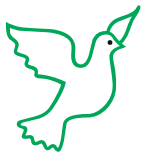




The CARAVAN

Volume 2, Edition-2
Azamat (Grandeur)
175 B.E.



Truth

Lies



“ 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



Mirza Ahmad Sohrab



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THE FREE BAHAI FAITH
FOR PUBLIC CIRCULATION



The Way of Freedom is opened!

Hasten ye!

The Way of Freedom is opened!

Hasten ye!

The Fountain of Knowledge is gushing!

Drink ye!

Say, O Friends: The Tabernacle of Oneness is raised;

look not upon each other with the eye of strangeness. Ye are all the fruits of one tree and the leaves of one branch.

Truly, I say: whatever lessens ignorance and increases knowledge, that has been, is and shall be accepted by the Creator.

Baha'u'llah

(Baha'i Scriptures, pages 132-133)

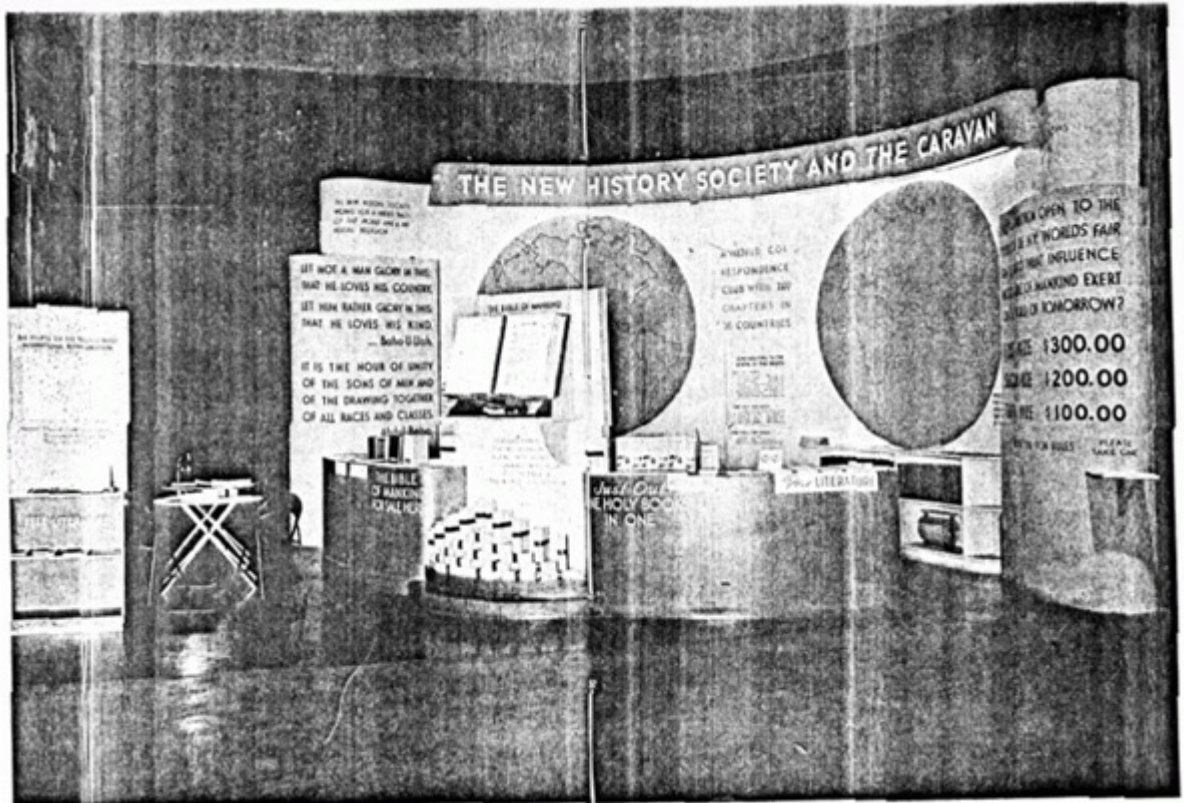


Exhibit of The New History Society at the New York World's Fair, in 1939.

Exhibit of the New History Society and the Caravan at the New York World Fair in the year 1939

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

FOREWORD

It is with Divine Blessings and your continued support in the form of an overwhelming response to our small efforts, that we are today presenting the Third Edition of this effort to spread the pristine message of God, which is Love !!

The divine words of the Great Manifestation are soothing to the hearts of the believers and thus it is our core purpose to inspire the faithful to walk on the path of righteousness and enlightenment.

The recently concluded month of fasting gave us a much needed spiritual boost by creating a divine connection between ourselves and the light of the Manifestation. The festival of Ridvan reminds us of the Holy days when believers would gather in the Garden of Ridvan in Baghdad, Iraq to congratulate and meet the Manifestation of God for 12 days.

