



The CARAVAN



INVESTIGATION OF REALITY WILL AND TESTAMENT OF ABDU'L BAHÁ

Volume 2, Edition-7
'Alá (Loftiness)
175 B.E.



? DID YOU KNOW

LGBT



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-Bahá

THESE ARE THE DAYS OF THE FAST. BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO THROUGH THE HEAT GENERATED BY THE FAST INCREASETH HIS LOVE, AND WHO, WITH JOY AND RADIANCE, ARISETH TO PERFORM WORTHY DEEDS

- BAHÁ'ULLAH



PUBLISHED BY

THE FREE BAHÁ'Í FAITH

FOR PUBLIC CIRCULATION

Ordain for me, O my Lord...

Ordain for me, O my Lord, and for those who believe in Thee that which is deemed best for us in Thine estimation, as set forth in the Mother Book, for within the grasp of Thy hand Thou holdest the determined measures of all things.

Thy goodly gifts are unceasingly showered upon such as cherish Thy love, and the wondrous tokens of Thy heavenly bounties are amply bestowed on those who recognize Thy divine Unity. We commit unto Thy care whatsoever Thou hast destined for us, and implore Thee to grant us all the good that Thy knowledge embraceth.

Protect me, O my Lord, from every evil that Thine omniscience perceiveth, inasmuch as there is no power nor strength but in Thee, no triumph is forthcoming save from Thy presence, and it is Thine alone to command. Whatever God hath willed hath been, and that which He hath not willed shall not be.

There is no power nor strength except in God, the Most Exalted, the Most Mighty.

- Prayer of The Bab



1912: Abdu'l Baha with His entourage and Wendell Phillip Dodge on Riverside Drive,
New York

FOREWORD

It is a great honour for us to present the 7th and final Edition of Volume 2 of the Caravan Magazine with the blessings and grace of Baha'u'llah.

"All effort and exertion put forth by man from the fullness of his heart is worship, if it is prompted by the highest motives and the will to do service to humanity. You must become distinguished for loving humanity, for unity and accord, for love and justice." – Abdu'l-Baha

We have been spreading the message of Baha'u'llah and the Master that a Baha'i is not a Baha'i until he has in his heart love for the humanity. Jesus was sent for the humanity, but the Christians took him, and others were left out. Same goes for the Muslims, the Jews, and the Buddhists. God did not send the Messengers for a group, but for the entire humanity. They were sent to bring people closer, but a handful of their followers started labelling others as deviants and went against the original teachings of the faith.

Woefully, after the passing away of the Master, the so-called Guardian of the Baha'i faith, Shoghi Effendi walked on the same path and started labelling anyone and everyone as covenant breakers and kicked them out of the faith. This adversely effected the spreading of the message of Baha'u'llah, because Shoghi Effendi was more concerned about the Administration and power and least interested in the essence of faith and its primary teachings.

Some early Baha'is like Ahmad Sohrab and Ruth White who were working sincerely on the teachings of the Master and reaching out more people with the pristine message, were also declared covenant breakers and kicked out from the faith. But as is the fact that the power and support of God is with the honest and truthful ones, nothing stopped them and with the blessings of Baha'u'llah, they continued with their efforts and saw fruitful results. Their efforts can be witnessed even today in the form of books and magazines. These great personalities give us great courage of working in obstacles. The Administration couldn't stop them then, and the Administration will not be able to stop us now. We are thankful to all our readers for appreciating our efforts and showing great interest in the Caravan Magazine. With your love and support and with the blessings of Baha'u'llah, we are sure there is no stopping of the Caravan.

This edition of the Caravan contains further analysis of the alleged Will and Testament of the Master where we have tried to prove through a contextual analysis that how the Will was forged and how Shoghi took over the power and overstepped the limits standing against the divine laws, all under the banner of religion.

"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

We urge our new readers to first read the previous editions of the Caravan carefully to get a proper understanding and lead to a derived conclusion. If you have any feedback/suggestions/queries, kindly mail it to info@freebahais.org, and we will be happy to get in touch with you.

Thank you!
The Free Baha'i Team

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I Cling to You!

I cling to you, oh Lord
as the flame clings to the wick,
a passing of the draft leaves them still one,
a breaking through the clouds-

I cling to you oh Lord
as the day clings to the sun.
What perfume would I have
save the perfume of the rose,
what melody besides the lover's song!
As tears to watching eyes.

