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The Caravan

“ 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



THE PRINCIPLES OF
THE FREE BAHAI' FAITH

Huququ'llah

THE RIGHT OF GOD



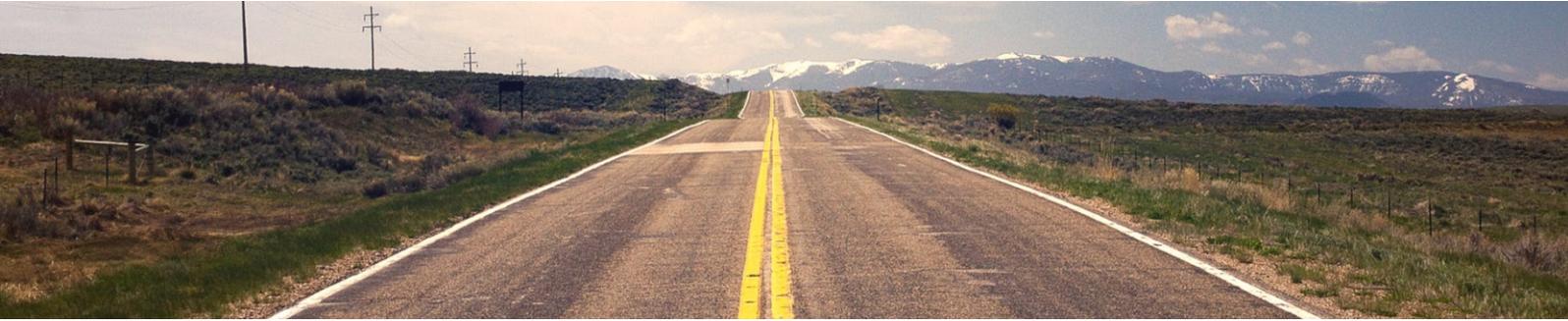
CLERGY

COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

ALLEGED WILL & TESTAMENT OF ABDU'L BAHA
- ANALYSIS PART 9



PUBLISHED BY
THE FREE BAHAI' FAITH
FOR PUBLIC CIRCULATION



Praise be unto Thee for kindling the fire of divine love...

O God, my God! Praise be unto Thee for kindling the fire of divine love in the Holy Tree on the summit of the loftiest mount: that Tree which is “neither of the East nor of the West,”¹ that fire which blazed out till the flame of it soared upward to the Concourse on high, and from it those realities caught the light of guidance, and cried out: “Verily have we perceived a fire on the slope of Mount Sinai.”²

O God, my God! Increase Thou this fire, as day followeth day, till the blast of it setteth in motion all the earth. O Thou, my Lord! Kindle the light of Thy love in every heart, breathe into men's souls the spirit of Thy knowledge, gladden their breasts with the verses of Thy oneness. Call Thou to life those who dwell in their tombs, warn Thou the prideful, make happiness worldwide, send down Thy crystal waters, and in the assemblage of manifest splendors, pass round that cup which is “tempered at the camphor fountain.”

Verily, Thou art the Giving, the Forgiving, the Ever-Bestowing. Verily, Thou art the Merciful, the Compassionate.

Prayer of Abdu'l Baha



Foreword



We would like to wish all our readers a Happy 2020 and present you the next edition of The Caravan.

Looking back at the last decade, we are glad and humbled at the same time that it was filled with lots of key achievements – the foremost amongst them being the beginning of the Revived Edition of The Caravan. We started small, but now we have come far ahead with our team based across the world who work day in – day out to spread the teachings of Baha'u'llah into every household through this magazine.

Our most read article was 'Where is all the Huququ'llah money going?' submitted by Gonzalo, Florida. We received 100s of emails from the friends appreciating the thought put behind it and also mentioned how these articles have helped them in spending, or let us call it “investing” their Huququ'llah at the right place.

*“I wish this blessing to appear and become manifest in the faces and characteristics of the believers, so that they, too, may become a new people”
- Abdu'l Baha*

The Editorial team is looking forward to 2020 with continued publication of the latest cutting-edge research/findings, as well as insightful articles. We appreciate all feedback from the Baha'i friends regarding our content, especially suggestions of any topics that you feel the magazine should cover. We welcome spontaneous research, review and opinion articles, and would be delighted to hear from you if you are interested in being a part of The Caravan.

We offer these pages in the hope that our readers will find them constructive and universal; trusting that they will feel free to offer suggestions to make it a Caravan that will reach new heights in the years to come. Now is a perfect juncture to plan on how we can go all-out, to grow spiritually, serve humanity and endeavour for the betterment of the world.