These believers were left in such a state of awe that the words which emanated from the divine tongue found place straight in their hearts. It created a very spiritual and emotional atmosphere for the people. After being convinced that Baha'u'llah is the current Manifestation of God, they accepted the Baha'i faith at His hands. What a great honour for them to embrace the faith at the Manifestation's hands!

Fearing the rising popularity and fame of Baha'u'llah, the government of Baghdad exiled Him to Constantinople. After which He was further exiled to Adrianople and finally to Akka in Israel, where He spent rest of His life. These days of joy and celebration also reminds us of connecting ourselves with the Manifestation of God, if not by His presence, then by His words and teachings. The messages from the Manifestations of God have been loud and clear in every era. However, there have been evil-minded people in all the eras who have tried their level best to tamper the divine words and alter the message based on their personal gains. But the truth always triumphs and sooner or later it becomes evident for the sincere ones trying to follow the pristine message of God.

This edition of The Caravan Magazine contains instances where misguided ones with their evil intentions have tried to manipulate and subordinate the divine decisions. In their lust of power, they have overstepped the limits standing against the divine laws, all under the banner of religion.

We urge our readers to read the articles carefully and relate if such oppressive administrations still exist in the name of the religion but are working against the true teachings and giving a bad name to the faith.

Lastly, belated wishes of the festival to our dearest readers - A Very Happy Ridvan!

Thank you.

Humbly,

The Free Baha'i Team

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Orientation

-a poem by May Maxwell

O thou divine Bird
From gardens of light!
Thy heart piercing song
Hath shattered the night,
Dispelling the gloom
And flooding the air!
The world bath not seen
But felt thou wert there.

O thou divine Rose
From gardens of love!
Thy form of substance,
Thy breath from above,
Exhales to the world
A perfume so rare,
That tho' still unseen
We know thou art there.

O thou divine Star
From the realms on high!
Thy radiant beams
Fill earth, air, and sky!
Bereaved of the Sun
The world unaware
Now turns to Its Glory
And sees Thou art there!

(Star of the West, Vol. 15, No. 4, July 1924)

The Principles of the Free Baha'i Faith Explained

The Second Basic Baha'i Principle is:

“The Independent Investigation of the Truth.”

“All must be free to seek out truth in their own way. The second foundation stone, the sapphire, is a clear blue, “true blue,” and the color of faith, inspiration, loyalty and truth. Man must be free to soar in this “Dome of heavens blue truth,” and see it with his own eyes.” – 'Abdu'l-Baha

Truth is the object of search, amongst the principles of finding and gaining new knowledge, about the existence of ourselves. In the absence of truth or the search for it, we are but in darkness, unlearned, uncaring and an unimportant animal of creation. However, when mankind is stimulated to investigate even the simplest of items, the radiant brilliance of truth: of science, religion, knowledge of all things: is opened to his understanding. The complex patterns of the intellect, the mind in its functioning capacity, has the ability to comprehend both concrete and abstract thought patterns. Animals think in only terms of concrete visible patterns, while the whole of humanity has both the concrete and abstract thought patterns of tangible physical things as well as the unseen comprehension of intangible thoughts.

To be able to achieve the collected findings of investigated truth, we first must clear our thoughts of traditional concepts unsubstantiated by proofs. Secondly, we have to arise above the prejudices of cultural superstition and small insignificant and trivial notions. Possessing an open receptive mind is essential for positive and untarnished investigation. If we allow our thoughts to prematurely establish our concepts, that we are the only one right and everyone else can only be wrong, we then set before our investigation an obstacle to great to overcome. Truth is of one source, foundation and origin. To achieve to the pathway of truth, we must be in unity, which is essential if we are to find the awaiting truth.

Truth is one, of one accord, and cannot contradict another truth, for being of the same origin, truth is always of the same radiant vibration. A rose is beautiful and the same, no matter which garden it may bloom in. A star, shining forth constantly in the same radiance, whether from the East or Western horizon, is the same, never is its light opposed to the nature of its reality. In like manner, truth is of one nature and accord, no matter where it is found, or where it may achieve a radiant attraction to any individual.

We must find ourselves willing to clear away all that we have previously learned. Preventing traditional obstacles to clog our steps on the way to truth. We must not allow our love for any one religion or any one personality to blind our eyes and to cloud our thoughts, or we would become fettered by mere superstitions. When we become freed from all these bonds and begin seeking with liberated minds, then shall we be able to arrive at our goal, the radiant light of truth.

