a sea for the thirsty, a haven for the distressed, an  
upholder and defender of the victim of oppression.  
Let integrity and uprightness distinguish all thine acts.  
Be a home for the stranger, a balm to the suffering, a tower of  
strength for the fugitive.  
Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the  
erring. Be an ornament to the countenance of truth, a crown to  
the brow of fidelity, a pillar of the temple of righteousness, a  
breath of life to the body of mankind, an ensign of the hosts of  
justice, a luminary above the horizon of virtue, a dew to the soil  
of the human heart, an ark on the ocean of knowledge, a sun in  
the heaven of bounty, a gem on the diadem of wisdom, a shining  
light in the firmament of thy generation, a fruit upon the tree of  
humility."

### **Baha'u'llah**

*(An Epistle to the Son of the Wolf)*

# Congratulatory Messages of World Leaders on the Bi-centenary Celebration

Our Baha'i friends around the world celebrated the bicentennial of the birth of Baha'u'llah on October 22, 2017. Baha'u'llah was born in Tehran in 1817. Inspired by His teachings, millions worldwide celebrated the birth of the forerunner of His revelation, the Bab, born in 1819 on the day before the birth of Baha'u'llah according to the Persian calendar. These twin holy birthdays are celebrated annually by the Baha'is as one big festival.

While we were preparing for the grand celebration, we have received letters of honor from various World Leaders, congratulating Baha'is across the globe on this special occasion.

**Singapore's Prime Minister, Lee Hsien Loong**, addressed a letter to the Baha'is of his country dated 31 July 2017 thus:

*"Baha'u'llah's teachings of unity and peace are cherished values in our multi-racial and multi-religious society. I am heartened that the Baha'i community is active in inter-faith engagements, and continues to promote understanding, dialogue and interaction among people from different religions."*

The Singaporean Prime Minister's tribute is among the many that have already been received by Baha'i communities around the world.

Similar tributes have also been received from the Prime Ministers of New Zealand, India and Sri Lanka; along with a letter from a Federal Minister of Pakistan. In the United States, the city of Cambridge, Massachusetts, has also passed a resolution to honor the birth of Baha'u'llah and urge its citizens to work for the realization of peace, justice, and solidarity.

To view all these letters received by us Baha'is, you can visit our website on [www.freebahais.org](http://www.freebahais.org)

We are humbled with all the love and support received to the Baha'i community around the world and would like to thank the World Leaders for writing to us and making our event a successful one already. We look forward to many more letters and acknowledgments in the future.



*Prime Minister  
Singapore*

#### MESSAGE

Greetings to the Bahá'í community of Singapore on the occasion of the Bicentennial Birth Anniversary of Bahá'u'lláh, Founder of the Bahá'í Faith.

Bahá'u'lláh's teachings of unity and peace are cherished values in our multi-racial and multi-religious society. I am heartened that the Bahá'í community is active in inter-faith engagements, and continues to promote understanding, dialogue and interaction among people from different religions.

Your efforts will go a long way in enhancing mutual respect in a multi-faith society and strengthening Singapore's social harmony.

Wishing all our Baha'i friends the very best on this special occasion.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to be 'Lee Hsien Loong'.

31 July 2017

# Inspiring Quotes of Baha'u'llah

“Be generous in prosperity, and thankful in adversity. Be worthy of the trust of thy neighbor, and look upon him with a bright and friendly face. Be a treasure to the poor, an admonisher to the rich, an answerer to the cry of the needy, a preserver of the sanctity of thy pledge.

Be fair in thy judgment, and guarded in thy speech. Be unjust to no man, and show all meekness to all men. Be as a lamp unto them that walk in darkness, a joy to the sorrowful, a sea for the thirsty, a haven for the distressed, an upholder and defender of the victim of oppression.

Let integrity and uprightness distinguish all thine acts. Be a home for the stranger, a balm to the suffering, a tower of strength for the fugitive. Be eyes to the blind, and a guiding light unto the feet of the erring. Be an ornament to the countenance of truth, a crown to the brow of fidelity, a pillar of the temple of righteousness, a breath of life to the body of mankind, an ensign of the hosts of justice, a luminary above the horizon of virtue, a dew to the soil of the human heart, an ark on the ocean of knowledge, a sun in the heaven of bounty, a gem on the diadem of wisdom, a shining light in the firmament of thy generation, a fruit upon the tree of humility.”

*(Epistle to the Son of the Wolf)*

“The All-Knowing Physician hath His finger on the pulse of mankind. He perceiveth the disease, and prescribeth, in His unerring wisdom, the remedy. Every age hath its own problem, and every soul its particular aspiration. The remedy the world needeth in its present-day afflictions can never be the same as that which a subsequent age may require. Be anxiously concerned with the needs of the age ye live in, and centre your deliberations on its exigencies and requirements.”

*(Tabernacle of Unity)*

# Inspiring Quotes of Abdul Baha

“Now the new age is here, and creation is reborn. Humanity hath taken on new life. The autumn hath gone by, and the reviving spring is here. All things are now made new. Arts and industries have been reborn, there are new discoveries in science, and there are new inventions; even the details of human affairs, such as dress and personal effects—even weapons—all these have likewise been renewed. The laws and procedures of every government have been revised. Renewal is the order of the day.

And all this newness hath its source in the fresh outpourings of wondrous grace and favor from the Lord of the Kingdom, which have renewed the world. The people, therefore, must be set completely free from their old patterns of thought, that all their attention may be focused upon these new principles, for these are the light of this time and the very spirit of this age.”