“I wish this blessing to appear and become manifest in the faces and characteristics of the believers, so that they, too, may become a new people...” – Abdu'l Baha

Please share your feedback/suggestions/queries regarding anything about the Free Baha'i faith to us at info@freebahais.org, and we will be happy to get in touch with you.

Once again, wishing you a fabulous 2020.

Thank you!
The Free Baha'i Team



Stand in Faith

Stand in faith

Even when you can't see your way

Stand in faith

Even when you feel like you can't face another day

Stand in faith

Even when the tears want to flow from your eyes

Stand in faith

Knowing that our God will always provide

Stand in faith

Even when you feel that all hope is gone

Stand in faith

Knowing that He is always there for you to lean on

Stand in faith

Even when you feel like giving up

Stand in faith

Because He is there ... saying, "Just look up"

Stand in faith

Even in those times you feel so all alone

Stand in faith

Hold on and be strong, for He is still on the throne

Stand in faith

Even when it's hard to believe

Stand in faith

Stand in Faith



Knowing that He can change your situation, suddenly

Stand in faith

Even in those times you feel it's hard to pray

Stand in faith

And believe that He has already made the way

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not
seen

So stand in faith

Because you already have the victory!

-- Evangelist Johnnye V. Chandler

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The Principles of The Free Baha'i Faith Explained

The Third Basic
Baha'i Principle is:

**“The Foundation of
All Religion is One.”**

Each Revelator has given the same “New Heaven and Earth,” but man has polluted and misrepresented these Divine Laws. In reality they are all one. The third foundation stone, the chalcedony, is pure white, of which Abdu'l Baha said: “While white is apparent, yet in it is hidden and concealed the seven colors. In white all colors are brothers and sisters.” White is the symbol of purity, and in its origin each religion is pure, and a brother to every other religion, for all truth is one.

There is only one Religion.

There is but one GOD, by whatever name HE is called. There is but one human race. There can be but one religion. But this one religion has many Speakers, and many expressions.

The life and progress of man are dependent upon the Word of God. In past times the

Human race was divided by oceans, mountain ranges, forests, deserts, all the physical barriers which modern inventions have succeeded in surmounting. This is one reason why there have been many Revealers of the Word of God, so that all mankind should receive it.

Baha'u'llah teaches that revelation is progressive, and that each manifestation of God answers the need of his time. This need has two voices. One, crying for spiritual food, satisfaction of the inner life, “knowledge of God”, Faith, is always answered in the same way, through spiritual teachings, an outpouring of love, and a renewal of the Soul's vigor. The other voice cries for laws to regulate excesses, abrogation of outworn customs, and organization of daily affairs. Both cries are answered.

“Know of a certainty that in every Dispensation the light of Divine Revelation has been vouchsafed to men in direct proportion to their spiritual capacity. Consider the sun. How feeble its rays the moment it appeareth above the horizon. How gradually its warmth and potency increases as it approaches its zenith, enabling meanwhile all created things to adapt themselves to the growing intensity of its light. How steadily it

The Principles of The Free Baha'i Faith Explained...



declines until it reaches its setting point. Were it all of a sudden to manifest the energies within it, it would no doubt cause injury to all created things.... In like manner, if the Sun of Truth were suddenly to reveal, at the earliest stages of its manifestation, the full measure of the potencies which the providence of the Almighty hath bestowed upon it, the earth of human understanding would waste away and be consumed; for men's hearts would neither sustain the intensity of the revelation, nor be able to mirror forth the radiance of its light. Dismayed and overpowered, they would cease to exist." - Baha'u'llah

The true educator of man is the Founder of Religion, who trains him in morals and the higher virtues and reveals to him his spiritual reality. All the Prophets have served this purpose. They have trained men in honesty, truthfulness, trustworthiness, reverence, modesty, civil obedience and self-sacrifice for others. The essential teaching of all Religions the same.

In time, religion becomes corrupt, it loses its early vigor and degenerates into institutions with no spiritual force to energize the inner life of man. Therefore, it must be renewed and purified. This is accomplished through the influence of a Messiah, another Speaker.

Man, through successive seasons of civilization and decline, grows in understanding and social capacity. He therefore needs, from time to time, a further measure of that essential, real truth which is both the food of his spirit and the energy of new civilization. This truth is revealed by a Divine Messenger. Baha'u'llah teaches, that religious revelation is progressive, that old

forms and institutions must give way to new ones, that revelation is according to the need and capacity of the time.

Jesus the Christ also supports these teachings, religious revelation is according to the capacity and the need. 'I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now. Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth.' "You cannot bear it now." Jesus not only kept the full intensity of God's Revelation from them, but as well spoke the name of a successor, i.e., "The Spirit of Truth", is one of the many literal English expressions to say, 'Baha'u'llah'.

