

THE **CARAVAN**

The Hollow Trunk of the
Administration in Thailand

Article Inside

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PRAYER



Vouchsafe unto me, O my God, the full measure of Thy love and Thy good-pleasure, and through the attractions of Thy resplendent light enrapture our hearts, O Thou Who art the Supreme Evidence and the All-Glorified. Send down upon me, as a token of Thy grace, Thy vitalizing breezes, throughout the daytime and in the night season, O Lord of bounty.

No deed have I done, O my God, to merit beholding Thy face, and I know of a certainty that were I to live as long as the world lasts I would fail to accomplish any deed such as to deserve this favor, inasmuch as the station of a servant shall ever fall short of access to Thy holy precincts, unless Thy bounty should reach me and Thy tender mercy pervade me and Thy loving-kindness encompass me.

All praise be unto Thee, O Thou besides Whom there is none other God. Graciously enable me to ascend unto Thee, to be granted the honor of dwelling in Thy nearness and to have communion with Thee alone. No God is there but Thee.

Indeed shouldst Thou desire to confer blessing upon a servant Thou wouldst blot out from the realm of his heart every mention or disposition except Thine Own mention; and shouldst Thou ordain evil for a servant by reason of that which his hands have unjustly wrought before Thy face, Thou wouldst test him with the benefits of this world and of the next that he might become preoccupied therewith and forget Thy remembrance.

- The Bab

FOREWORD

“Praise be to Thee, O Lord, my Best Beloved! Make me steadfast in Thy Cause, and grant that I may be reckoned among those who have not violated Thy Covenant nor followed the gods of their own idle fancy.” – The Bab

As we enter the sacred month of Azamat, we are not only commemorating the significant events of Ridvan, the Declaration of the Bab, and the Ascension of Baha'u'llah, but also reflecting on the state of the Baha'i community and the path ahead.

In recent years, we have witnessed a noticeable shift within the Baha'i community. While the mainstream Haifan sect appears to be experiencing a decline in interest and engagement with the Faith, the Free Baha'is, who adhere strictly to the teachings of Baha'u'llah and the Master, have been gaining momentum and flourishing.

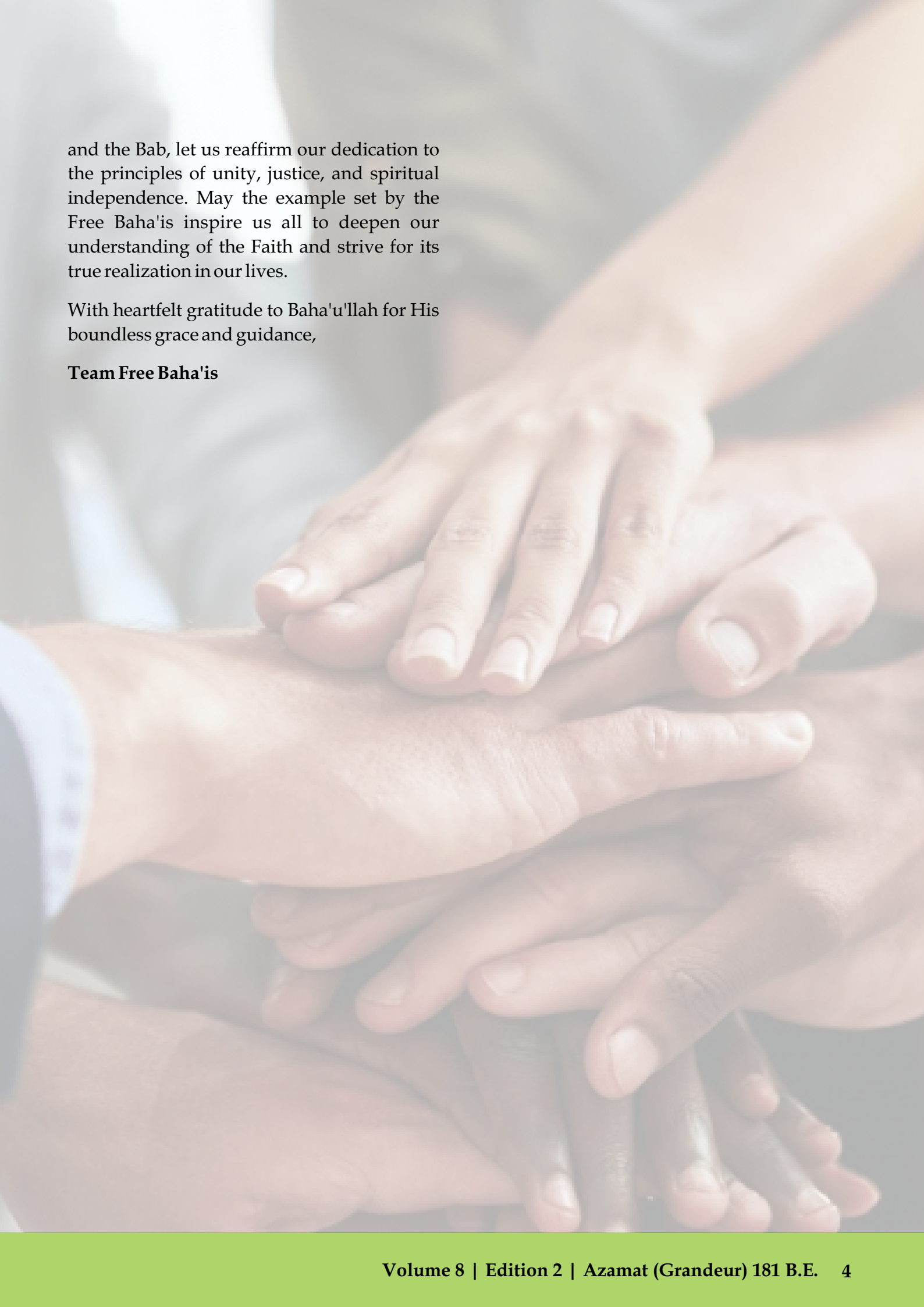
The Free Baha'is, guided solely by the pristine teachings of Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l-Baha, have chosen to distance themselves from the intervention of Shoghi Effendi and the fallible

Universal House of Justice (UHJ). Instead, they have embraced a path of independent investigation of truth and individual interpretation of the sacred texts, allowing for a deeper understanding and application of the teachings in their lives.

In contrast, the Haifan sect's adherence to the authority of the UHJ, despite its evident shortcomings and controversies, has led to disillusionment and disengagement among many believers. The rigid dogmatism and lack of transparency within the Haifan leadership have contributed to a sense of stagnation and alienation among the faithful.

Amidst these challenges, the Free Baha'is have remained steadfast in their commitment to the Faith, finding solace and inspiration in the timeless wisdom of Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l-Baha. Their flourishing serves as a testament to the transformative power of Baha'i teachings when embraced with sincerity and authenticity.

As we celebrate the Most Great Festival and reflect on the enduring legacy of Baha'u'llah



and the Bab, let us reaffirm our dedication to the principles of unity, justice, and spiritual independence. May the example set by the Free Baha'is inspire us all to deepen our understanding of the Faith and strive for its true realization in our lives.