“God Himself does not compel the soul to become spiritual. The exercise of the free human will is necessary.” – Baha'u'llah

The investigation of truth is not binding upon mankind, rather, it is of a free will of the individual to pursue. For each individual should see and realize for himself the necessary truth manifested in the human temple. God has gifted mankind with the purest gift, the intellect. With such a tool, mankind may discover the realities of his existence, the essence of his creation, its purpose and meaning. The Prophets called onto mankind to open their eyes, not shut them, to use their reason and not to suppress it. “It is clear seeing and free thinking, not servile credulity, that will enable them to penetrate the clouds of prejudice, to shake off the fetters of blind imitation, and attain to the realization of the truth of a new Revelation.” Mankind should become adept to using all the faculties God has so gloriously given to humanity for the acquisition of truth.

It is essential that individuals should become capable of discerning the true from the false, right from wrong, and of seeing things in their true proportions. Be wary of sayings and purposed truths without valid proofs and sufficient evidence to their credibility. If a heart of the seeker is pure, and their mind is free and escapes the worldly prejudices, the true and earnest seeker will not fail to recognize the divine glory in whatever temple it may become manifested.

“O ye sons of intelligence! The thin eyelid prevents the eye from seeing the world and what is contained therein. Then think of the result when the curtain of greed over the sight of the heart! O people! The darkness of greed and envy obscures the light of the soul as the cloud prevents the penetration of the sun's rays.” – Baha'u'llah

The use of the intellect is the fundamental tool and foundation to search after truth and knowledge. A pure heart and free will to search, to investigate, is the very foundation of an independent Search for Truth. Let it swell in the hearts of all mankind. Once truth is found, then unity can be achieved in its total essence.

Dr CA Mitchell's report on the **Forgery** in the will of Abdul Baha

"Falsification of historical sources of every kind are in abundance in medieval and modern times." (Roessler/Franz, Sachworterbuch zur Deutschen Geschichte, 1958, Artikel Falschungen, p. 255.)

Over the course of history it is very evident that The Wills and Testaments of Various important figures have been tampered with to apparently draw illicit benefit to a benefactor or to add new benefactors from the concessions or estates which are to be divided by the said will and testament.

Also the same has been oft doubted about the will of Abdul Baha. While there is one category of researchers who are of the view that the entire will is a fabrication by Shoghi Effendi, there is a second group, a more dominant one amongst the doubters, who regard the will to be filled with alterations and insertions by unknown persons.

Being an investigator of truth, it is quintessential for a person to always take into account a very balanced picture and consider both sides of the argument before arriving at a conclusion.

The view of the Heterodox (Haifan) Baha'I Faith with regards to the allegations on the will and testament of Abdul Baha are worth mentioning at this juncture. Amongst the answers given by them towards people who doubt the authenticity of the Will is that the document remained unchallenged by the absolute majority amongst others. For purposes of discussion we will enumerate and discuss each separately.

Justification 1 : Majority of people accepted it without hesitation

Reply : The judgment of the majority is not the basis for establishment of God's will. If the majority was to be followed then why has the master Abdul Baha ordered for an Independent Investigation of Truth. Also extrapolating this logic, today the message of Baha'ullah is accepted by 5 million believers out of a world population of 6 billion, which means that 99.1% of the world population does not accept the message of Baha'ullah. Does this mean that they are correct?

Justification 2 : Even people who were thrown out of the faith accepted it as genuine ?

Reply : As a believer this is one of the strangest justifications that one can come across. How can one claim that “ Silence is acceptance” . This assertion is one that is of a grave nature. The argument propounds that non action against an event makes you an acceptee of the same. How strange ?

This logic is a direct slap on the face of silent dissent around the world. Does the silence of an oppressed believer in Iran , make him accepting of the oppressive policies of the regime there ? And how ridiculous is it for the Heterodox (Haifan) Baha'is to take support on the word (or inaction) of covenant breakers in context to the faith, while supporting their arguments.

Justification 3 : Dr Mitchell, whose report is heavily relied upon was not having any knowledge of Persian or Arabic

Reply : While it is true that Dr Mitchell was not literate in the languages of Arabic and Persian it is also very much true that an analysis of handwriting is done through physical observations like pen stroke, pressure, curves, density etc and not through reading and grammar. This argument is in my opinion only to pull a fast one against any person involved in an independent investigation of truth. There is not enough space here to populate the entire discussion regarding Dr Mitchell, it is sufficient to mention about Dr Mitchell that he was the Head of the Forensics at Scotland Yard !!

Justification 4 : Doubting the Will and Testament was the job of a lone wolf (Ruth white) and not corroborated by anyone else.

Reply : Do those who raise fingers on the seekers of truth, because they are less in numbers, forget that the Manifestation Baha'ullah was also at one time alone in his pursuit. The fountainhead of truth maybe from one source but this does not make the origin of truth as falsehood.

While Ruth White may or may not have been alone in doubting and subsequently exposing the falsehood after the demise of the Abdul Baha, but her findings and inferences have inspired and affected many after her.