The names of the Speakers are different. They apply spiritual truth differently to different conditions, and that is a great source of annoyance to conventional minds.

The differences in religion are due to the different requirements of the times in which each revelation was made, and the enmity between religions is due to prejudice and ignorance.

"Know thou assuredly that the essence of all the Prophets is one and the same. Their unity is absolute. God, the Creator saith: There is no distinction whatsoever among the Bearers of My Message. They all have but one purpose; their secret is the same secret."

"It is clear and evident, therefore, that any apparent variation in the intensity of their light is not inherent in the light itself, but should rather be attributed to the varying receptivity of an ever-changing world. Every Prophet whom the Almighty and Peerless Creator hath purposed to send to the peoples of the earth hath been entrusted with a

The Principles of The Free Baha'i Faith Explained...



Message, and charged to act in a manner that would best meet the requirements of the age in which he appeared.”

- Baha'u'llah

Religion is of one common foundation, it comes from God. His messengers speak the same words of unity, harmony and oneness. The Progressive Revelation brought by the Prophets of God, is but the progression of the spiritual evolution and education of mankind's soul, to bring him closer, back unto the pathway of his Creator. There is but one God, there is but one Word, and one Message for mankind.

The Lord of the universe hath never raised up a prophet nor hath He sent down a Book unless He hath established His covenant with all men, calling for their acceptance of the next Revelation and of the next Book; inasmuch as the outpourings of His bounty are ceaseless and without limit.

- The Bab

Verily I say, this is the Day in which mankind can behold the Face, and hear the Voice, of the Promised One.

- Baha'u'llah.



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

- Abdu'l-Baha



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)



Inspiring Quotes



“It is better to guide one soul than to possess all that is on earth, for as long as that guided soul is under the shadow of the Tree of Divine Unity, he and the one who hath guided him will both be recipients of God's tender mercy, whereas possession of earthly things will cease at the time of death. The path to guidance is one of love and compassion, not of force and coercion. This hath been God's method in the past, and shall continue to be in the future!”

— The Bab

“The door of the knowledge of the Ancient of Days being thus closed in the face of all beings, the Source of infinite grace...hath caused those luminous Gems of Holiness to appear out of the realm of the spirit, in the noble form of the human temple, and be made manifest unto all men, that they may impart unto the world the mysteries of the unchangeable Being, and tell of the subtleties of His imperishable Essence.”

— Baha'u'llah

“The day is coming when all the religions of the world will unite, for in principle they are one already. There is no need for division, seeing that it is only the outward forms that separate them. Among the sons of men some souls are suffering through ignorance, let us hasten to teach them; others are like children needing care and education until they are grown, and some are sick—to these we must carry Divine healing.”

— Abdu'l Baha



Baha'u'llah



Huququ'llah and New Year Resolution



Allah'u'Abha friends,

Wishing you all and the team of Free Baha'is a very happy and a great 2020. For the past year, I have been regularly reading the contents of the Caravan magazine. I cannot describe in words, the way this has affected me in a positive way. As a part of the new year resolution, one of the important decisions that one takes is regarding the finances that we make during the year. Being a Baha'i, it is my religious obligation to spare a part of my earning, commonly known as Huququ'llah-The Right of God, in the way of serving humanity. For many years I used to pay my Huququ'llah to my local assembly. However, I witnessed that this money collected as Huququ'llah was not used in the most optimum and rightful way. Rather, it had become a luxury for many of them in the administrative order. Grand feasts, booking massive halls, lavish travels in the name of teaching Ruhi books was done from this hard-earned money. So, for the past one year, I decided to use the same money in helping the Orphans, visiting the old aged homes and helping the old ones, visiting the hospitals and sharing some joy and gifts with the sick ones. The level of satisfaction that I acquired was unimaginable. And to my surprise, even Our Master Abdu'l Baha used to spend his money in a similar way. This further attested my

actions from a religious point of view. Past articles and activities that I read in this magazine gave me the idea of how Free Baha'is in other regions are actively participating in bringing joy and goodness to the society by visiting old age homes, orphanages, health centers, and hospitals. Constructing a pilgrim site in the memory of Master isn't a bad idea. However, I feel that if the same amount of effort and money is spent on the poor and the needy ones, Our Master would be more delighted. I am once again thankful to the team of Free Baha'is for bringing up such wonderful ideas on a public platform through their magazine and helping many more like me to find the right path.

Thank you.