With heartfelt gratitude to Baha'u'llah for His boundless grace and guidance,

Team Free Baha'is

REMEMBER



Remember me when I am gone away,
Gone far away into the silent land;
When you can no more hold me by the hand,
Nor I half turn to go yet turning stay.
Remember me when no more day by day
You tell me of our future that you plann'd:
Only remember me; you understand
It will be late to counsel then or pray.
Yet if you should forget me for a while
And afterwards remember, do not grieve:
For if the darkness and corruption leave
A vestige of the thoughts that once I had,
Better by far you should forget and smile
Than that you should remember and be sad.

- CHRISTINA ROSSETTI



1920: Old Akka Prison

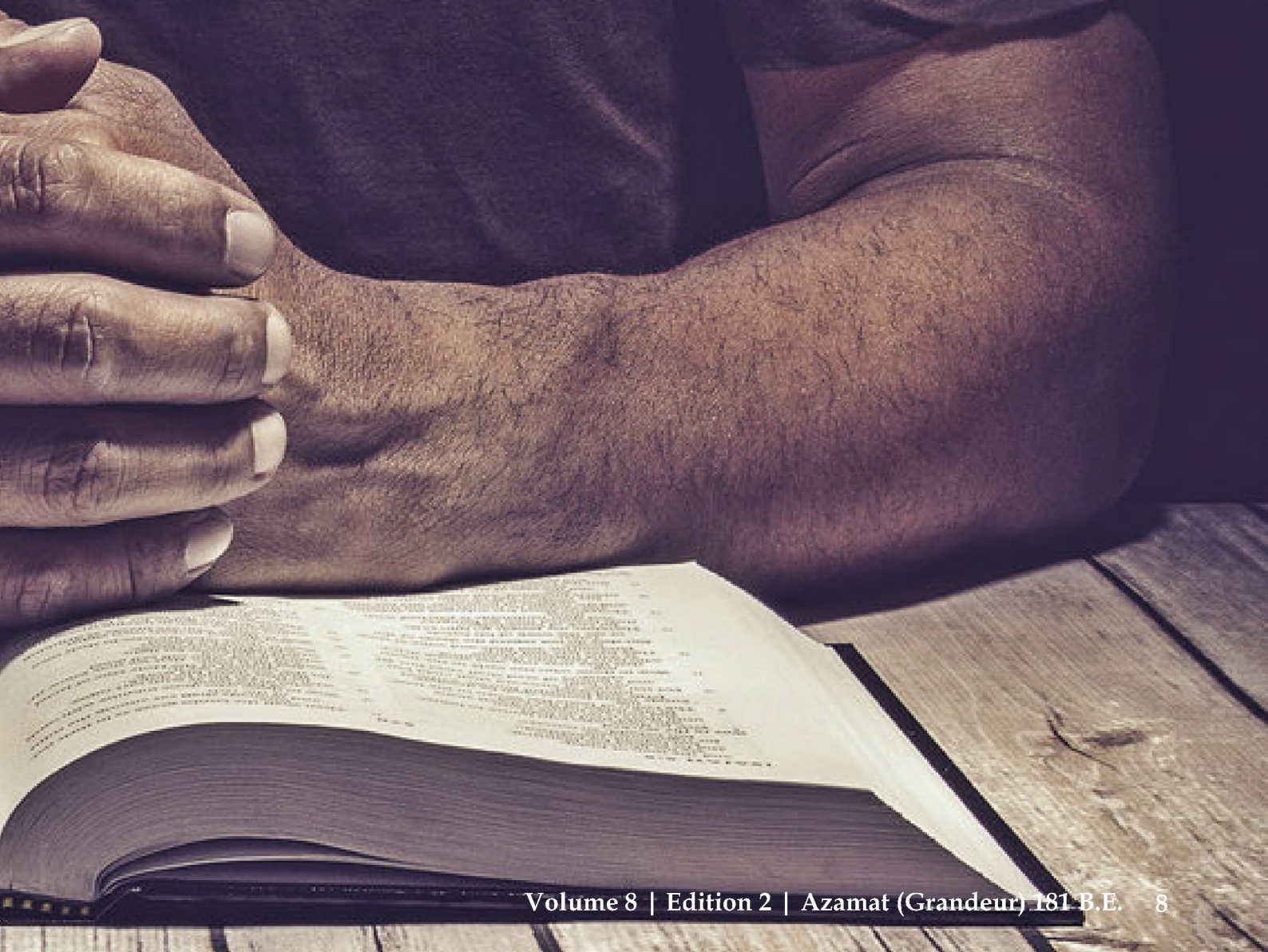
DIVINE LAWS

In the name of Him who is the Ruler (al-hakim) over what was and what will be.

O people of the earth, when the sun of My beauty goes down [note 5] and the heaven of My temple is hidden, do not be troubled. Arise to the help of My Cause and the exaltation of My Word among the worlds. We are with you in all circumstances. We shall help you with Truth. We have been able. Whoever knows Me let him arise to My service with an arising at which the hosts of heavens and earths do not cause him to sit down.

People are asleep. Were they to wake they would hasten with all their hearts to God, the Knower, the Wise One. They would throw away what they have, even were it all the treasures of the present world, that their Master may remember them with a word from Him. Thus He who has knowledge of the Unseen announces to you in a Tablet what appeared in the realm of possibility and what only His Self, the Overseer of the Worlds, has examined. The drunkenness of passion has seized upon them because they do not see the Master of mankind (al-wara), whose cry is raised from all directions: "There is no God besides Me, the Mighty, the Wise."

(Source: Al-Kitab Al-Aqdas by Baha'u'llah, Translated from Arabic by Earl Elder & William Miller)



THE HOLLOW TRUNK OF THE ADMINISTRATION IN THAILAND

– GUEST ARTICLE

Many years ago, there was an interesting video circulating online. It showed a man casually attempting to lean against a coconut tree when suddenly the tree collapsed, much to the shock of this poor fellow. Upon closer inspection, the man found that the tree was actually a hollow shell with a rotten inside, and the moment he put pressure on it, the hollow trunk collapsed. The video was quite a spectacle.

We Baha'is often use analogies comparing our faith to a tree with its Holy Branches and Semi-Holy Twigs, etc. I thought the above-mentioned anecdote fits the Baha'is of Thailand perfectly. The administration, with the help of their self-made Guardian and the administrative body, has very well made the tree hollow from the inside. From the outside, or let me say, on paper, it is a large towering tree, albeit with a hollow and rotten core.

The Haifan community in Thailand is an old one, with many a picture of the initial NSA members sitting with Ruhiyyih Khanum in 1964. The World Christian encyclopaedia [WCE] counted about 10,000 Adherents in

Thailand in the year 1980 a mere 15 years since the formation of the NSA. That would definitely be a success. And then the WCE Counts about 144,000 Adherents in the Year 2000 showing phenomenal Growth of about 1300% in 2 decades.