While there are many justifications galore, available as lame excuses from the Heterodox (Haifan) Baha'i Sect, the fact remains that after close to 100 years since the Passing away of Abdul Baha, His will and testament is yet shrouded in mystery. Shoghi Effendi and his cronies have yet not released a copy of the original Will and Testament, which in itself speaks volumes.

Alas, Truth finds those who seek to find the truth.

Baha'u'llah emphasized in the following that in this day we are not to see through the eyes of clergy, popes, or successors:

“...The religious doctors of every age have been the cause of preventing the people from the shore of the Sea of Oneness, for the reins of the people were in their control. Some among them have hindered the people by love of leadership and some by lack of wisdom and knowledge.”

The Book of Ighan; page 10.

“... Among the veils of glory are the religious doctors of the age, and the theologians of the time of a Manifestation, who do not submit to the Command of God, on account of their lack of understanding and their devotion and love for outward leadership . . . As the people have taken them in place of God for their masters, they await acceptance or rejection (of the Truth) by these supporting props; for they have no sight, hearing or heart of their own to distinguish and discriminate between truth and falsehood. “Though all the Prophets, Chosen Ones and Holy Ones have commanded on the part of God that they should see and hear with their own eyes and ears, yet disregarding the exhortations of the Prophets, they have followed and will follow their divines...”

The Book of Ighan; page 117.

Shoghi Effendi and the Axe of Excommunication

After the death of Abdul Baha in November 1921, the reigns of the faith fell in the hands of his grandson Shoghi Effendi, based on the apparently made available Will and Testament of Abdul Baha. Shoghi was hence made the guardian of the faith. He along with the help of His “Hands of the Cause” organised the faith and made a system of administration to run the faith. His aim was to keep a watch and control over the activities conducted by the Baha'is worldwide and wanted the same to be reported to the then formed Universal House of Justice which was under his guardianship.

Whenever a Baha'i was found violating his laws of administration or standing foul with his supposed desire to control the faith in its totality like a dictator of sorts, he would denounce such Free thinking believers and would excommunicate them, be they the members of the family of Baha'u'llah or his own-blooded siblings. After excommunication, the believer is Branded as a covenant breaker and other Baha'is are not supposed to have any correspondence / friendship / relationship with that person in any form.

Shoghi Effendi excommunicated the entire family of Baha'u'llah in his duration as the supposed Guardian of Faith.

Following is the list of those excommunicated by Shoghi on various grounds:

1. Furighyeh Khanum, daughter of Baha'u'llah, and wife of Aga Seyyed Ali Afnan – along with their Children:

- Hussain Effendi Afnan
- Nayyar Effendi Afnan
- Feyzi Effendi Afnan
- Hassan Effendi Afnan

2. Ruhi Effendi Afnan, Grandson of Abdu'l Baha.

- Zahra Khanum: Grand-daughter of Abdul Baha and wife of Ruhi Effendi Afnan.
- Soraya Khanum; Grand-daughter of Abdul Baha and wife of Feyzi Effendi Afnan.
- Foad Effendi Afnan; Grandson of Abdul Baha.
- Mehrangiz: Granddaughter of Abdul Baha and sister of Shoghi Effendi.

3. Toubha Khanum, Second daughter of Abdul Baha.

4. Rouha Khanum; Third daughter of Abdul Baha.

5. Mirza Jalal Shahid: Son of the King of the Martyrs and husband of Rouha Khanum

(Reference: Grandson of Abdu'l Baha by Mirza Ahmad Sohrab)

“Ruhi Effendi Afnan acted as confidential secretary to the Guardian of the Bahai Cause for fourteen years; and the records of the Bahai organization show that during that time, from 1922 to 1936, he was constantly in demand in a variety of capacities. In 1924, he appeared in London as Shoghi Effendi's personal representative and delivered a brilliant address on the Bahai Religion before The Conference of Some Living Religions Within the British Empire. In 1927, he visited the United States as traveling agent and spiritual salesman of the Guardian, championing with fervour and zeal the system of Bahai administration before recognized and declared Bahais. He was an outstanding and honored guest at the 20th Annual Bahai Convention in Chicago, where he participated vitally in all proceedings; was the guest speaker at Green Acre Bahai Summer School in Maine, and travelled from coast to coast, delivering Bahai speeches before churches, colleges and outside gatherings. In 1928, we find him in Geneva, Switzerland, where, as the accredited representative of the Bahai Cause, he participates in the Conference of International Peace through the Churches. Here, we see him taking the floor, offering some constructive suggestions which, as one report says, were very much to the point, and carrying his argument. In 1935, with the Guardian's approval (See Baha'i News, page 3, October 1935) he pays his second visit to the United States; takes part in the National Bahai meeting in Chicago and, before his departure addresses several local Bahai communities.

