

BEHAI

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FOREWORD



GAZING with the eyes of intellect upon this planet earth, we will observe that all in existence testifies to the greatness of the Supreme Architect "God."

Each spark speaks of a sun, every atom contains a seed, and each green leaf represents the work of a mother plant.

The mineral Kingdom produces perfect specimens through slow process, the vegetable Kingdom produces perpetually each season and the animal Kingdom is productive also.

Behold! What are we the members of the human Kingdom producing?

We are gifted with a great power "mind," and through our thinking faculties we have progressed; Built and ruined empires, unfortunately not for the love of humanity, but for our selfish desires.

In each Cycle we had great Teachers who brought us the message of Truth, but the words of the Wise did not appeal to the masses, and they were herded to slaughter, by some iron-hand leader who through the spirit of Nationalism or religion fanaticism misguided the innocent individuals, and made them to follow him ignorantly and to take arms against their brothers in humanity.

History has repeated itself time and again and mankind has been the victim of circumstances each time.

With careful study of the life and teachings of the past Great Messengers, we will observe that each one had an object in His appearance and a Message to us.

Adam spoke of the Creation of the Universe and its beauties. Enock taught "Eternal Life." Noah saved humanity from the deluge of ignorance restoring it to the Ark of Knowledge. Moses saved the Israelite from Pharaoh. Buddha taught the Brotherhood of Man. Zaradust guided the Iranians to the Light of Truth. Jesus sacrificed His life for the sake of Unity amongst humanity. Mohammed saved the Arabs from Idolatry.

All of them bowed in reverence to the Supreme Governor of the Universe "God," and the essences of their teachings are the same, "Love of our Kind, better understanding of ourselves, Unity and Harmony of Mankind."

In the last century a Great Teacher appeared on the Horizon of the East, "Beha 'U'llah." He brought us the same message, only more useful for today "Truth is one though spoken in different tongues."

In the beginning of the Book of "Hidden Words" our Great Master Beha 'U'llah said, "This is that which hath descended from the Source of Majesty, through the tongue of power and strength upon the prophets of the past. We have taken its essences and clothed them with the garment of brevity, as a favor to the beloved, that they may fulfill the Covenant of God; that they may perform in themselves that which He has entrusted to them, and attain the victory by virtue of devotion in the land of the Spirit.

O Son of Spirit!

The first counsel is: Possess a good, a pure, and enlightened heart, that thou mayest possess a Kingdom eternal, immortal, ancient, and without end.

O Son of Spirit!

Justice is loved above all. Neglect it not, if thou desirest Me. By it thou wilt be strengthened to perceive things with thine own eyes and not by the eyes of men, to know them by thine own knowledge and not by the knowledge of any in the world. Meditate on this—how thou oughtest to be. Justice is of My bounty to thee and of My providence over thee; therefore, keep it ever before thy sight."

The pages of this Quarterly are covered with His Messages.

Indeed they are most useful today, a day in which the peace of the entire world is threatened.

I call the attention of my good readers to a Message, entitled "A Voice from the East," which is written by His eldest living son Ghusni Akbar Mohammed Ali Behai., appearing in this issue.

I earnestly ask you to grant his sincere request, and pray in your own way for Universal Peace and better understanding amongst the children of man.

Trusting through our mutual efforts, humanity will realize that we are all members of one family regardless of race, language and habits, and there is more happiness in love and unity than in discord and enmity.

SHUA ULLAH BEHAI.

A VOICE FROM THE EAST

(A message to mankind)



MY BROTHERS in Humanity:

These are critical days in which the entire world is threatened with another conflict, socially, economically and politically.

The hearts of the individuals are filled with hatred towards one another through the spirit of Nationalism.

The sun of peace is covered with the clouds of preparedness for war.

The lamp of unity is dimmed, treaties violated, covenants broken, natural laws discarded, moral obligations forgotten and discord substituted for harmony.

I sincerely request every seeker of truth throughout the world, to pray in his own way, for Universal peace, and better understanding amongst the children of man.

Ponder over this message of our Great Master "Beha Ullah."

"Let justice be your army and your weapon reason, be characterized by forgiveness and virtue and do what induces happiness to those who are near to God."

"The Glory is not in loving yourselves but rather in loving your kind, the virtue is not for him who loves his native land, but rather for him who loves the World."