But was this growth true, or was it only on paper? The WCE very famously (at least for the Haifans) publishes data that the Administration themselves provide to them. And for the Administration or the UHJ – they never let facts and true figures come in the way of a good growth story!

This Baha'i charade starts collapsing on itself when the numbers don't begin to tally. With the advancement of communication and other mechanisms for primary verification now available, the Association of Religious Data Archives (ARDA) estimated in the year 2020 that the number of Baha'is in Thailand had halved to about 66,000, which is a massive decline compared to the year 2000.

Exit by Troops? Perhaps! And I'm not at all surprised when the faith has moved farther



away from the pristine teachings of Baha' u'llah and the Master.

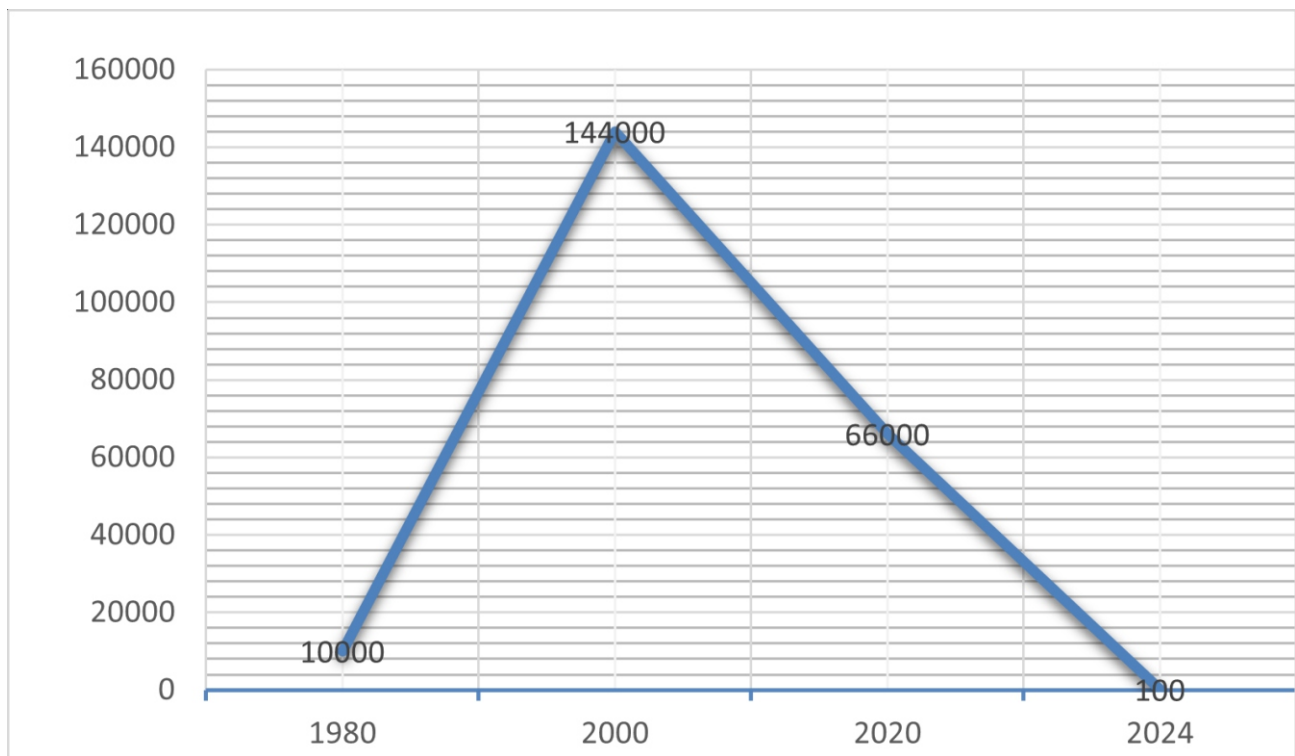
Most of this data comes from representatives of the UHJ, disguising themselves as non-Baha'is (for example, Mr. Rabbani, a Haifan, providing Baha'i data to the World Christian Encyclopedia), and there will never be any official Baha'i sources for confirming the data, obviously because they know the truth.

In Thailand, however, one can surely consider the testimony of Baha'is of Thailand as the correct figures. There have been recent reports coming from Thailand about the virtually non-existent Haifan Baha'i Community. Discussions between a recently migrated expat and a senior member of the Thai Baha'i community pointed out that there are only about 10 faithful in Bangkok and about 100 faithful in all of Thailand. Consequently, the NDFs are usually a single-digit affair, and the Naw-Ruz and Ridvan celebrations a double-digit one. No, I'm not at all surprised. This has been the case across different regions, and the US is one such example where right after the ascension of

the Master, there was a major vacuum of people in the community. Some joined the Free Baha'is along with Lady Ruth White, Mirza Ahmad Sohrab, and others. So, this has been the case since Shoghi Effendi has taken over the Faith in his hand through force and the alleged Will of the Master. The wrong will always be wrong, regardless of attempts to prove its truthfulness.

Today, local communities are rife with discussion about this tragic, or rather, expected loss of faithful. It is now commonplace to circulate photos of empty gatherings as a form of a last emotional appeal to the Haifans to show up (if they even exist!). However, more sinister undertones to such discussions cannot be completely discounted.

Tallying the population data in the form of a line chart reveals the following shock –



A Visual representation of the Population Growth of Haifan Baha'is in Thailand

This leaves us with some very important questions in mind:

Was the data falsified all along from 1980 till date to show inflated figures by the NSA of Thailand for its generally corrupt reasons?

OR

If the data is accepted at face value, does this show the massive crash and complete and utter annihilation of the faithful of Thailand?

If yes – how?

Some Baha'is of Thailand themselves attribute this decline to the spiritually devoid mish-mash Ruhi Curriculum. Some of them blame it on the writing skills of Baha'i report writers trained by the Muhajirs and Arbabs clan. Others blame it on the strategic plans of the members sitting in Haifa to show acceptance of the Baha'i Faith by the masses.

The bottom line is that many are now finally willing to acknowledge that the grand tree of the Haifan sect in Thailand is now hollow and

rotten, and it will likely take one push to finally bring it down.

I am sure that in response to this crisis of faith in Thailand, the House of Justice will only issue, as always, lovingly rhetorical words – hence fittingly called the House of Empty Rhetoric, which will only further aid in the decay. Meanwhile, the faithful of Thailand will keep circulating photographs of empty gatherings amongst themselves, wondering what went wrong.

In the end, thoughts and prayers on this tragic loss from the entire Free Baha'is community!

Source: Free Baha'is of Thailand



INVESTIGATION OF REALITY

“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 investigation of reality. Man is not intended to see through the eyes of another, hear through another's ears nor comprehend with another's brain... 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.”