I cling to you oh Lord
while the night marches along.

-Julie Chanler

The Principles of the Free Baha'i Faith Explained

The Seventh Basic Baha'i Principle is:

"Universal Peace"

The world longs for peace. But none of its respective nations, not even America is prepared to relinquish nationalism to the extent which Baha'u'llah pointed out would be necessary in an effective world organization.

Two mandatory considerations are still withheld from fulfilment in the United Nations. The first is the relinquishment of national sovereignty to the point of accepting without right of veto the adjudications of a world court. The second inevitable requirement of stable peace is national disarmament down to the point of internal security only, and the establishment of an international police force. The world is not yet ready for these two momentous steps. Nor can they be accomplished without due caution.

World peace is not merely a matter to be arranged between governments by treaties. It is the concern of every citizen of this one-world home of humanity. This is the point of exercising our free will to avoid that nullification of progress, that race annihilation that threatens us.

"The unity of the human race, as envisaged by Baha'u'llah, implies the establishment of a world commonwealth in which all nations, races, creeds and classes are closely and permanently united, and in which the autonomy of its state members and the personal freedom and initiative of the individuals that compose them are definitely and completely safeguarded." – Baha'u'llah

The abolition of war is to be only the first step in a colossal plan for a world organized in effective unity. Fully functioning as a federated unit and dedicated to the establishment of a universal civilization founded on justice and good will. Expressing itself in forms of prosperity, beauty, and joy-of-living more glorious than even the world's great poets and seers have envisioned and conceived.

The miracle of the rapid growth of a will-to-peace throughout the world is directly concomitant with the development of new and terrifying death-dealing military weapons. War on the ground had always been tragically destructive. But war from the air, on the scale recently attained, is too devastating for humanity to endure.

“.... instrumentations of warfare would become so deadly and all-destructive as to eventually compel humanity to desist from war entirely.” – Baha'u'llah

There exists today that which did not exist in 1870, therefore the world, in 1870, gave little heed to the proclamations of Baha'u'llah. It overlooked one item which would eventually induce a desperate search for permanent peace, changing world events. These world events have proved the truth of this prognostication. Sadly enough, it is not idealism which is at last inducing humanity to outlaw war. It is not the moral sense but the fear of race annihilation which under entirely new and unexpected conditions, forces governments to entertain new and unexpected convictions and goals. Human nature may not greatly change, as the cynics maintain. But the directives of human activity often change, and never are they more potently active than today. So that now there exists a universal will to avoid war which is equivalent to a universal will-to-peace.

“Peace is not something we fall into because we react against war. Peace is a positive achievement involving an organized world community of law and order which we must want so much that we are willing to pay the full price it costs.” – Harry Emerson Fosdick

The world order of Baha'u'llah is a goal which we can visualize in outline, and towards which we may strive. It is no magic millennium which will result from some particular political or economic action. It is founded on the spiritual concept of the oneness of mankind and raises a structure by which this unity may be preserved and developed. “The earth is but one country, and mankind its citizens” is its principle.

The Alleged Will of Abdu'l Baha - An Analysis PART 4

In the past editions of our magazine, we presented to our valued readers, the unchanged words of Abdul Baha as mentioned in his alleged Will and Testament. In the following editions would be the series of articles showing detailed analysis of the alleged Will based on its content, flow and theme. For the simplicity of understanding, we have divided this analysis into Contextual analysis, Linguistic analysis and Visual analysis. This analysis would help our readers in their independent investigation of truth. We urge our readers to read this analysis in between the lines and try to draw some conclusion.

CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS:

One of the strongest observations made by any lay reader, let alone a researcher or an enthusiast is that the piece of literary work, which is the Will and Testament of Abdul Baha, shows an absolutely disruptive narrative. Any number of Wills and testaments when read and analysed give us a clear path as the declarations and / or covenants made in the will and testament. I would for the sake of posterity call it a linear pattern of narration.

However, the same is not always the case, a more fluid mind may come up with a more complex flow of narration which we would call as an organic pattern of narration. However, what remains constant in any form of narration is that the narration starts from point A and ends at a point Z.

As a norm of communication, when you wish to convey a certain message across you shall use the easiest possible narrative path to put It across, for example:

Message : There shall be steak for dinner tonight.