THE ALLEGED WILL OF ABDU'L BAHA – AN ANALYSIS



Concluding - Part 2

The only difference between a rebellion and a revolution is regarding which side won.

History is written by the victors

After answering the assertions of the Haifa Administered Heterodox Baha'is, we shall dive into a further discussion about the faith in the light of the findings of the Lady Ruth White.

Riding on the support of some influential members of the Family of Abdu'l Baha, Shoghi Effendi was made as the guardian of the Faith by a select few who had coincidentally also chosen to hide the news of the death of Abdu'l Baha for some time so as to set the ground for the subsequent announcements regarding succession.

Coming from some of the most influential members of the Faith, most believers accepted what was put before them by the supposed elders of the Faith, in a way this occurs with most transitions.

But, this was something our master knew about (by virtue of his divine knowledge) and constantly warned against by emphasizing time and again on the principle of

investigation. And not just any investigation but a thorough independent investigation.

The Lady Ruth White, in all of this confusion, stood past the flurry of misinformation and emerged as one of the few clear thinkers and truth seekers. Her reasoning behind her doubts was not only as a consequence of her experience with Shoghi Effendi but also very clearly logical. Her argument challenging the appointment of Shoghi Effendi was simple.

1. Never once in his entire life had the Master even mentioned Shoghi Effendi as his successor
2. The usual process of grooming the successor also never took place, as had happened with Abdu'l Baha and Baha'u'llah
3. Except for the said deputed Will, no other document or tablet or through a private word has the Master spoke about a successor

Also, given that Her personal experience with Shoghi Effendi was very disturbing at best (Refer to the embezzlement of the American Express money order), The Lady Ruth White launched her version of the independent investigation of truth (just like we have started today), and the Lord shows the light to all his servants who sincerely look for it.

With great efforts, The Lady procured the

The Alleged Will of Abdul Baha - An Analysis...



original Persian text of the supposed Will and Testament and, also, then procured copies of Abdu'l Baha's writings from sources and handed them over to the Best Forensic Expert of her time, Dr Charles Ainsworth Mitchell, who was heading forensics at the Scotland Yard.

The outcome of the analysis has been shared earlier and the original scanned copy of the report has also been uploaded on the official Free Baha'i website.

Such an impactful result, which would altogether derail the schemes of the enemies was then published by the courageous lady, who even sent these findings to many quarters of the world but alas, under the threat of (wrongful) ex-communication, most of the believers kept silent on this but in their hearts, they accepted the truth which was nothing less than a divine inspiration to guide the believers.

At one point, soon after, close to 300,000 people came on the path of truthfulness and away from the false Guardianship of Shoghi Effendi in North America only. Such was the power of the Divine truth that it held the sway over hearts.

This rejection of falsehood has since then become the true cornerstone of the faith and its beliefs.

Who then is the Guardian?

The great manifestation holds the faithful through trials and then appoints, and changes destiny, in ways that best suit the faithful.

After the arrival of the great forerunner - The Bab, the divine manifestation was to appear after a period of 1000 years. But our Lord tried the faithful and changed destiny and brought

the Divine Manifestation much sooner. This is nothing but the "Change in Destiny by Divine Wisdom".

Since, our master passed away without any offspring, which also is a part of the divine destiny, the entire line of succession as commanded by Baha'u'llah, came to an end, and this became the Final and the most important of the "Change in Divine Destiny" as decreed by the Lord.

After the passing away of our Master there ceases to be any divinely inspired Guardians amongst us and there is no one who can claim any form of divinity or authority over the faithful.

As the Master advised the faithful:

"There are no officers in this Cause. I do not and have not 'Appointed' anyone to perform any special service..."

And admonished those who seek power and positions of authority, it is clear to the seeker of truth as to which direction the master was hinting.

Another important aspect here is the Master's emphasis on teaching the faith, which has been communicated to the believers time and again, which is a divinely-inspired technique to keep the flock of believers together in the absence of a divine Guardian.

What happened Next?

Since most of the believers were deceived by Shoghi Effendi, who claimed Guardianship for himself by showing his proximity of relations to Abdu'l Baha, the natural title as the custodians of the Baha'i faith went with the cunning deceivers and not with the true

The Alleged Will of Abdul Baha - An Analysis...



believers.

The Divine Manifestation guided the faithful through the Great Inspiration, The Lady Ruth White, who uncovered this scheme of usurping God's light. Amongst those who took the truth to the depth of their hearts was the Rev Hermann Zimmer, who through his courage and perseverance established the Free Baha'i Faith as a movement to enlighten the masses of the Faithful towards the truth. His effort yielded result and the movement grew far and wide gaining love and respect amongst the Faithful and hatred from the usurpers.