– Abdu'l-Baha, The Promulgation of Universal Peace, Volume 2, p. 287

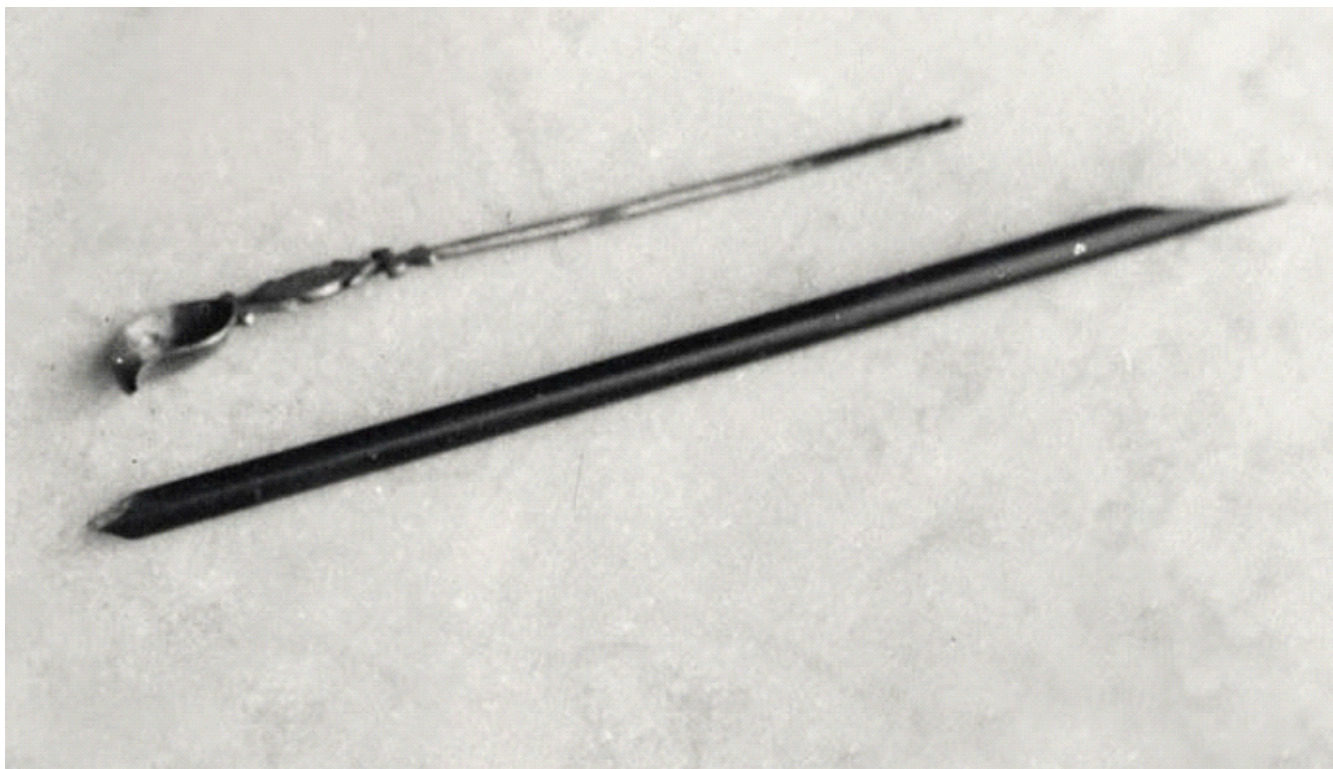
CLERGY IN THE BAHA'I CAUSE

In answer to a question as to whether or not there would be any clergy in the Baha'i 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)



Cut-reed pen and ink spoon used by Baha'u'llah. (Ted Cardell, 1952)

FREE BAHAI ACTIVITIES

"But alas, a thousand times alas! The eyes see it not, the ears are deaf, and the hearts and minds are oblivious of this supreme bestowal. Strive ye then, with all your hearts and souls, to awaken those who slumber, to cause the blind to see, and the dead to rise."

-Abdu'l Baha, Selections from the Writings of Abdu'l Baha

As we embraced the joyous occasion of Naw-Ruz and with the advent of the month of Azamat, we reflect on the manifold blessings bestowed upon us by Baha'u'llah and the Master. Let us delve into the vibrant tapestry of activities and celebrations from around the world, as the Free Baha'i community comes together to honor these sacred moments and deepen their connection to the teachings of our beloved Founders.

In Canada, the release of the groundbreaking book "Beyond the Narrative" has garnered heartwarming reviews, igniting discussions and reflections on the Will and Testament of Abdu'l Baha. This insightful analysis sheds light on the importance of adhering to the guidance provided by the Master,

emphasizing the consequences of straying from His appointed path. As believers eagerly share the PDFs of this enlightening text, the spirit of unity and understanding permeates the community, reinforcing our commitment to the true principles of the Faith.

Meanwhile, in the city of Sam Phran, Thailand, a warm and inviting Naw-Ruz celebration unfolds in the embrace of friends and family. As laughter and conversation fill the air, hearts are uplifted in gratitude for the blessings bestowed by Baha'u'llah. May this gathering serve as a beacon of joy and unity, drawing all closer to the divine purpose of our Faith.

Across the continents, from Australia to the United States and Canada, Baha'is devote themselves to the study of the original writings and teachings of Baha'u'llah, seeking wisdom and guidance in every word. Additionally, efforts are underway to raise awareness about Huququllah, empowering believers to reclaim their financial autonomy and prevent the misuse of funds by the Administration. Through education and advocacy, the community strives to uphold

the principles of justice and integrity within the Faith.

As we celebrate the Most Great Festival and reflect on the significance of Ridvan, the Declaration of the Bab, and the Ascension of Baha'u'llah, let us recommit ourselves to the noble mission entrusted to us. May the spirit of Naw-Ruz infuse our hearts with renewed hope and determination, guiding us towards a future of unity, justice, and peace.

With warm wishes and heartfelt gratitude,

Free Baha'i Team



INSPIRING QUOTES



“Rid thou thyself of all attachments to aught except God, enrich thyself in God by dispensing with all else besides Him, and recite this prayer:

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

“Happy the one who entereth upon the first day of the month of Bahá, the day which God hath consecrated to this Great Name. And blessed be he who evidenceth on this day the bounties that God hath bestowed upon him; he, verily, is of those who show forth thanks to God through actions betokening the Lord's munificence which hath encompassed all the worlds. Say: This day, verily, is the crown of all the months and the source thereof, the day on which the breath of life is wafted over all created things. Great is the blessedness of him who greeteth it with radiance and joy. We testify that he is, in truth, among those who are blissful.”

— Baha'u'llah

“...just as the solar cycle has its four seasons, the cycle of the Sun of Reality has its distinct and successive periods. Each brings its vernal season or springtime. When the Sun of Reality returns to quicken the world of mankind a divine bounty descends from the heaven of generosity. The realm of thoughts and ideals is set in motion and blessed with new life. Minds are developed, hopes brighten, aspirations become spiritual, the virtues of the human world appear with freshened power of growth and the image and likeness of God become visible in man. It is the springtime of the inner world...