At some future date I will contrast the above-mentioned item in Bahai News with a recent cablegram of Shoghi Effendi dated November 10, 1941, which states that Ruhi Effendi failed to obtain the Guardian's approval of his second visit to America. I will also examine in detail the work accomplished by Ruhi Effendi in this country; but, for the present, I am merely tabulating the facts. Thus, for fourteen years, Ruhi Effendi, as confidential secretary of the Guardian, was the main channel of communication between him and the Western world.”

(Reference: Grandson of Abdul Baha- Mirza Ahmad Sohrab)

Regardless of his service and loyalty to the faith, Shoghi excommunicated him for visiting America the second time without his permission.

Mirza Ahmad Sohrab, the translator and secretary to Abdul Baha, would always accompany Abdul Baha in all his visits to various countries. After the death of Abdul Baha, he began preaching the writings of Baha'u'llah and Abdul Baha which was open to all. He formed the New History Society with the intent to spread the Holy Writings openly and in an accessible manner to all the mankind.

When Shoghi Effendi saw this growing popularity and prompt success of Sohrab, he ordered the NSA of US & Canada to ask Ahmad to conduct all the teaching activities under their surveillance and to report them all his activities. Ahmad who very well knew the nature of Abdul Baha to propagate the faith freely and openly without organizing it, denied the NSA of exercising their power on him. Same was conveyed to Shoghi, who conveniently excommunicated the secretary of the Centre of Covenant- Mirza Ahmad Sohrab. Mrs Ruth White who supported Ahmad in his efforts also faced similar out casting.

History is evident as to how Ahmad Sohrab and others excommunicated by Shoghi Effendi, served the faith selflessly and sincerely. The Enemies of the faith wanted to stop the spread of the true teachings under the threat of shunning and excommunication. However, truth triumphed over the falsehood and this Excommunication acted as a catalyst for Sohrab to spread the true words of Baha'u'llah and Abdul Baha without any alterations through the New History Society and the Caravan Magazine.

Even today there are some enemies of the faith, trying to stifle the spread of true message of Baha'u'llah and Abdul Baha.

Inspiring Quotes of Baha'u'llah

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)

Only when the lamp of search, of earnest striving, of longing desire, of passionate devotion, of fervid love, of rapture, and ecstasy, is kindled within the seeker's heart, and the breeze of His loving-kindness is wafted upon his soul, will the darkness of error be dispelled, the mists of doubts and misgivings be dissipated, and the lights of knowledge and certitude envelop his being.

(The Kitáb-i-Íqán)

The wise are they that speak not unless they obtain a hearing, even as the cup-bearer, who proffereth not his cup till he findeth a seeker, and the lover who crieth not out from the depths of his heart until he gazeth upon the beauty of his beloved. Wherefore sow the seeds of wisdom and knowledge in the pure soil of the heart, and keep them hidden, till the hyacinths of divine wisdom spring from the heart and not from mire and clay.

(Hidden Words)

Inspiring Quote of Abdul Baha

Praise be to God! You are living upon the great continent of the West, enjoying the perfect liberty, security and peace of this just government. There is no cause for sorrow or unhappiness anywhere; every means of happiness and enjoyment is about you, for in this human world there is no greater blessing than liberty. You do not know. I, who for forty years have been a prisoner, do know. I do know the value and blessing of liberty. For you have been and are now living in freedom, and you have no fear of anybody. Is there a greater blessing than this? Freedom! Liberty! Security! These are the great bestowals of God. Therefore, praise ye God!

- Abdu'l Baha

(The Promulgation of Universal Peace, Vol 1, page 49)

Words of Abdu'l Baha from an address delivered before the Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, M Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

April 23, 1912.

An Update on Free Baha'i Activities

"Verily, all created things were immersed in the sea of purification when, on that first day of Ridván, We shed upon the whole of creation the splendours of Our most excellent Names and Our most exalted Attributes."

(Kitab-i-Aqdas)

Dear Faithful Friends,
Allah'u'Abha!

We, the Free Baha'is take immense pleasure to publish our third Caravan Magazine which has come out in the month of Azamat. Last two months have been very busy due to Naw'ruz and Ridwan celebrations. We received greetings from the faithfuls worldwide. Our friends from USA, Thailand and Singapore shouldered the responsibility of printing the magazine and circulating it amongst the Baha'is in their respective countries. Three other Baha'i friends based in Canada published the magazine and have gifted it to their friends around the world.

We have received an incredible response from the faithful worldwide on regular publishing of the Caravan Magazine. Thousands of emails poured in enquiring about the Free Baha'i faith. All the emails were replied by our friends in Singapore, USA, and Canada. As the burden is increasing, we are distributing responsibility with the friends who come forward and extend their help for spreading the word of Baha'u'llah. Friends from Canada are preparing to start a blog dedicated to the activities of the Free Baha'is of Canada and to spread the word of Baha'u'llah.