Humanity is in need of His instructive principles today more than ever.

Through their adoption and practice mankind will become better and live in greater happiness and harmony with one another.

Therefore, I invite you my brothers to come, search and study His wonderful teachings.

My entire Library, is at your command, which contains numerous unpublished volumes; still in manuscript form. An Ocean, full of pearls of Wisdom, to gain Knowledge from. A Universe full of shining stars, to be enlightened with.

In this invitation I have no object but your elevation, progress and happiness.

Hearken to my suggestion for the sake of truth.

November, 1935
Acre, Palestine

GHUSNI AKBAR,
Mohammed Ali Behai

THE DIVINE GIFT



WE THE CHILDREN OF A GOD, who in his divine dictum created this great universe, endowed mankind with a great gift, and a wisdom to recognize the sanctity of His philosophy often prompts one in moments of silent reverie as to whether we truly understand Diety's real purpose in this creation.

I as a humble disciple of God's teaching deplorably recognize the human errors and omissions of His children and can only reiterate that to abide by His precepts, learning life's lesson from out the book of understanding, traveling the path of righteousness day by day, leads one in the direction of establishing an individual heavenly haven, wherein lies the capacity to render service to humanity, extend tender mercies to broken reeds, comfort those in grief and sorrow, uplift those that show a tendency to fall by the wayside, and advise those who lack understanding, so that their days to follow will be crowned with joy, and rewards from Him, the creator of all creation.

Therefore human souls lift your heads up high, purge your hearts of all antipathy, animosity, prejudice and greed, cleanse your minds with heavenly dew and establish the resolve that a life of paradise for you and your comrades is here, just awaiting acceptance. Try a good portion of God's prescription, consisting of a pure mind, tenderness, consideration, and a sincere love for all mankind.

You will find that the Supreme Message to be found in the teachings of all the great Master Teachers, throughout the ages, has been the divine attempt to open the mind and soul of man as to when, how, and in what dosage one is to take this prescription. Let me I pray, try to answer this question.

Having traveled the various roads and byways, through life's great experiences, partaken of the bitter cup of pain, sorrow, lust and animal desire; finding them all lacking in satisfaction, I at last turned to the divine intelligence, with which each and every human ego is endowed, and therein found solace and understanding. So be it that each and everyone must search within the precepts of one's self, for there and there alone will one find the answer.

I pray this message prove far reaching, and penetrate the hearts of those open to a true desire for truth and understanding. Untold peace and happiness await you, they are your divine birthright, for providence

displays no partiality, and stands with open arms, awaiting all who wish to enter His hingedom of golden rewards. Qualify my brethren, prove your self worthy of the endowment of the greatest of all gifts, the power that makes a man, a Master. Whether he use this gift for good or ill, depends entirely upon himself, for use it he must, the "Gift of Creation," or better understood as the "Gift of Thought."

We are well aware of the fact that we all think, but how many are intelligently aware of controlled thought. Few there are; unless through scientific study or divine revelation. Thought is the concrete expression of the divinity of man, for man only, has been given the power to create, through the Power of directed thought.

If we are to continue to exist, it can only be by retaining intelligent hold upon this central controlling principle in ourselves. To this end therefore our endeavors should be directed, otherwise all our studies will only lead us into a confused labyrinth of principles and counterprinciples, which will be considerably worse than the state of ignorant simplicity from which we started.

The central controlling principle of thought is Will. It is the Will that says "I Am," and therefore when the enlightened and directed Will shall have learned to identify itself perfectly with the limitless powers of knowledge, judgment and creative thought which are ever at its disposal, then we as individual souls or creative thought centers, will have attained the wholeness, and all limitations will have passed away forever, then and then only will we have attained the full use of our birthright.

Beha 'U'llah so beautifully expressed this great truth in His "Hidden Words."

"O Son of Spirit!

I have created thee rich: Why doth thou make thyself poor? Noble have I made thee: Why dost thou degrade thyself? Of the essence of knowledge have I manifested thee: Why searchest thou for another than me? From the clay of love I have kneaded thee: Why seekest thou another? Turn thy sight unto thyself, that thou mayest find Me standing within thee, powerful, mighty and supreme."

ROSA ELECTA GAZVINI.