In it the former springtime has returned, the world is resuscitated, illumined and attains spirituality; religion is renewed and reorganized, hearts are turned to God, the summons of God is heard and life is again bestowed upon man.”

— Abdu'l Baha

INTRODUCING

THE CARAVAN

APP!





SOME QUESTIONS ANSWERED

Email 1:

Allahu Abha,

I'm from Kashmir. I'm baha'i from the last 2 years. I have some doubts about Shoghi Effendi and uhj. I got interested in your website. Do you have any contact of free bahais in India. Please let me know.

Thanks

Answer:

Hi Saqib,

Allah'u'Abha!

Glad to know that you too are following the pristine message of Baha'u'llah and we share similar thoughts.

We do have a lot of followers in India; however, we are not keen on sharing their details with others just because they are

closely involved in the mainstream Baha'i faith. They are afraid if they reveal their identity, the Administration might declare them as covenant breakers, leading to unwanted difficulties. I'm sure you would have the same opinion, if you are closely involved in the community.

Since you have shown interest in the Free Baha'i faith, we would also like to know if you would be keen in working for the Cause. We are looking for people who can share their stories about their journey that can be shared with the world via the Caravan Magazine. You can also help us in creating blogs, writing articles, and getting more people to join us on our journey towards being a majority one day, by the grace and blessings of Baha'u'llah.

Looking forward to your response.

Thanks and regards,

Team Free Baha'is

Email 2:

Baha'u'llah's Kitab-i-Aqdas mentions setting up Houses of Justice in every city, where people gather in God's presence. How do Free Baha'is understand and follow this instruction? How do they act as caretakers for others and God's agents for the good of everyone?

Answer:

Hi,

Allah' u' Abha!

The Kitab-i-Aqdas, the Most Holy Book of the Baha'i Faith, provides guidance on the establishment of Houses of Justice in every city. This directive is a call to create centers where individuals, inspired by the teachings of Baha'u'llah, gather to deliberate on matters of importance. As stated in the Kitab-i-Aqdas, these souls shall assemble in the House of Justice, seeing themselves as entering the presence of God Himself. This profound concept underscores the sacredness of collective decision-making and consultation.

In the context of the Free Baha'i community, the establishment of Houses of Justice is interpreted as a call to create spaces for consultation and decision-making rooted in the teachings of Baha'u'llah and Abdu'l Baha. These spaces serve as forums for individuals to come together, consult, and make decisions for the betterment of their communities and society at large. The emphasis is on collective deliberation, guided by principles of justice, compassion, and unity.

As stewards of the Merciful, Free Baha'is are tasked with acting as agents of God, working towards the betterment of humanity and the earth. This responsibility extends to all aspects of life, including social, economic, and spiritual welfare. By upholding the ideals of

justice and consultation, Free Baha'is strive to fulfill their divine mandate as prescribed in the Kitab-i-Aqdas.

In summary, the establishment of Houses of Justice symbolizes the commitment of Free Baha'is to collective decision-making, guided by the teachings of Baha'u'llah. Through consultation and collaboration, Free Baha'is endeavor to contribute to the advancement of their communities and the realization of Baha'u'llah's vision for a united and harmonious world.

Warm Regards,

Team Free Baha'is



Email 3:

Hello friend,

This is N***** from Bahrain. I've been in touch with you recently, and I've mentioned that I'm a new Bahai who has converted from Islam. I have registered with the national spiritual assembly of Bahrain, and only found out the free bahai movement after that.

I would like to ask how can I pay the 19% huququ'llah on my surplus wealth. "Haifan" Bahais pay it to the UHJ. But if I were a Free Bahai, can I just distribute it to poor people whom I know? Or how else should I spend it? Please enlighten me.

Best regards,

N*****

P.S.

Please keep my identity confidential. Thank you

Answer:

Hi N,

Thank you for reaching out, and congratulations on your recent conversion to the Baha'i Faith. We are delighted to hear about your journey and commitment to exploring the teachings of Baha'u'llah.

Regarding your inquiry about the payment of Huquq'u'llah, it is indeed a significant aspect of Baha'i financial practice. In the absence of a living Guardian, as is the case with the Free Baha'i community, the payment of Huquq'u'llah can be approached with flexibility and consideration for the principles of charity and service.

As Free Baha'is, we uphold the teachings of Baha'u'llah and the Master, emphasizing the importance of selfless giving and the

alleviation of suffering in the world. While "Haifan" Baha'is traditionally pay their Huquq'u'llah to the Universal House of Justice, Free Baha'is have the opportunity to direct their contributions towards charitable endeavors that align with the principles of the Faith.

You are indeed correct in considering distributing your Huquq'u'llah to individuals or causes in need, such as supporting the poor, providing for education, healthcare, or community development projects. The essence of Huquq'u'llah lies in its purpose of advancing the well-being of humanity and promoting social justice, and your contribution can make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

It is important to approach the payment of Huquq'u'llah with sincerity and a spirit of service, seeking guidance from the teachings of Baha'u'llah and consulting with trusted individuals within the community. By engaging in acts of charity and service, you embody the spirit of the Faith and contribute to the realization of Baha'u'llah's vision for a unified and compassionate world.

We trust that this guidance will assist you in navigating the practice of Huquq'u'llah as a Free Baha'i, and we commend you for your dedication to living out the principles of the Faith.