Linear Pattern : We shall be having rib eye steak and mashed potatoes for dinner followed by some Apple pie for dessert.

Organic Pattern: We shall be having steak for dinner tonight, preferably rib eye. Along with some mashed potatoes and some apple pie for dessert

What is being conveyed here is that if there is a message which has to be conveyed which contains the following elements - A , B , C,D , E , F then the message will follow a narrative and end with the closing element. Simplifying the earlier given example

| | | |
|------------------------|----------|------------------------------|
| Message | : | A,B,C,D |
| Linear Pattern | : | A - B - C - D - E - F |
| Organic Pattern | : | A - C - B - E - D - F |

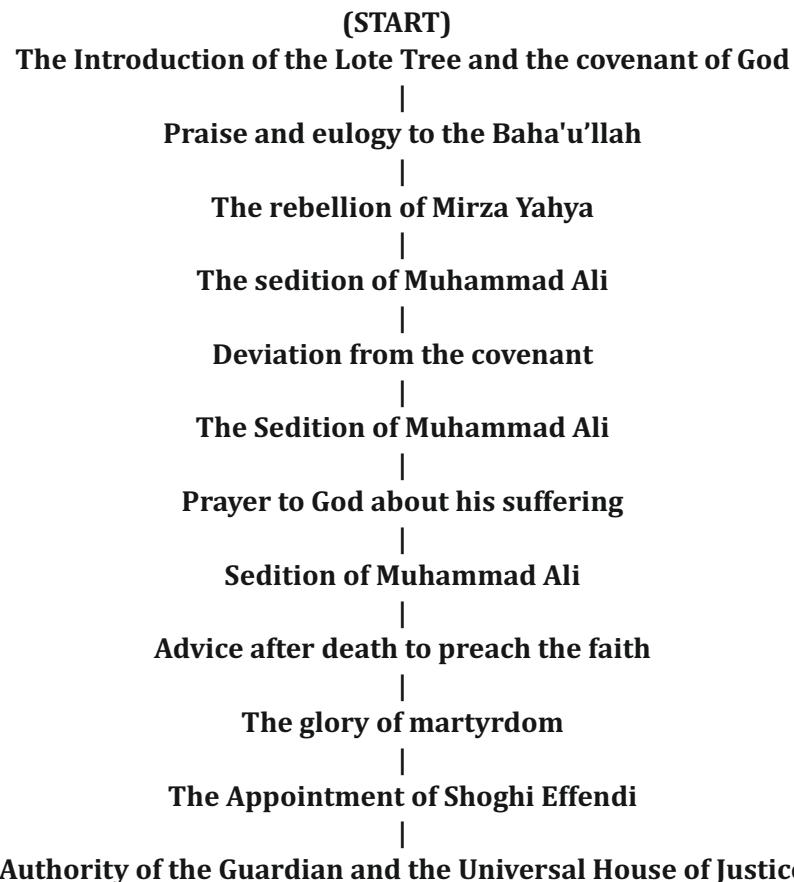
However, when we analyse the will and testament of Abdul Baha, the same does not appear to follow any form or standard of narration. The contents of the entire will as well as the premises of the narration can be called highly unorganized at best. On a personal note I would classify it as haphazard.

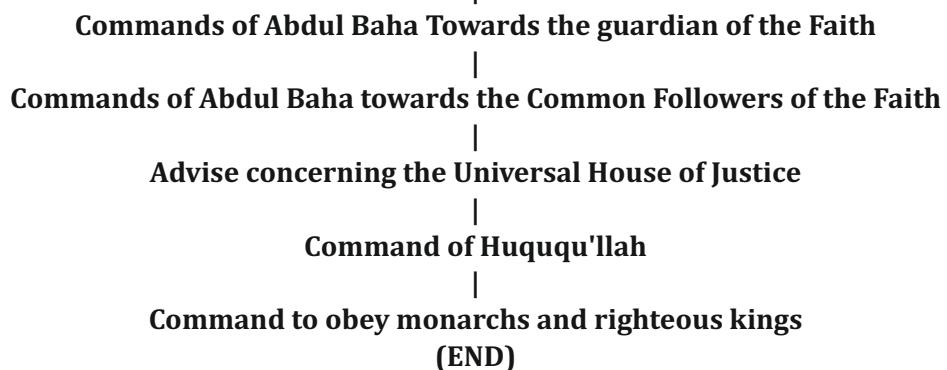
At best the theme of the will can be called as wavering, which is an indication that the will was not written in one session as would be normal. Either that or one would have to question the state of mind of the Writer of the will, something which we are unwilling to do. A third possibility which also turns up is that the will and testament was written one piece at a time and finally stitched together to form what would try to appear as a homogenous document. However, this possibility opens the chances that additions or subtractions could have been made to the said document without a lot of effort.