After Hermann Zimmer, the movement has continued in the hearts and the minds of the people. A movement which is caused by the search of divine love and light, and a movement which dictated no terms to its followers.

As Baha'u'llah wanted, a true Baha'i must have a personal relationship with the manifestation and not through some an administration which regulated a man's devotion towards the undying love of Baha'u'llah.

Any Baha'i who lives and dies by the true principles of the Faith, as taught by the Master is a Free Baha'i.

Free Baha'i is not a denomination but rather an identity of a faithful believer who is steadfast on the ideals taught by the divine beauty and our Master. Some of them are -

1. Since the Lord has closed the chapter of Guardianship after our Master, the rejection of false authority between man and the divine light is from one of the foremost ideals of the Free Baha'i Faith.

2. Conducting an independent investigation of truth, in order to satisfy the need of searching for the light

3. Teaching and learning the faith from the truly divine books, sent down to the great manifestation

A Free Baha'i can never be Excommunicated, because the communion is between the great manifestation and the Baha'i Himself.



Free Baha'i Activities



"Thou art the God of power, of glory and bounty. No God is there beside Thee, the Supreme Ruler, the All-Glorious, the Omniscient." (Baha'u'llah)

Dear faithful Baha'is,

Allah'u'Abha!

We would like to thank all our beloved friends for all their messages and articles as a contribution to 'The Caravan' Magazine. Lately, we have been getting a lot of requests from our friends based around the world about sending hard copies of the magazine. With limit resource, it seems difficult for us to send copies of the magazine to so many addresses and hence we have come up with a solution. We have decided to send a Letter of Authorisation to all those who have requested to print and distribute the Caravan Magazine amongst their friends and faithful.

A piece of good news that we would like to share with all our readers - One of our Baha'i friends from Germany has created a blog about Free Baha'i Faith and intends posting articles/content in the German language. A nice gesture towards the service of Baha'u'llah and spreading his teachings of love, peace, and harmony. We would like to see more such websites/blogs to be created by the faithful residing in different parts of the world and would request all our readers to come forward

for the cause, for the love of Baha'u'llah.

Our friends from Singapore have sent the first draft of the book 'Abdul Baha's Will and Testament - An Analysis' for review. The plan is to publish this book under the Free Baha'i Publishing Trust.

Baha'i friends from the States are organizing dawn prayer programs in which they are inviting the wider community to participate. For sure, Abha beauty will shower His blessings on the seekers.

We have started a new section in our magazine in which we are publishing some interesting articles from our old Caravan Magazine which was started by a noted Baha'i scholar, Mirza Ahmed Sohrab.

After completion the series of Baha'i Principles, we have planned to start a new series which is the correspondence of Lady Ruth White with regards to alleged Guardianship of Shoghi Effendi which will start from our next magazine. Hope our readers will find it an interesting read.

We would yet again like to encourage our fellow faithful to write and contribute your research articles and if we find them interesting, we will certainly make them a part of the Caravan Magazine. Let's hope that the Caravan of Baha'u'llah keeps sailing with the message of love and peace throughout the

Free Baha'i Activities



world. Let's work towards spreading the teachings of Baha'u'llah and propagate his message of unity of mankind.

Warmest Baha'i regards,

Free Baha'i Team



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!



Some Questions Answered



Huqu'qullah Inbox x



Jamie Member since 2018

10/14/2018 7:05 AM ☆ ↶ ⋮

Can I spend my Huqu'qullah money on the education of my cousin's daughter? They are poor and are not able to afford her studies. Kindly advice?

Answer:

Allah'u'abha!

Thank you for your email, Jamie.

Regarding your question, Huququ'llah can be used for the welfare of the humankind, to promote education, peace and global prosperity, to safeguard human honour and the position of religion and to spread the message of Baha'u'llah and the Master.

As per the Will and Testament of Abdu'l Baha, the Guardian of the Cause of God has the rightful authority of collecting the Huququ'llah money from the community. But since there is no living Guardian in the cause today, we will have to make sure our Huququ'llah should be spent in the right cause, keeping in mind the teachings of Baha'u'llah and the Master.

Now, we would ask you one question – If Baha'u'llah or the Master would have been alive today, what would their reaction be if you would have asked them about spending your Huququ'llah money on the study of your cousin's daughter? If you think they would have appreciated you for your action, which they certainly would, then simply go ahead and invest your money in the right place.

In case you have any more questions, do feel free to write back. Stay blessed.

Regards,

Team Free Baha'is

Some Questions Answered



Bahais and Xmas Inbox x



Merwyn

AllahuAbha,

Just wanted to ask you if we are allowed to celebrate Christmas and New Year by decorating our houses and having a Xmas tree?