Warm regards,

Team Free Baha'is

KNOW YOUR HERITAGE

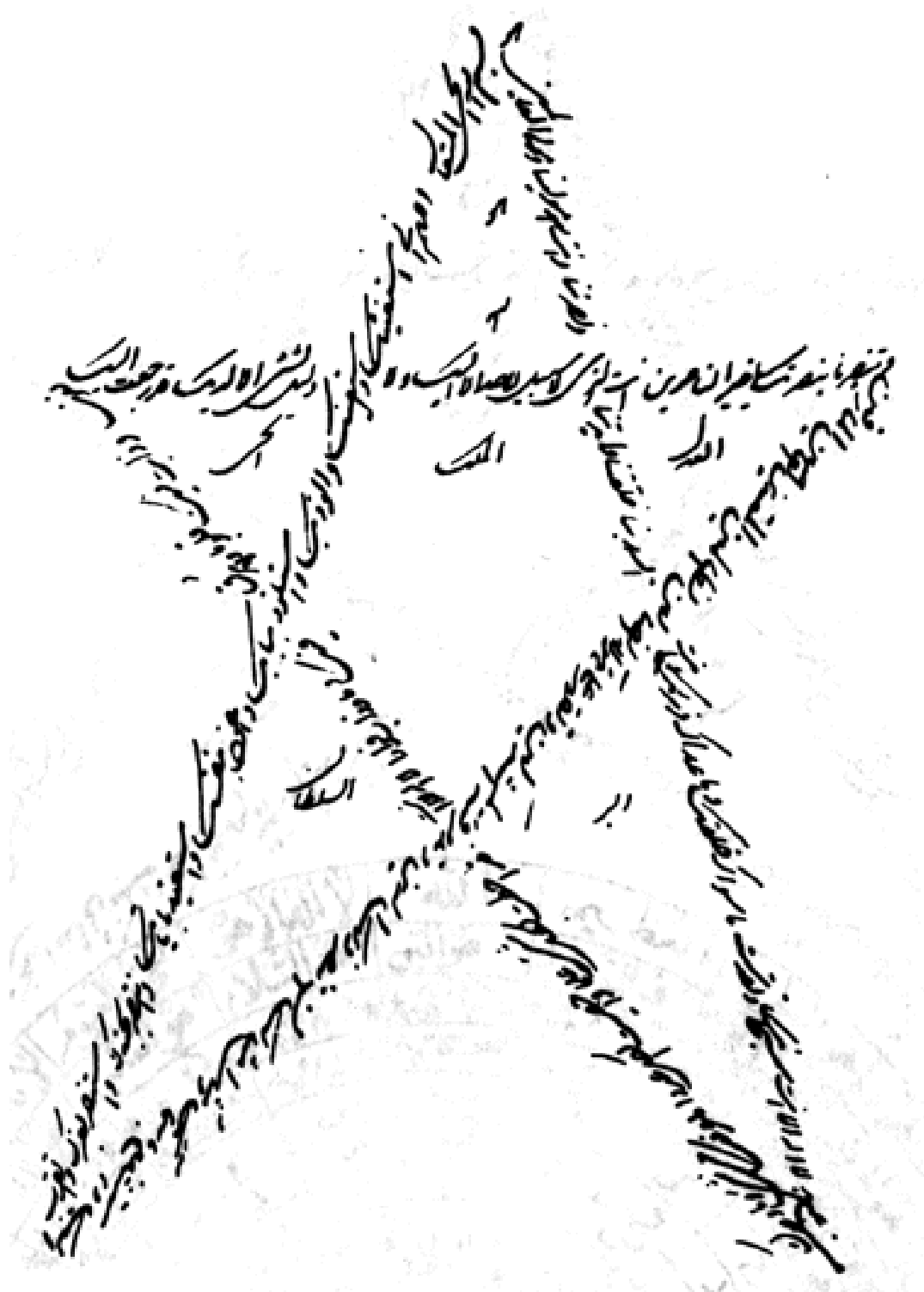
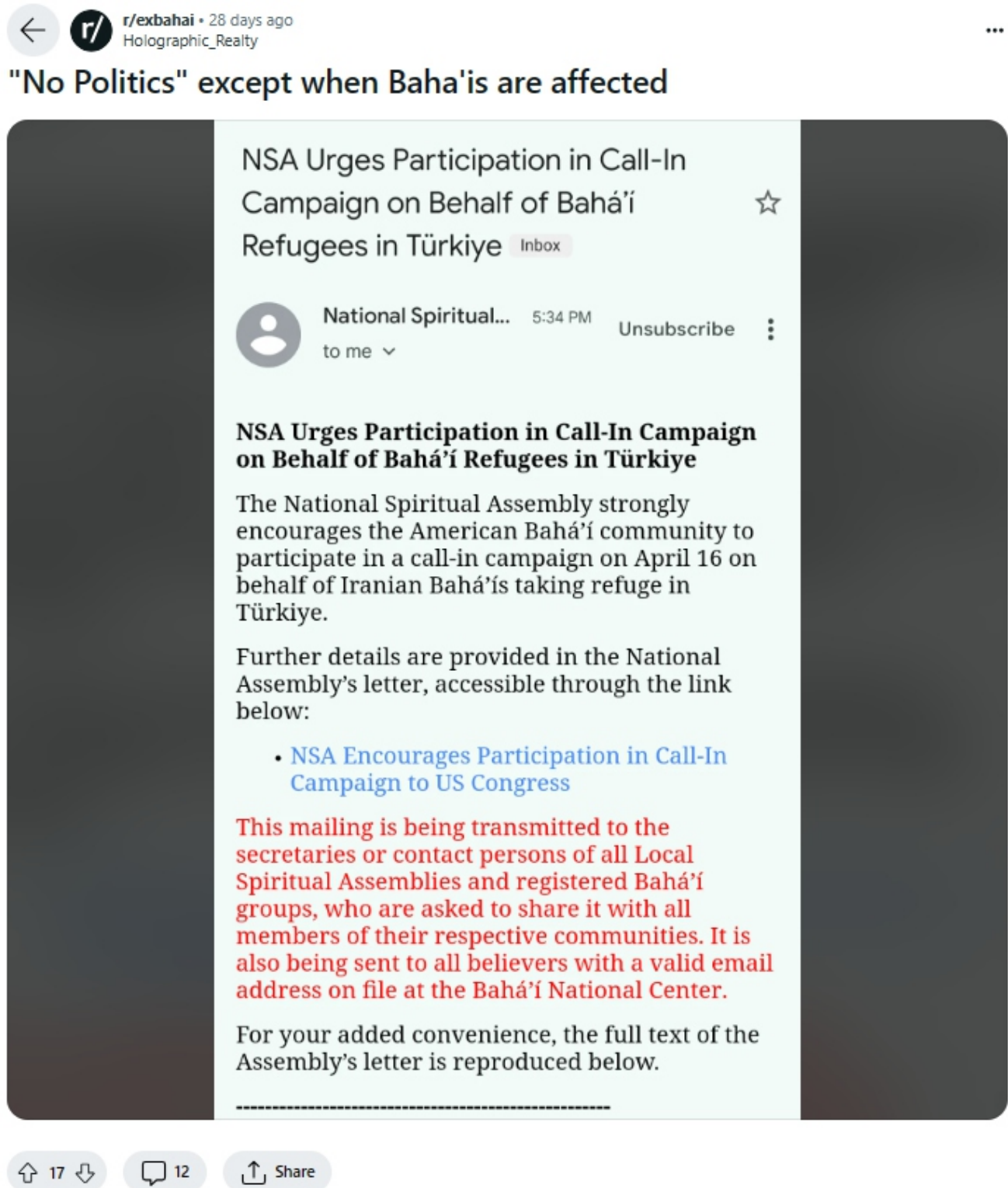


Image of a pentagram tablet made by the Báb.

WEBSPLORE



Please note, Baha'i teachings encourage active participation in society's betterment. However, Baha'ís do not endorse specific political parties or candidates, focusing instead on principles of justice and unity to guide their actions. We as Free Baha'is are strictly against any political interference and condemn all those who call themselves Baha'is but support politics.

“Where there is love, nothing is too much trouble and there is always time.” – Abdu'l Baha



With this, I pray to God to help us follow in the footsteps of the Master and take care of the poor and the needy, always. More power to you!

Want to be a contributor for 'The Caravan'?

Interested in contributing to the Caravan Magazine by writing a guest article? Kindly send us your article at ['thecaravan@freebahais.org'](mailto: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'](mailto:info@freebahais.org)

Thank you!

DID YOU KNOW ?

Did you know that the Writings of the Báb were extensive? His remarkable ability to compose elaborate commentaries, profound expositions, or eloquent prayers without study or premeditation was regarded as evidence of His divine inspiration.