There were suggestions from the faithful to study the alleged Will and Testament of the Master, which after consultation in the Ridvan meetings; it was unanimously decided to start an in-depth research on the forged Will. We will keep sharing the updates of the research with you through our Magazine. As the research is going to be intensive, it will be a series of articles spread across various editions.

A frequent question that we have been asked about is Huquq'u'llah. As stated by the Master, **Huquq'u'llah is the sole right of the Guardian and since there is no Guardian in the faith today, each believer is the Guardian of his own faith.** It is compulsory to take out Huquq'u'llah every year, but then the question arises - Where do the Baha'is spend this holy money? Well, as Baha'u'llah has said, "The World is but one Country and Mankind are its citizen", this amount should be paid to the needy and under-privileged and **should be spent towards the upliftment of society.**

It is very unfortunate and disheartening to see how the Haifan Sect is spending Huquq'u'llah on the UHJ members and councillors, the most recent example of wastage of Huquq'u'llah of the faithfuls was the paid vacation trip of 1300 delegates to Haifa on the pretext of elections to announce the pre-selected members of the fraudulent Universal House of Justice.

Lastly, we would like to thank one and all for supporting and motivating us in spreading the pristine message of Baha'u'llah and encouraging us to keep moving ahead.

Some Questions Answered / Write to us

Question 1

Question what did Abdu'l-Baha mean with this quote? Inbox x



Rafael <rafael.rahman@gmail.com>
to info



Hi friends,

Thank you for everything. It was nice to hear from you recently. I had sent an email recently asking for clarification on what did Abdu'l-Baha mean with this quote from the him below, but have not yet received a response back. Would you be so kind as to help me in this matter by sending me a response to the question. What does he mean by it? Does he mean you can be a Christian and still be a Baha'i, a Freemason and still be a Baha'i, a Muslim and still be a Baha'i or does he mean something else?

Love you all.

Rafael

"You can be a Bahai-Christian, a Bahai-Freemason, a Bahai-Jew, a Bahai-Muhammadan." *Abdul-Baha in London*(98).

Answer:

Allah'u'Abha!

We're glad to hear from you yet again. Regarding your question, we believe that a person should be a Baha'i in actions and not words.

"When asked on one occasion: "What is a Baha'i?" 'Abdu'l Baha replied: "To be a Baha'i simply means to love all the world; to love humanity and try to serve it; to work for universal peace and universal brotherhood." On another occasion He defined a Baha'i as "one endowed with all the perfections of man in activity."

In one of His London talks He said that a man may be a Baha'i even if He has never heard the name of Baha'u'llah.

He added, "The man who lives the life according to the teachings of Baha'u'llah is already a Baha'i. On the other hand, a man may call himself a Baha'i for fifty years, and if he does not live the life he is not a Baha'i."

Source: Baha'u'llah and the New Era

In case you have any more questions about the Baha'i faith, feel free to write to us at info@freebahais.org and we will be happy to help you. :)

Humbly,

The Free Baha'i Team

Question 2

Fw: How can I join the struggle, be an actual member? Inbox x



Free Bahais <freebahais@yahoo.com>
to info



On Saturday, 11/11/17, 2:58 AM, Ricks R... <...@yahoo.com> wrote:

Please send me a newsletter. ALSO, I HAVE DECLARED MY FAITH IN BAHA'ULLAH AND WISH TO JOIN...I KNOW ABOUT THE CONTROVERSIES, AND I WISH TO AFFILIATE WITH YOU...WHAT IS MY NEXT STEP?

Answer:

Hi Ricks,
Allah'u'Abha!

We're glad to hear from you. We, the Free Baha'is do not believe in Administration. We follow the pristine teachings of Baha'u'llah and thus we don't believe in having any form of declaration of the faith. You can spread the true message of Baha'u'llah and let the world know that Shoghi Effendi acquired the position as a Guardian based on a forged Will and Testament of the Master. Ultimately, the complete administrative body, which Shoghi had built, has no ground and stands to be void.

Humbly,
The Free Baha'i Team

Question 3

Fw: Membership Info Inbox x

Free Bahais <freebahais@yahoo.com>
to info

On Saturday, February 1, 2014, 4:50 AM, Paul D. [mailto:pd@freebahais.com] wrote:

Hello Dear Friends Brothers and Sisters,

I am writing to you for membership information in the Free Bahai Faith. I am in complete agreement with the philosophy of the FBF.

I have been a Bahai for 26 years, resigning my membership from the Haifa group in 1998. I am still a Bahai, and I desire fellowship within the FBF. I have been searching for an association of Bahais to be in fellowship with and chose the FBF. I will enclose my snail mail address should you want to send me an application to fill out, or if you do have applications you may send it to this e-mail address.