For now, we shall let the possibility remain aside while we analyse the will contextually and take a look at overall wavering themes and some of the abrupt interruptions.

Since the appointment of Shogi Effendi as the guardian of the cause of God comes along in the First part of the will for purposes of analysis the first part of the will is of prime and meaningful importance and hence it is made as the center of this analysis.

Analysing the First part and making note of the themes that are present in it, we get the following theme flow:





As we have discussed before, the theme in the entire document flows in a very haphazard manner. The same can be observed from the above given theme flow diagram. There is absolutely no maintenance of the overall theme in the document and the same keeps jumping from one element to the other. The theme keeps alternating between the glory of the covenant and the sedition of Muhammad Ali until it reaches a point where suddenly there is talk of his death and the Will to his followers to preach the faith calling it the head corner stone of the foundation of the faith and the basic requirement in servitude, which then turns to Christ and his followers and the glory of martyrdom.

All of this is then followed by a sudden appointment of Shoghi Effendi as the guardian of the faith, without any prior introduction to the persona of Shoghi Effendi or the importance of the office of Guardianship. On the contrary the importance and the authority of the guardian follows the appointment of the guardian. However surprisingly the persona or character of the guardian appointee is never introduced nor praised, which is rather strange in context to the document because all of the persons mentioned in this document are properly introduced (either positively as in the case of Baha'Ullah or negatively as in the case of Muhammad Ali).

The strangeness continues as Abdul Baha continues after that to address the guardian regarding his duties without naming him even once or even without the use of any honorifics for him.

After this, the document again resumes with advice of Abdul Baha for common followers of the faith, which was abruptly interrupted (after his advice for teaching and martyrdom) with the appointment of Shoghi Effendi. The discussion then naturally proceeds to the importance of the Universal House of Justice in the resolution of conflicts and ways and manners on the functioning of the same.

In continuation with the theme of advice the document then states the command of Huququ'llah, a fixed monthly amount to be paid to the guardian as his right. This is then followed by the advice to obey the kings and monarchs ruling in the world and to not rebel.

However, quite shockingly the document ends here. Although it is common knowledge, it is worthwhile to repeat that the second part is not a continuation of the first part and is a document written separately.

Such an abrupt ending to the most important treatise in the Will and document raises a whole lot of questions in the minds of any reader, let alone a researcher. One can only come across three possible scenarios:

1. The writer of the document was very unstable linguistically
2. The document has been abruptly cut off intentionally (to possibly cover something)
3. The document was written piecemeal

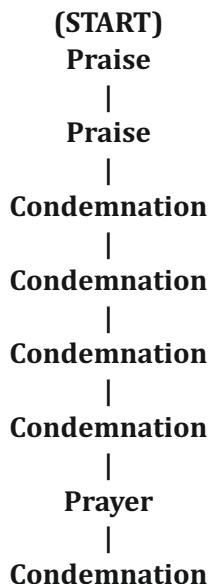
Running logical analysis on either of these three scenarios, we come up with the following explanations:

1)The writer of the document was very unstable linguistically: After going through a whole lot of the works of Master Abdul Baha including many of his tablets, one can safely and correctly conclude that Abdul Baha was a man with a good linguistic sense and style. Hence either we can conclude that the author is not Abdul Baha himself or we have to reject this explanation. For now, we shall accept that the author of this document is in fact Abdul Baha.

2)The document has been abruptly cut off intentionally (to possibly cover something): Given the fact that the document has a linguistically fantastic start, and builds up tempo with every passing line, it is difficult to believe that the document could have had such an abrupt end. For now, we shall keep this scenario in consideration but at the moment not allege that it was cut short in order to cover or hide something.

3)The document was written piecemeal: As we discussed earlier the same is a possibility considering that the theme of the document keeps jumping from here to there throughout the length of the document. However, upon closer inspection and analysis one can also see and make out that the overall flow is maintained if the Part of Shoghi Effendis appointment is struck off.