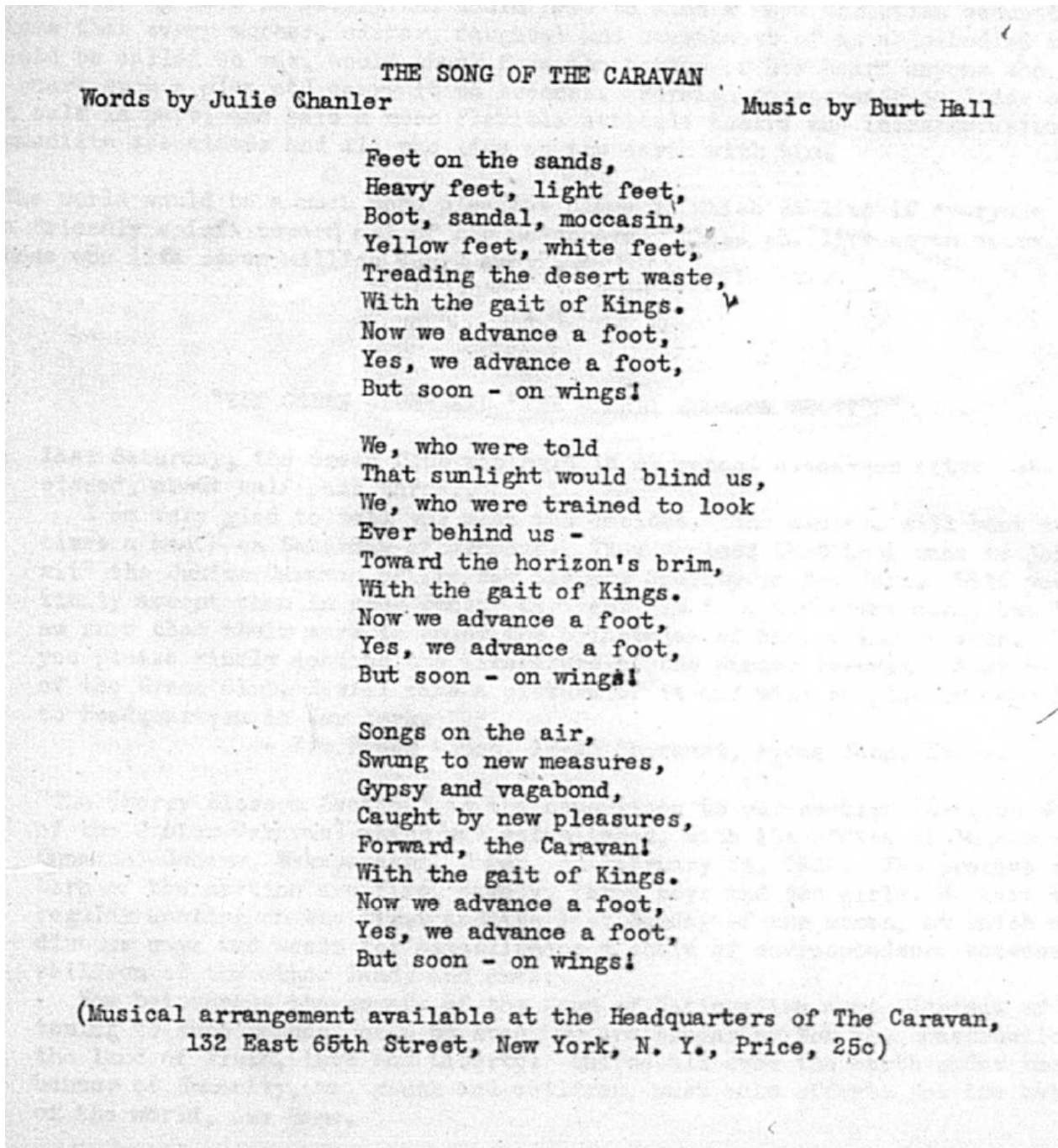
The essence of His numerous Writings has been encapsulated as follows:

Some of these [the Báb's Writings] were commentaries on, and interpretations of the verses of the Qur'án; some were prayers, homilies, and hints of [the true significance of certain] passages; others were exhortations, admonitions, dissertations on the different branches of the doctrine of the Divine Unity ... encouragements to amendment of character, severance from worldly states, and dependence on the inspirations of God. But the essence and purport of his compositions were the praises and descriptions of that Reality soon to appear which was his only object and aim, his darling, and his desire. For he regarded his own appearance as that of a harbinger of good tidings, and considered his own real nature merely as a means for the manifestation of the greater perfections of that One. And indeed he ceased not from celebrating Him by night or day for a single instant, but used to signify to all his followers that they should expect His arising: in such wise that

he declares in his writings, "I am a letter out of that most mighty book and a dew-drop from that limitless ocean, and, when He shall appear, my true nature, my mysteries, riddles, and intimations will become evident, and the embryo of this religion shall develop through the grades of its being and ascent, attain to the station of 'the most comely of forms,' and become adorned with the robe of 'blessed be God, the Best of Creators.'" ... and so inflamed was he with His flame that commemoration of Him was the bright candle of his dark nights in the fortress of Máh-Kú, and remembrance of Him was the best of companions in the straits of the prison of Chihríq. Thereby he obtained spiritual enlargements; with His wine was he inebriated; and at remembrance of Him did he rejoice.

— A Traveler's Narrative (Episode of the Báb).

BLAST FROM THE PAST



Reference: The Children's Caravan, April 1935, Number II

DECLARATIONS

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 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."