Can Bahais celebrate Christmas?

Regards,
Merwyn

Answer:

Hello Merwyn,

Allah'u'Abha!

Thank you for writing to us. Can we know if you're a Free Baha'i?

Regarding your questions, we the Free Baha'is not just believe in celebrating Christmas/NY, but in fact encourage every other Baha'is to actively participate in such celebrations. Not just Christmas, but in fact festivals of all other religions. Since we the Free Baha'is follow the teachings of Baha'u'llah, let us quote one of his saying here to establish our point.

"It is permitted that the peoples and kindreds of the world associate with one another with joy and radiance. O people! Consort with the followers of all religions in a spirit of friendliness and fellowship. Thus, hath the day-star of His sanction and authority shone forth above the horizon of the decree of God, the Lord of the worlds." (Tablets of Baha'u'llah, Bisharat, the second Glad Tidings)

Baha'is are free to participate in the celebrations observed by their friends and

family who adhere to other religions. Christmas is a festival which is celebrated to commemorate the birth of Christ. It is clearly a day of significance for the Baha'is who believe that Christ was a Manifestation of God. Baha'is do not, however, celebrate Christmas within their communities as one of the Baha'i Holy Days.

As a Baha'i, we accept Christ wholeheartedly, and therefore honour the celebration of His birth. We also accept and honour Moses, Buddha, Krishna, Zoroaster, Muhammad, and other Divine Messengers as well. We encourage the Free Baha'is to consort with friends of other religion and celebrate their festivals and also invite them to participate in the holy days and holidays associated with the Baha'i calendar. This will indirectly help in spreading the teachings of Baha'u'llah within other religions as well.

If you have any further questions, do write back to us at info@freebahais.org. We will be happy to help you.

Humbly,

Team Free Baha'is

Some Questions Answered



Re: The Caravan Magazine - Vol. 3, Edition 5 Inbox x  



Dear Friend, Monday, 20 October 2015 11:00 AM (UTC+05:30)   

Dear Friend,

Can you please unsubscribe me from your list? I'm not a Bahai and also not interested in your magazine. Thank you in advance.



Answer:

Hello Nahid,

Thank you for your email, we appreciate your reply and will certainly unsubscribe you from the list.

Looks like one of your Baha'i friends might have signed you up for The Carvaan, although since you're not a Baha'i and not interested in receiving Baha'i material, we will stop sending you our magazine right away. Our goal as Free Baha'is is to spread the teachings of Baha'u'llah, our founder Prophet, and provide our friends with interesting and informative content which is relevant for people from all walks of life, all caste, greed and religion. But we don't want to add to your Inbox clutter without your consent and hence we would request you to follow us on our social media platforms to stay connected with us.

If you'd like to know more about the Baha'i

faith, do visit our website <http://freebahais.org/> and write back to us if you have any questions.

Thanks again for writing to us.

Best wishes,

Team Free Baha'is



Some Questions Answered



Request: Ruth White Book Inbox x



Request: Ruth White Book

Request: Ruth White Book



AllahuAbha!

I saw this book The Bahai Religion and its enemy the Baha'i Organization by Ruth White on your website. Where can I find the physical book? I'm based in Canberra, Australia but couldn't find it anywhere here. Can you pls help?

Look forward.

Answer:

Hi Daniel,

Thanks for your email.

Unfortunately, even we do not have access to the hard copy of the book. A friend of ours had sent us its scanned copy from a library in the US, which we have uploaded on our website. FYI, in order to keep the book handy for reading, one of our team members took the printout of the scanned copy and has binded it in the form of a book so it becomes easier for him to read.

We will post your request in our upcoming magazine and appeal to our readers to help us find out if someone has access to the hard copy of the book. We shall keep you posted on the same.

If you have any other query/request, do feel free to reach out to us and we will be happy to help you.

Thanks,

Team Free Bahais



Some Questions Answered



magazine Inbox x



James

James



hello friend, congratulations on doing such a fantastic work with the publication of the caravan magazine. i am happy that there are still some bahais who are working towards spreading the pure teachings of bahaulah. i read in your magazne taht your team send magazines for free distribution. can i request for 25 magazines of the shoghi effendi edition that was published last year in novembr on his birthday. i found it interesting and think i should share it with my other friends as well. my residence address is [redacted] appreciate a positive response. thank you in advance.