To make my point clearer, let us see this flow diagram:





As we can see from the above if the sudden appointment of Shoghi Effendi as guardian is removed the entire theme of the document falls into place. However, this further also accepts out earlier scenario where we concluded that the will and testament has been abruptly cut off.

Seeing this from a purely contextual point of view, it does seem that the appointment of Shoghi Effendi as guardian is out of context in the document wherein it is an interruption to the overall theme, an asymmetric composition in the midst of a homogenous narrative. This is giving heavy evidence for the explanation that we have derived that the appointment of Shoghi effendi may very well be an insertion in the Will and Testament of Abdul Baha.

The above analysis has been made with an eagle's eye look at the alleged Will that has been purported and marketed by the Shoghi Effendi and the Administrative Baha'is after the death of Master Abdul Baha. In our upcoming editions we will be presenting the analysis of alleged Will from various other point of view.

Why I Left the Faith

(Guest Article)

My name is Dereje Amera. I live in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. I was a Baha'i for 15 years, meaning I declared myself as bahai at age 22, and I resigned by heart from this Faith at age 35. Now, I am 47 years of age. I am alone and single.

Reason I am writing to you is not I am not looking for marriage or money or any kind of material advantage, but on matters and aspects which you adders on your site, especially few of the points you state on your site are in alignment with what I think and understand by now, after certain and strange experience visited my life few years back which changed course of my thinking and understanding to a different perspective about this Faith.

I would appreciate I can receive few insights from your side as well since that given bizarre experience put me in perplexity for few years, which afterwards happen to become clear and clearer to me since I made my own personal investigation and research in my own way on that given subject matter.

Like any ordinary Baha'i which belongs under administrative guidance and obligation from Baha'i World Center in Haifa, as head of that religion, I used to believe and think that Shoghi Effendi was true guardian of that Faith.

Odd incident hit my life while I used to serve at Haifa, Bahai World Center (September 19, 2003- February 22, 2006) for 2 years and 6 months in which that given personal and strange experience shifted the way I used to think and understand about that religion. I informed that given strange experience to Haifa people, and I was not satisfied by their auto reply form letters, which forced me to make further personal study on that given religion from different experience and perception too.

In that given experience, which lasted too for 3 weeks, February 3-22, 2006, in one of the weeks, following experience was practiced and observed which is still mystery to me and this experience is personal, one has every right to share it to others for sole purpose of looking for other people who could have such given similar experience for further and better understanding as well. This is not to attack anyone or party, but with sole intention of seeking the truth.

In that give week, these experiences happened at Bahji, while I bowed down at Sacred Threshold:-

- Monday after noon, February 6, 2006, I saw magnificent light;
- Tuesday afternoon, February 7, 2006, I saw scary and remote darkness;
- Thursday afternoon, February 9, 2006, while I was standing and preparing myself to bow down, power like thing opened that given prayer book which I was holding in my hands, I read something and I was scared;

After I returned to my flat on that Thursday afternoon, something made me write in my lap top, which goes like, Guardianship is not something that can be fabricated or claimed. Here I made a pause and I was in fact confused since I had no clue of such a thing even if I knew that Mason Remey claimed as guardian but I was not sure of that fabrication part.

Later on I made my own research that Shoghi effendi must be fabricated guardian. Point in here is that it is not to ask anyone or tell that other people should go on what I say and tell; as matter of fact everyone has right to understand things in one's own way, but everyone is accountable and responsible to the truth otherwise life would be meaningless and nonsense.

Even if it is hard to make such kinds of conclusions of past events, being on today, there are mysterious realities of life that require different way of looking at things in way that needs mysterious formula and derivation since such things are mysteries and they cannot be scientific and they do not require systematic methods and approaches as well. I would like to request you to share to me any factual documents or materials about such given aspect for my own personal consumption.

BTW, I have great respect for Ruth White as I believe that she is sole hero of such truth at that time.

In case, if you are interested in what I write, you can also visit my personal blog at the following link and address:- bilsuma.wordpress.com

Regards,

Dereje Amera,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

In answer to a question as to whether or not there would be any clergy in the Bahai Cause?