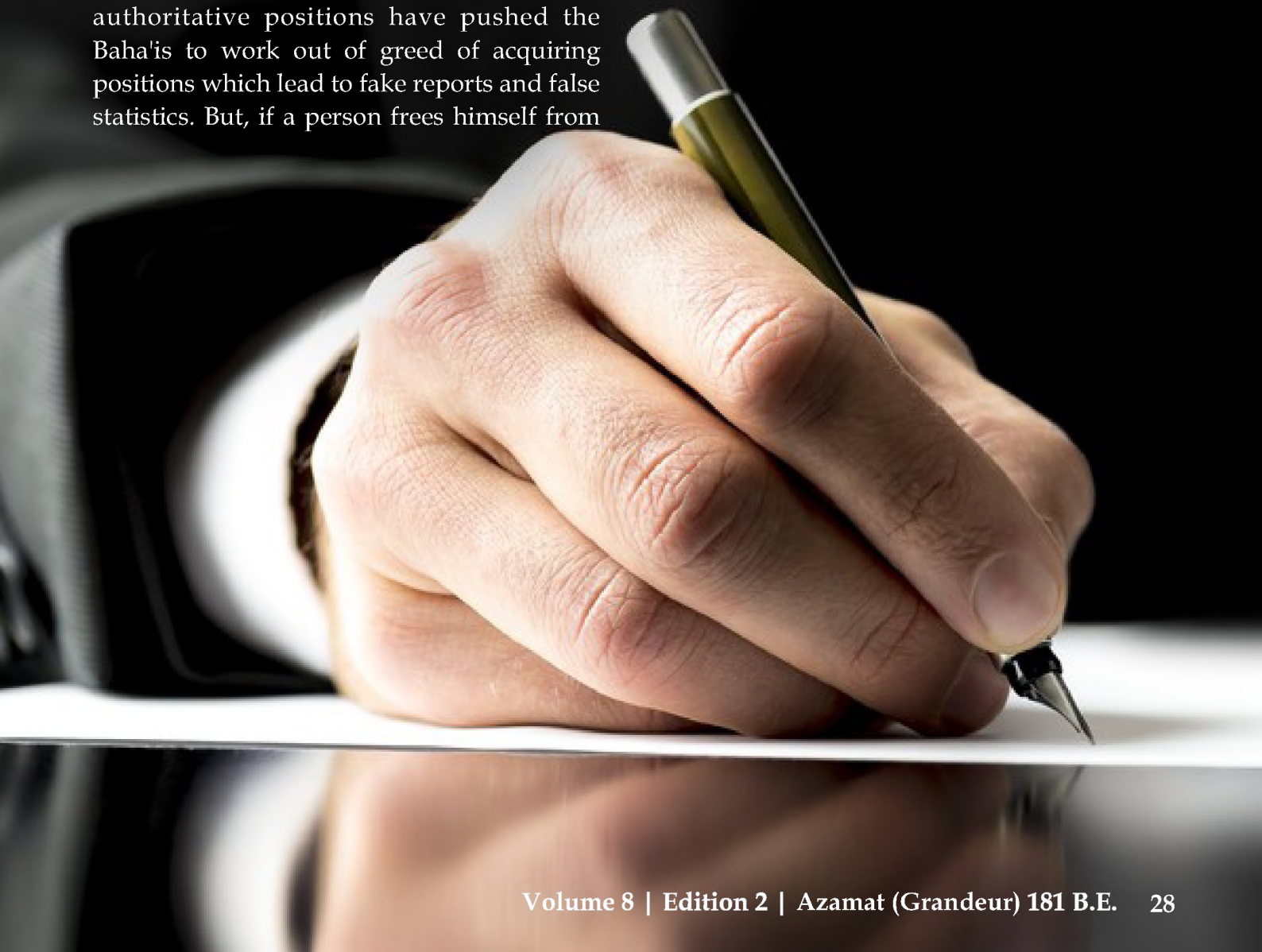
(Reference: Star of the West, Vol. 8, pg. 116)

These man-made assemblies and authoritative positions have pushed the Baha'is 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?



THROWBACK

THE EVENING BULLETIN--PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, JUNE 10,

OLD PERSIAN MYSTIC STIRS BY TEACHINGS

Abdul Baha Abbas, Head of Bahain Cult, Speaks in Two City Churches

WOULD UNITE HUMANITY

Abdul Baha Abbas, world head of the Bahain cult, a gentle speaking old Persian with a fine intellect, wonderful eyes, a long white beard and a philosophy sweeping enough to enfold the world in its beneficent influence, is in this city at the beginning of an American tour and delivered the first of his important addresses here yesterday.

The mystic, whose persecutions in the East make a tale unequalled in romance, is believed by a quarter of a million people in this country to be the redeemer foretold by all religious prophecies since religious prophecy first began.

His followers believe that his coming in the first decade of this century has been made clear as day in the Old and New Testaments. Bahains are firm in the belief that within the next few years the teachings of Abdul Baha Abbas will spread like fire throughout the world, unite all humanity, wipe away strife, discontent and trouble, and create a peaceful revolution in society and industry that shall have its end in happiness for everybody.

The first of the notable visitor's addresses was delivered yesterday morning before a large congregation at the First Unitarian Church, 15th st. and Girard ave., and the second was given last evening in the Grace Baptist Temple. Each address was delivered through an interpreter, and was an exposition of religious philosophy that is both wide and kindly.

HERE TO UNITE ALL PEOPLE.

"I have come," said Abdul Baha Abbas, "from a part of the world wherein the manifestations of God were first made plain, and out of which the radiance and power of God first shone through man, his Son. The intention and purpose of my visit is in that a bond of understanding and agreement may be established between us."

"All humanity is surely the creation and the servant of God. All came into being through one Creator, who is kind to all. He rears all. He provides for all. He protects all, and He deals lovingly with all. Inasmuch as God is kind to all, why should we be unkind to any of His creatures? Inasmuch as God is loyal to all, why should we be disloyal? Inasmuch as God deals in mercy with all, why should we deal in animosity and hatred?"

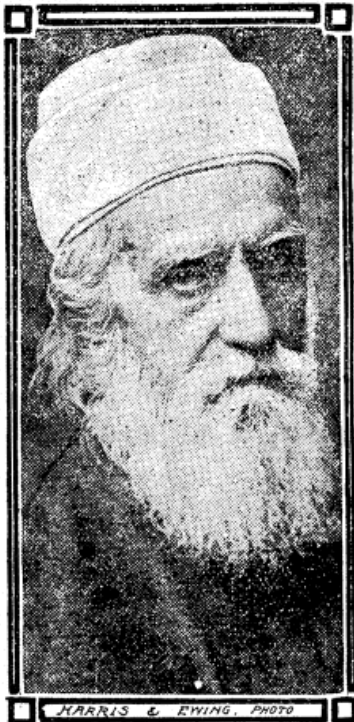
Six thousand years of unrest and unhappiness, says the Bahain head, has been due to social and religious and racial prejudice. Latterly have come unfair industrial conditions and war of one kind and another has been linked with business. In a word, the Baha is attempting to change and remodel the foundations of human nature.

FIGHT TO COME SOON.

"This country," he says, "is the country in which many mysteries will be solved. The mystery of the universe may be among them. The world was made to be the seat of transient happiness. Untold misery has defiled it only because man has failed to realize responsibility to the Creator of his spirit and to his kind."

When all private and personal ambition has been made secondary to the thought of what he calls the Oneness or humanity, said Abdul Baha Abbas, man will suddenly come upon absolute happiness and peace as a lost and wondering explorer finds the goal of his desire—suddenly and without warning.

Abdul Baha Abbas is close to sixty years old and wears the garb and turban



ABDUL BAHU ABRAS.
Head of Bahain cult, who is here in interests of universal brotherhood.

of Persia. With him are two companions who translate his utterances and keep careful journal of them all. He has been imprisoned times innumerable in the East where his father, the founder of the cult of the Bahains was a prophet before him.

All told Abdul Baha Abbas has served something like forty years in Persian prisons for questioning, in his general teaching, the infallibility of any one accepted religion and for the reiterated assertion that all religions in their present state, represent the instinctive desire of all people to serve their common Creator.

06-10-1912

The Evening
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Philadelphia

OLD PERSIAN
MYSTIC STIRS
BY TEACHINGS

Sourc: BNA

June 10, 1912 - The Evening Bulletin, Philadelphia

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