Answer:

Hello James,

Thanks for your email. We are glad to hear back from you; all your appreciation emails have been a great source of inspiration for our team. Keep them coming! 12

Regarding your request, we have been lately receiving a lot of free distribution requirements from our readers and since we do not have any such schemes of collecting Huququ'llah or donations from our friends. Our team based in Singapore and Canada are majorly taking care of the expense incurred on publishing the magazine and we are grateful to them. It will be difficult to fulfil your request of sending 25 magazines of our Shoghi Special Edition Caravan, however, we have an idea that would accomplish the same effortlessly. Have attached the PDF version of the said magazine, would request you to kindly download the same and get it printed for distribution amongst your friends. Also, we will send you a copy of the magazine for your collection/reference.

Please note, our magazine is meant for public circulation. Anyone can get it printed and circulate it amongst their friends / family with the intention of spreading the message of Baha'u'llah.

If you have any other query/request, do feel free to reach out to us and we will be happy to help you.

Thanks,

Team Free Baha'is





Blast from the Past



The STORY TELLER

THE SINNER AND THE SAINT

Long years ago in Galilee, there was a man of dissolute nature, who had consumed his all and reached the utmost bounds of folly and error. He had spent his days to no profit, and never had he tried to soothe the heart of any creature. His brain was void of understanding and filled with arrogance, and his body was fat with forbidden morsels. The skirt of his garment was stained with iniquity, and his conscience was begrimed with shamelessness like unto a smoky dwelling. Men held him in abomination like unto the year of famine, pointing to him from afar.

It is said that the Christ, on His way from the desert, passed by the temple of a Saint; and the Saint coming down from his chapel fell before Him, laying his head on the ground. The Sinner, beholding this meeting, drew near, dazzled by their presences like the moth before the candle; gazing at them earnestly, sighing and hesitant, like a poor man before a wealthy merchant. Silent and motionless, he stood, burning pleas hovering on his lips, tears rising to his eyes as to a cloud.

"I have thrown away the ready money of my precious life and have brought to my account no act of goodness. Let no living man ever resemble me, for to such would death be better far than life! He has done well who, dying in infancy, has not in age to bear the burden of ignominy! Forgive, O Creator of the World, my offenses, for if they rise with me, they will be but sad companions!"

In such tones lamenting stood the Sinner, imploring mercy from Him

who is the Merciful, hanging his head for very shame, while rivers of tears flowed upon his bosom.

Meanwhile the Saint, turning away, his brain puffed up with self-esteem, fixed a sour brow on the Sinner and exclaimed:

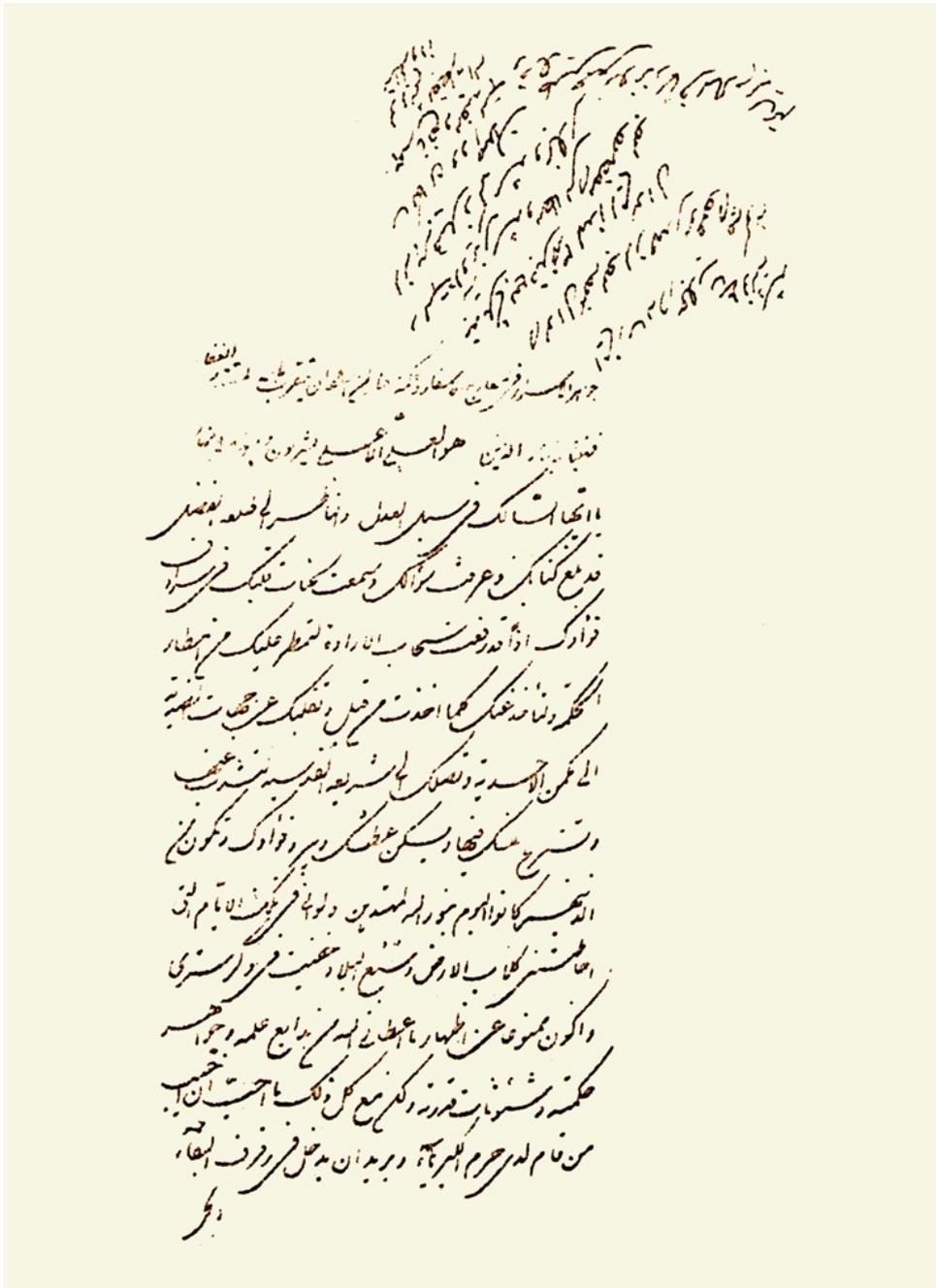
"Why does this ruined fellow dog our steps—ignorant and ill-omened, why does he claim kindred with us? Encompassed with fire to the very neck, his life given over to the storm of the passions, what good can come from his polluted breath? What right has such to seek the Messiah and me? May it never be that I shall fall into his fire! On the Last Day, when all men are assembled for judgment, let not my resurrection, O God, be with his!"