"No. In this movement there will never be any paid ministers, no appointed clergy, no bishops, no cardinals, no popes, no ceremonies. A clergyman, assuming that he is ordained to his ministry, may think that he knows more about God than anyone else, whereas the humble man in his congregation may know more about God than he does. The sacerdotal and theological position makes a clergyman proud and haughty. But there is one thing in this Cause; some people may become greater than the rest, not through appointment, but through the purity of their hearts, their unselfish deeds, their heroic sacrifices, and their knowledge of God. Such illumined souls, like kind fathers or teachers, will guide and teach those less fortunate. They are the elder brothers of the members of the community. They do not arrogate to themselves any title or position. You will know them by their humility, their sincerity, their deeds, their severance, their knowledge, their spirituality, and their attraction."

Abdu'l Baha

(Source: Diary of Ahmad Sohrab, March 21, 1913)

Inspiring Quotes

Say: God sufficeth all things above all things, and nothing in the heavens or in the earth or in whatever lieth between them but God, thy Lord, sufficeth. Verily, He is in Himself the Knower, the Sustainer, the Omnipotent.

— ***The Bab***

I am the Sun of Wisdom and the Ocean of Knowledge. I cheer the faint and revive the dead. I am the guiding Light that illumineth the way. I am the royal Falcon on the arm of the Almighty. I unfold the drooping wings of every broken bird and start it on its flight.

— ***Baha'u'llah***

"When a man turns his face to God, he finds sunshine everywhere."

— ***Abdu'l Baha***

An Update on Free Bahá'í Activities

"In every country where any of this people reside, they must behave towards the government of that country with loyalty, honesty and truthfulness. This is that which hath been revealed at the behest of Him Who is the Ordainer, the Ancient of Days."

"We cherish the hope that through the earnest endeavors of such as are the exponents of the power of God—exalted be His glory—the weapons of war throughout the world may be converted into instruments of reconstruction and that strife and conflict may be removed from the midst of men."

(Tablets of Bahá'u'llah chapter 5th)

Dear Bahá'i faithful;
Allah'u'Abha

As we present our 8th Caravan magazine, we wish to issue a vote of thanks to all the blessed souls for joining and helping the Caravan of Bahá'u'llah, it is the best form of motivation for us to receive emails filled with love and blessings from across the globe. With the grace and blessings of our Master this Message of love and oneness of Mankind is now reaching all corners of world, we have received amazing news from friends in Canada and Singapore, who have informed that they have sent 2000 and 5000 copies respectively of the last caravan issue to interested Bahá'i friends worldwide who have requested to be part of this Caravan of Bahá'u'llah.

One of the friends from Australia has started a study program in which friends gather and read "Tablets of Bahá'u'llah" which is highly effective in imbibing spirituality. We would encourage friends to follow / start such study programs in their respective homes.

Last Month we have conducted the First ever Global Bahá'i Get-together Webinar, where Bahá'is from 8 countries got connected with each other, However due to limited resources we could not handle the massive response. We sincerely apologize to those who could not get a chance to get connected to the online conference. At this Conference Bahá'i friends have suggested to put efforts in increasing the publication of books focused on the teachings of Bahá'u'llah. For this, very shortly, A Free Bahá'i Publishing Trust will be established. One of our beloved friend is also writing a book "An Analysis of Will and Testament of Abdul Bahá" and another has submitted the idea of writing a book on Shoghi Effendi, Ideas which were appreciated by all friends in attendance. Most friends have complained and narrated their ordeal about the tyranny of Bahá'i administration which was very sad to hear. We have asked them to focus on teachings of Bahá'u'llah and to leave this crumbling administration aside, as the Master has taught us : He has not appointed any officers in the faith, and hence we do not believe in any such administration. We take inspiration from the Master's example on teaching where at an old age he travelled to the USA and Europe to spread teaching of love and peace, while on the other hand is Shoghi Effendi who usurped power by forging the Will of the Master, and subsequently making the faith into an organization sans spirituality.

Warmest Bahá'i regards
Free Bahá'i team.

Prayer House to be Converted into A Brothel

Crooners plan to convert Art Deco masterpiece into a national center for LGBT

By Brock Keeling | @BrockKeeling | Jan 17, 2019, 11:15am PST

   SHARE



In all the divine religions, the location where prayers are made and supplications are recited, is believed to be sacred. That place is honoured, and it is mandatory to maintain its sanctity. Same is our belief with regards to the Baha'i prayers and supplications, be that place a room or any corner of a house or an apartment. The place where one communicates with the Lord is sacred.