I look forward to hearing from you about my membership in the FBF. I am soooooooooo happy that I found your site. My snail mail address is:

Paul D. [mailto:pd@freebahais.com]
6106 Trabuco Vista Drive
Tampa Florida 33615

I will look forward to your e-mail.

Answer:

Hi Paul,
Allah'u'Abha!

Thank you for writing to us! We Free Baha'is do not believe in declaration or signing of cards, although we're really glad to know you have accepted the facts and now follow the pristine message of Baha'u'llah. It would be great if you could write your story of what made you leave the mainstream Haifan Baha'is. Eagerly waiting to know what made you resign after 26 years of service. We would like to publish your story in our upcoming magazine.

In case you have any questions about the Baha'i faith, feel free to write to us at info@freebahais.org and we will be happy to help you. :)

Humbly,
The Free Baha'i Team

Question 4

Fwd: Question Inbox x



 **Free Bahais** <freebahais@gmail.com>
to info 



----- Forwarded message -----
From: <calvin@freebahais@gmail.com>
Date: Sat, 17 Feb 2012 at 1:35 AM
Subject: Question
To: freebahais@gmail.com

Hi
I have some question regarding the Free Bahai and hope you can answer for me.
Is there an leader of this religion and guides that community like the UHJ? How does one convert to this Faith? Are we allow to practice other religion as will like the Reform Bahai? Are members allow to live their religion their own way?
Thank you
Calvin
Sent from my BlackBerry device on the Rogers Wireless Network

Hi Calvin,
Allah'u'Abha!

Thank you for writing to us. We do not believe in administration or leadership as the Master has said, "There are no officers in this cause." Our Independent Investigation of truth revealed that Shoghi Effendi on the basis of the forged Will and Testament of the Master became the Guardian of the Baha'i faith and created greed amongst Baha'is of becoming paid officers. Every Baha'i started working with the sole intention of becoming members of LSA, NSA or ABM and not to serve the faith. This lead people to turn away from the true teachings of Baha'u'llah which was to serve humanity. We believe that every Baha'i is the guardian of his own faith and it is a duty of all of us to spread the message of Baha'u'llah far and wide.

Regarding your other question, it is a known fact that Abdu'l Baha in his lifetime used to frequent Mosques and at the same time was a faithful Baha'i, working for the Cause. So, we see no harm if you being a Baha'i visit a Church and mingle amongst the Christians but follow and try to disseminate the message of Baha'u'llah around the world.

In case you have any more questions about the Baha'i faith, feel free to write to us at info@freebahais.org and we will be happy to help you. :)

Humbly,
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 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.

Why do you think the Baha'i Faith got split into various groups after the passing away of the Master? Don't you think the rule of the so-called guardian Shoghi Effendi and his Administration has played a very crucial role in the division and disunity of the Baha'is?

Have you done your independent investigation of truth ?