At this moment, an inspired Voice from the august Lord of all Perfection came through the Christ:

"Though this be a wise man and that be a fool, the invocation of each shall be accepted by Me. The one who turned his bright day to corruption has regretted it with burning tears, and whosoever comes to Me in his helplessness, him will I in no wise drive from the threshold of my Acceptance. His evil works will I remove from him, and for that which he has seen will I bring him to Paradise. Then if the other, who has been the Saint of Holiness, scorns to sit beside him in eternity, say to that other, 'Fear not that he should disgrace thee in the resurrection; for this one shall they bear to Heaven and that one shall in no manner be forced to bear him company.'"

(Reference: New History, Volume II, December, 1932)

Know your heritage



The first page of the *Javahiru'l-Asrar* (Gems of Divine Mysteries), with an added note in Baha'u'llah's own hand.



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?



Investigation of Reality

Abdu'l Baha has said,

“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



THROWBACK - 1957



The police station in the center of Akka, where Baha'u'llah and the exile party briefly paused before proceeding to the prison. The old building, much altered, today serves as a coffee-house.

(Reference: Door of Hope, by David Ruhe)



DID YOU KNOW?

Lady Ruth White, the first inspiration of the Free Baha'is narrates in one of her books that they were present in the holy presence of the Master and there were some discussions happening on various topics. A friend asked: "How should one look forward to death?"

Abdu'l Baha answered: "How does one look forward to the goal of any journey? With hope and with expectation. It is even so with the end of this earthly journey. In the next world, man will find himself freed from many of the disabilities under which he now suffers. Those who have passed on through death, have a sphere of their own. It is not removed from ours; their work, the work of the Kingdom, is ours; but it is sanctified from what we call 'time and space.' Time with us is measured by the sun. When there is no more sunrise, and no more sunset, that kind of time does not exist for man. Those who have ascended have different attributes from those who are still on earth, yet there is not real separation.

In prayer there is a mingling of station, a mingling of condition. Pray for them as they pray for you! When you do not know it, and are in a receptive attitude, they are able to make suggestions to you, if you are in difficulty. This sometimes happens in sleep.

But there is no phenomenal intercourse! That which seems like phenomenal intercourse has another explanation.

...The spirit of those who have passed on are freed from sense-life, and do not use physical means. It is not possible to put these great matters into human words; the language of man is the language of children, and man's explanation often leads astray."

(Reference: Abdu'l Baha's Questioned Will and Testament by Ruth White)

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SINGAPORE | THAILAND | USA

www.freebahais.org || info@freebahais.org

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