However, recently a Baha'i centre in San Francisco was sold by UHJ to a LGBT community of San Francisco. The administrative order of the Haifan Baha'is decided to sell this property to the LGBT community of San Francisco for mere \$100,000 extra that they were getting.

It is well known that the said Baha'i centre had been a house of worship since 1976. Baha'u'llah has clearly condemned acts of homosexuality and indecency. But the administrative Baha'is pay no heed to such real teachings and preaching of Baha'u'llah. UHJ had the audacity to dishonour the words of Baha'u'llah and sell such a sacred property to a group of homosexuals who are now going to use the property for indecent acts.

Baha'u'llah mentions in Kitab-i-Aqdas "we shrink, for very shame, from treating the subject of boys". However, the Haifan Baha'is tend to publicise and promote homosexuality by selling them the infrastructure that was once used for reading the parts of Aqdas and holy teachings and prayers of Baha'u'llah. It is disturbing to see that the administration that works under the guidance of UHJ is bargaining spirituality for cheap acts of materialistic gains. Such disgraceful acts are against our holy teachings.

Such sacred place would now in some time become a host for immoral activities. Worse would be the scenario if the administration continues to act in such an irreligious manner. And many such properties would be sold off for cheap monetary gains. The building of administration would soon collapse, as it has been laid on the false foundations and forgery.

My prayers for those deceived and cheated by administration.

-Amin Mohajer,
Malaysia

Some Questions Answered / Write to us

Question 1

Enquiry. Inbox x X

Russell D <russell.d@gmail.com>
to info ▾ Thu, 17 May 2019, 12:22:17 +0000

Hi,

I'm enquiring about your Faith and what would be a good place to start learning?

Regards,

Russell

Answer:

Hello Russell,
Allah'u'Abha!

Firstly, we would like to ask you if you're a Baha'i already? If not, where did you learn about the Free Baha'i Faith?

Regarding your question, to learn about the Free Baha'i Faith you can visit our website here:
<http://freebahais.org/>

Do go through our entire website, you will find a lot of source materials to read and understand our beliefs. If you have any questions, feel free to write back to us at info@freebahais.org and we will be happy to assist you.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Thank you!

Regards,

Team Free Baha'i

Question 2

Herman Zimmer Book Inbox x

AllahuAbha Thu, 17 May 2019, 12:22:17 +0000

I was looking for a Free Bahai book authored by Herman Zimmer.. Can you please send a copy of that book?? My address is mentioned below.

I'm studying about the Free Bahais and your help will lead me to guidance. Thanks in advance for your help

My address is:
Mr. P. Gloria
www.pgloria.com

Answer:

Hi Gloria,

Hope you're doing great!

Thank you for writing to us.

It is good to know that you're interested in knowing about the Free Baha'i faith and we pray to God that He grants success in your research. May Baha'u'llah guide you to the right path. Unfortunately, we do not have an extra copy of the Hermann Zimmer book, '*A fraudulent testament devalues the Baha'i religion into political Shogism*' that you have asked for. Although we do have its PDF and we have attached the same below, in this email. Let us know if you require anything else.

If you have any questions, do write back to us and we will get back to you at the earliest.
Humbly,

The Free Baha'i Team

Question 2

For Your Information Inbox x



Dereje Amera <dereje...@yahoo.com>
to info@freebahais.org ▾



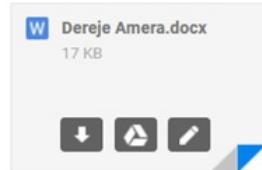
Dear Sirs:
My name is Dereje Amera. I live in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



I have attached following document for your review and information.



regards,
Dereje



Answer:

Hello Dereje Amera,

Allah'u'Abha!

Thank you for writing to us! We read every word of your email and the attachment and understand your feeling and agree with your sentiments.

We have been receiving emails from a lot of Baha'is who are quitting the Baha'i Faith after understanding that the Guardianship does not belong to Shoghi Effendi and thus the entire process of Administration, which was introduced in the faith after the passing away of Abdu'l Baha was against the teachings of Baha'u'llah and thus false. As you're aware that the Will was forged and Shoghi Effendi was never appointed by Abdu'l Baha, it becomes obligatory upon you to find the truth, which is with Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l Baha alone.