HIS BELOVED GARDEN OF RIZWAN

*(Reverently Dedicated to—GHUSNI AKBAR, the Venerable Mohammed Ali Behai,
Who is an inspiration to every true and faithful follower of BEHA 'U'LLAH.)*

HERE 'NEATH the shining globes of apricot fruit
Hanging all golden mid their emerald leaves.
I sit and dream my dream of other days
When I, a youth, aflamed with love of life
And all they offer, walked these garden paths
With joyous feet: heart tuned to loveliness
Of nature's harmonies. At dawn I rose
Ever to music of a myriad sounds.
Music of running water, singing of birds,
Of swaying lily-buds upon the breeze.

This morning I awakened with the sun,
But I am old that once was young, and since
My back is bent with years of labouring,
His glory had arisen o'er the hills;
Ere this beloved garden welcome thee
As one would welcome a beloved friend,
With glowing heart and smile of graciousness.
Alas! my friend, my Master walks no more
Within His Joneina; yet 'tis for His sake
And for the sake of Him my Master's friend
Whose earthly dusts rests near the Palace of Behja in peace.
But His Spirit still walks its loveliness;
That feeble hands still find some work to do,
And feeble feet still wander in its shade.

Thou dost not know the story, sir? Then thou
Art stranger in our land. But rest awhile
Beneath this mulberry and I will bring
Some bread and fruit with honey from the hive;
Wine of my Master's vintage such as He
Would offer thee as ever was His wont
When travellers came weary to His gate.

* * *

'Twas on a day in spring, like unto this,
Night three-score years ago. Upon the hills
Against dark glossy leaves, the myrtle tree
Bore the white scented wonder of her flowers,
As though foretelling her triumphant days
When at the great Feast of Ingathering
With joy she calls her sister trees to share
(Olive and walnut, willow and pomegranate)
In thanksgiving for our deliverance
From many years of exiled wandering.
My heart was singing and my feet were light
And swift to answer the beloved feet
Of Him my Father as He came
Across the brook beneath the bowery wreath.

Then I beheld His face all aglow
And from His great joy my heart tender grow,
I ran to Him with silent questioning,
For my poor lips were dumb before such joy of reasoning
That looked from out His eyes. At length He spoke:
"Go, GHUSNI AKBAR," He said, "within the house,
And with all haste bid thou my servants bring
Of all my wine cups the most precious ones,
Precious, thou know'st, since down the centuries
It comes from fathers' father. A treasure of treasuries."
I learned the news that He, my Master, will tonight
Eat of the Feast of Mahdy with those His friends
The ones whom He has chosen to Himself.

The cup He bade me bring was more than rare,
None other in the world like unto it,
So ancient was it, none could ever dare
Tell when was fashioned, nor who might engraved it.
For timeless time, the Lords of Kitabul-Ackdas
Had treasured it, and through the ages long
Held its beauty priceless. Some there are who say with power,

When Lucifer had fall'n by Michael's sword. A song
A stone of marvellous splendor fell from Paradise,
And from this stone, with song offering, o' might
Myriad Angels (ere the pride which circumscribed
Had seized that mighty spirit), man had made from that dearth
A vessel beautiful and full of light,
More meet for heaven's vintage than for earth's.

With trembling hands my Father took the cup,
Then left the garden, turning city-ward.
And all His bearing breathed a mystic beam
Of such splendour, till then, I had not seen
In my beloved Master. Sir, I cannot tell
To any ear the sadness which on that night fell
Night of that day on which we saw Him die.
But He, my Magyar friend, is Master of all
And conqueror of Death, since He is Beha 'U'llah!
For we who know Him hold Him in our hearts
Enshrined forever. E'en as once enshrined,
In the Palace of Joy. His Body laid on marble couch,
Brought thither by His friends for sacred burial,
Folded mid perfumed breath of Araby
Crushed from the hearts of roses and myrrh.
Then flamed the Great Awakening across mind's Arcady!
And Heaven and Earth flung wide her gates of His peace.



I am an old man now, and time has brought for me
Its many joys and mental sorrowings,
But at that First day dawning I was young
And up betimes; scarce were the birds astir on wings,
Only a distant twittered fluttering
Told of their presence. Overhead there swung
The red-tipped starlike flowers of incense trees,
And on the distant plains, like dancing girls
The scarlet, silken-clad anemones
Swayed on the music of the morning air.