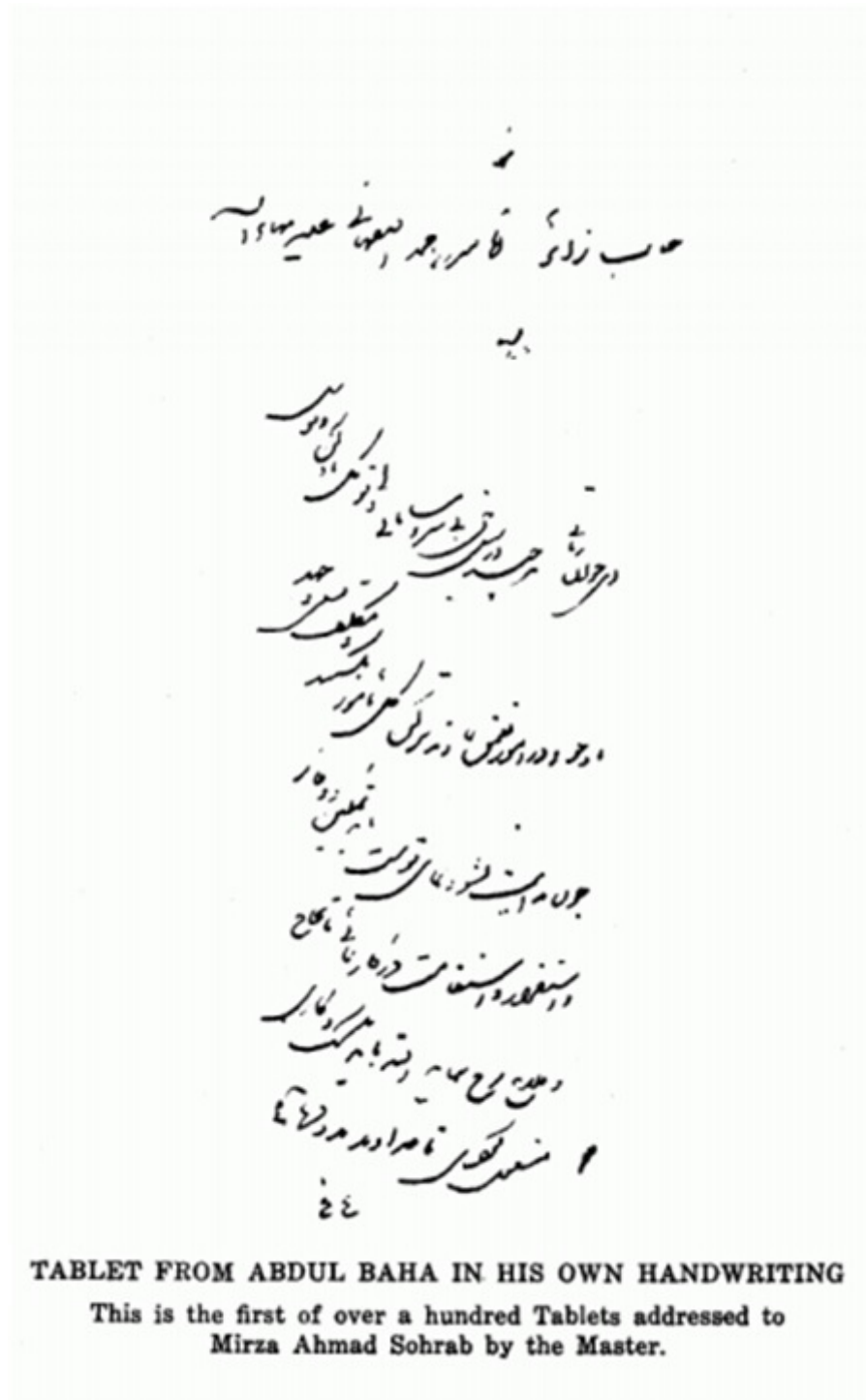
Abdu'l Baha has said,

“... It is the duty of everyone to investigate reality, and investigation of reality by another will not do ...”

“God has given man the eye of investigation by which he may see and recognize truth. He has endowed man with ears that he may hear the message of reality and conferred upon him the gift of reason by which he may discover things for himself. This is his endowment and equipment for the investigations of reality. Man is not intended to see through the eyes of another, hear through another's ears nor comprehend with another's brain. Each human creature has individual endowment, power and responsibility in the creative plan of God. Therefore, depend upon your own reason and judgment and adhere to the outcome of your own investigation; otherwise you will be utterly submerged in the sea of ignorance and deprived of all the bounties of God. Turn to God; supplicate humbly at his threshold, seeking assistance and confirmation, that God may rend asunder the veils that obscure your vision. Then will your eyes be filled with illumination; face to face you will behold the reality of God and your heart become completely purified from the dross of ignorance, reflecting the glories and bounties of the kingdom.”

The Promulgation of Universal Truth. Discourses Abdul Baha; pages 285-287-288

Know your Heritage



Did YOU Know ??

Once in a while, I disagreed with the Master. In such instances, he would sit and listen to my arguments on some project or other and, after ten or fifteen minutes, would rise to his feet. I also would be standing. Then, he would twist one of my ears, slap me forcibly on the cheek, and thunder:—

Mirza Ahmad, you have courage! We shall do as you suggest.

Occasionally, having started to move away, he would turn around and, with a twinkle in his eye, would add:—

Mirza Ahmad! Next time, display more courage.

Impressed, bewildered, I would be left alone to marvel at the human and divine miracle that was Abdul Baha.

Despite being the Master of the Baha'i faith, Abdu'l Baha used to respect difference of opinion and never used to criticise anyone.

Mirza Ahmed Sohrab has brought this incident in his book 'Broken Silence' and we would like to relate it here for our readers' reference.

We the Free Baha'is,

believe in Sharing both our thoughts and our ideas to better understand the faith.

If you have a doubt or a question or if you just need to share something then we would encourage you to do it. Because from sharing we learn and when we learn we grow and when we grow, We Succeed.

We are an open community of faithful who believe in questioning, more than believe in blind acceptance, and we will be prepared to answer all sorts of questions.

Remember there is no Administration here !!!

Want to be a contributor for The Caravan Magazine ?

Interested in contributing to the Caravan Magazine by writing a guest article?

Kindly send us your article at thecaravan@freebahais.org and if we find your article unique, knowledgeable and interesting enough for our readers, we will surely publish it in our upcoming issue.

If you have any other queries, you can write to us at

info@freebahais.org

Thank you!

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