*(Selections from the Writings of 'Abdu'l-Bahá)*

# An Update on Free Baha'i Activities

It has now been almost 10 years that we as Free Baha'is have started working actively to spread Love and Peace and during these 10 years we have gathered a lot of support from faithful globally.

We are thankful to all those Baha'i faithful who have freed themselves from the clutches of this Draconian Administration (of the Pretend uhj) and are working independently for spreading the teachings of Baha'u'llah in the true spirit of freedom and righteousness. When our Haifan friends (with their minds corrupted by the poison of false administration) objected to our spreading of love and hurled abuses at us in reply via emails, we clarified our stand : that we, the Free and True Baha'is are not your enemy, but this hatred of yours is just a by-product of an ideological difference which has made a big difference between our beliefs.

We are not here to spread any hatred or to harm any persons feeling, but if our kind words of love and admonishment are a source of pain for them then it is unintentional. And to them we would also kindly advice not to follow the divine principle of conducting an "independent Investigation of Truth" as it is going to hurt them a lot.

We follow what our Independent Investigation of truth has revealed, and this is one of the prime Baha'i principles of faith.

**Our efforts in these short 10 years have yielded these results -**

- We have a strong following in at least 8 countries.
- The Faithful in Countries like Singapore, Thailand, and West Africa have created their own blogs and are in touch with us through our web site.
- With consultation among the Faithful we decided to start an official web site for the faith, which has given us an overwhelming response worldwide, and the faithful have started joining us in large numbers.
- With the help of Global Free Baha'i team which combines contributions from faithful across the globe we have created a significant presence on social media including - Youtube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, etc where our followers are growing by the day.
- We have also received a lot of abusive emails from our Haifan friends, however we just ignore them and focus on teaching the faith.
- With great pleasure we are now reviving the Caravan Magazine which was originally started by visionary Baha'is like Julia Chanler, Ahmed Sohrab and Ruth White. This magazine will be published quarterly (as per Badi calendar) and through this magazine we aim to spread the teachings of Baha'u'llah and Abdul Baha, and will also try to accommodate some updates regarding the progress of the Free Baha'i community in spreading the faith.
- We had requested our fellow Baha'is to send their experiences with the Administration (especially with the LSA, NSA, UHJ). We have received a tremendous response to this. We will publish their stories through our Magazine while maintaining due anonymity.

# Some Questions Answered / Write to us

## Question 1



### Answer : -

Dear Rafael,

Baha'u'llah has mentioned as part of his teachings in Aqdas that every Baha'i has to pray either the Long, medium or Short Obligatory prayer once a day,.

Free Baha'i Team.

## Question 2



### Answer : -

Alla'u'Abha Shayan,

As of now we do not have those books in Persian, however they will soon be translated into various languages including Persian with the blessing of Baha'u'llah.

Loving Baha'i regards.

Free Baha'i team.

### Question 3

----- Original Message -----  
Subject: Free Bahais inquiry  
Date: 2014-03-06 06:35  
From: Daniel [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>  
To: info@freebahais.org

Good morning. I have spent most of my life in search of "The Truth". I am familiar with Baha'ullah's Teachings, but, not familiar with The Free Bahais.

Could I obtain more information on The Free Bahais? Could I join with you?

Daniel [REDACTED]

**Answer :-**

Dear Daniel,

Allah'u'Abha!

Thank you for writing us, we are glad to see your message.

With reference to your query on the Free Baha'i teachings, we have dedicated pages on our website which talk about - our teachings, our laws, our principles and mostly everything you would want to know about the Free Baha'i faith.

You can join us and become a Free Baha'i without signing any card or giving any written declaration to anyone. We believe that if a person embraces the Baha'i faith from his heart and follows the true teachings of Baha'u'llah, he is a Baha'i. A person should accept the faith from his heart, mere declaration from the tongue is not enough unless your actions are in compliance with the teachings of the faith.

As followers of the Free Baha'i faith, we do not believe in Administration. We follow our Master Abdul Baha who has said, "You cannot organise the Baha'i faith". While on his visit to America, he has clearly said that one who lives his life as per the Baha'i teachings but has not declared his faith is a Baha'i. The concept of declaration is actually made by the Baha'i Administration who are far, far away from the true essence of the Baha'i faith.

May Baha'u'llah bless you!

Regards,

The Free Baha'i Team.

# Declarations into the Free Baha'i Faith

*We* the Free Baha'is do not believe in declarations. We believe in spreading the true teachings of Baha'u'llah and don't work for numbers. A Free Baha'i should purify himself from greed of attaining positions, and start working out of love for humanity and world peace.

Our Master Abdul Baha' has clearly stated,

*"There are no officers in this Cause. I do not and have not appointed any one to perform any special services, but I encourage everyone to engage in the service of the Kingdom. The foundation of this Cause is purely a democracy, and not a theocracy."*

***(Reference: Star of the West, Vol. 8, pg. 116)***

These man-made assemblies and authoritative positions have pushed the Baha'i to work out of greed of acquiring positions which lead to fake reports and false statistics. But, if a person frees himself from administration, he will fulfil his duties towards Baha'u'llah and not for NSA or UHJ. Thus, he will be rewarded by Baha'u'llah for his efforts. For this reason, Free Baha'is do not believe in Officers or Office Bearers and one must be the Guardian of his own faith and action.

***So, anyone who would wish to be part of or work for the faith should follow the teachings of Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l Baha, serve the faith and promote world peace and harmony.***

# Did YOU Know ??



Mirza Ahmed Sohrab

**Did you know? Mirza Ahmad Sohrab served Abdu'l Baha as a secretary and interpreter for 7 years between 1912 to 1919.**



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