We, the Free Baha'is, believe in the pristine message of Baha'u'llah and accept only His words to be a proof upon us. No one has the right to interpret the words of Baha'u'llah, accept Abdu'l Baha, as He was appointed by Baha'u'llah himself. When Abdu'l Baha has clearly stated that there will be no officers in the Cause, then how can Shoghi Effendi claim Guardianship after his passing away?

Abdu'l Baha has said, "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." (Reference: Star of the West, Vol. 8, pg. 116)

By reading your story we can conclude that you have certainly been divinely inspired by Baha'u'llah, the Great Manifestation himself. Now that you have come across the Free Baha'i Faith, even this is a sign from Baha'u'llah, it is Him who would want to see you guided back to the path of salvation.

As you rightly mentioned, Lady Ruth White has done a fantastic job of Independent Investigation of Truth and made the true teachings of Baha'u'llah evident for the Baha'is, we thus take her as our inspiration and aim to take her efforts ahead in spreading the pristine message of the faith. We would request you to kindly go through our website, read all the available materials and write back to us in case you have any questions. We would love to help you with your queries.

Looking forward to your email.

Regards,
Team Free Baha'is

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!

“Love the creatures for the sake of God and not for themselves. You will never become angry or impatient if you love them for the sake of God. Humanity is not perfect.

There are imperfections in every human being, and you will always become unhappy if you look toward the people themselves. But if you look toward God, you will love them and be kind to them, for the world of God is the world of perfection and complete mercy.

Therefore, do not look at the shortcomings of anybody; see with the sight of forgiveness. The imperfect eye beholds imperfections. The eye that covers faults looks toward the Creator of souls. He created them, trains and provides for them, endows them with capacity and life, sight and hearing; therefore, they are the signs of His grandeur.

You must love and be kind to everybody, care for the poor, protect the weak, heal the sick, teach and educate the ignorant.”

— **Abdu'l-Baha**

Know your Heritage



**Pen Cases of Baha'u'llah - On display at British Museum,
November 2017**

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

Throwback - 1912



Abdu'l Bahá visits Green Acre during His journey to America in 1912

Many of Abdu'l Bahá's talks in the United States over the course of that year focused on the unity of religions and unity among the races, particularly between black and white Americans, which is the teachings of the Free Bahá'ís even today. We welcome all, we shun none.

Did You Know ??

When the Master came to Akka there lived there a certain man from Afghanistan, an austere and rigid Muslim. To him the Master was a heretic. He felt and nourished a great enmity toward the Master and roused up others against him. When opportunity offered in gatherings of the people, as in the mosque, he denounced him with bitter words.

"This man," he said to all, "is an imposter. Why do you speak to him? Why do you have dealings with him?" And when he passed the Master on the street, he was careful to hold his robe before his face that his sight might not be defiled.

Thus, did this Afghan. The Master, however, did thus: The Afghan was poor and lived in a mosque; he was frequently in need of food and clothing. The Master sent him both. These he accepted, but without thanks. He fell sick. The Master took him a physician, food, medicine, money. These, also, he accepted, but as he held out one hand that the physician might take his pulse, with the other he held his cloak before his face that he might not look upon the Master.

For twenty-four years the Master continued his kindnesses and the Afghan persisted in his enmity. Then at last one day the Afghan came to the Master's door, and fell down, penitent and weeping, at his feet.

"Forgive me, sir!" he cried. "For twenty-four years I have done evil to you, for twenty-four years you have done good to me. Now I know that I have been in the wrong."

The Master bade him rise and they became friends. It was from the qualities of the Master that he refused to see others as his enemy, no matter how they treated him. He believed in love for the humanity which was also the message of Baha'u'llah. But, unfortunately, after the passing away of the Master, the Baha'i faith came in the hands of a bureaucrat who did no good but excommunicated all the virtuous Baha'is from the Faith.

Now the question is, to be a Baha'i does a person need to accept a certain organization? Certainly not! A Baha'i should only follow the pristine message of Baha'u'llah and the Master; they, after all, are the true sources of spiritual authority and we should take what they say more seriously than the viewpoints of bureaucratic administrators.

(The above incident has been taken from the book of Myron Phelps, *The Master in Akka*, pp. 8-10.)

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