Mid saffron crocuses and seame.
With beating heart attuned to nature's sway,
And singing her silent song, I went my way.
Suddenly, within my path, there came
An unseen presence, and about my head
The morning breeze seemed, in its mystic swing,
Like some pure pinion of an Angel's wing.

That is the story, friend, that He, the Glory of God
(For this we knew Him, now since our blind eyes
Were opened). Walked many years on this holy sod!
Manifesting unto many, teaching those of heavenly power
Whom He would bid to follow in His steps and love sublime,
And ordaining them to go forth throughout the world proud,
Proclaiming the good news of Brotherhood to all mankind,
And after He had taught them they all heaved a sigh,
For He left them, and about Him softly came.
A cloud that hid His beauty from their gaze,
As, watching, He ascended into beauteous Rizwan.

And dost thou marvel at my story, young bard?
Yet He, my friend, Ruler of Meshrickul-Azkar,
Because of it and of the truth convey
These many years long since He hath sailed away
To distant worlds to preach the living God
To those who sit in darkness and still clings to the sod.
And I, his son, servant, who again shall see
That form of love, and hear those eager steps
Amid the pure lilies in wondrous, eternal Rizwan,
Yet, since a greater love than mine hath need
Of Him, he who could but follow, leaving all:
His home, his friends, his wealth and heeding the call,
For, ere He went He called me to His side
And bade me tend this garden which He loved,
As I have ever tended it with joy for His holy cause,
Since now 'twas doubly precious in His eyes,
Precious with emeralds of a score of springs,
Precious with pearls of sacred memories. . .

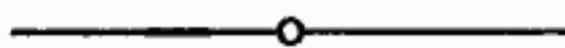
—GASPAR BELA DARUVARY.

TABLET OF BEHA 'U'LLAH TO NAPOLEON III KING OF FRANCE



KING OF PARIS! Tell the priest not to ring the bells. By God, the True One! The Most Glorious Bell hath appeared on the Temple of the Most Great Name, and the fingers of the will of Thy Lord, the High, the Supreme, ring it in the World of Eternal Power (Jeberutu'l-Baka) through His Most Spendid Name (Ismuhu'l-Abha): thus have the most mighty signs of thy Lord descended once more, that thou mayest arise to commemorate God, the Creator of the earth and the Heaven. . . . We have sent one whom we have strengthened with the Holy Spirit that he may give you tidings of this Light which hath shone forth from the horizon of the Will of your Lord, the Exalted, the Most Splendid, and whose effects have appeared in the West, that ye may turn unto Him in this day. . . . Arise amongst the servants (of God) in My Name and say, 'O people of the Earth advance toward Him, who hath advanced toward you, for verily He is the Face of God (Wajhu'llah) amongst you, and His Evidence in your midst, and His Proof unto you. . . . This is that *whereof the Spirit gave you tidings when He brought the truth, and the Jewish doctors opposed Him, until they committed that wherewith the Holy Spirit lamented.* . . . Say, O concourse of monks! Do not withdraw yourselves in churches and sanctuaries; come forth (thence) by my permission, then occupy yourselves with that whereby your souls shall be profited, and the souls of mankind. . . He who cleaveth to the house is indeed as one dead; it is meet for man that he should produce whereby (other) beings shall profit; and he who hath no fruit is fit for the Fire. . . . Verily, O King, we heard from thee a word which thou didst speak when the King of Russia asked thee concerning what was settled as to the order of war: verily thy Lord is Wise and Informed. Thou didst say, 'I was asleep in my bed (when) the cry of the servants (of God) who were wronged, even till they were drowned in the Black Sea, awoke me.' Thus did we hear, and God is the Witness of what I say. Thou canst witness that it was not (their) cry, but (thine own) lust (of war) which awoke thee, inasmuch as we tried thee and found thee afar off. . . Hadst thou been the speaker of that speech, thou wouldst not have cast the book of God behind thy back when it was sent unto thee on the part of one Mighty and Wise. Verily we tried thee therewith, and did not find thee in that state whereto thou didst pretend: arise and make reparation for what has passed away

from thee. The world shall perish, and what thou hast, and the Kingdom remains to God, thy Lord, and the Lord of thy fathers who were of yore. . . . BECAUSE OF WHAT THOU HAST DONE AFFAIRS SHALL BE CHANGED IN THY KINGDOM, AND EMPIRE SHALL DEPART FROM THINE HANDS, AS A PUNISHMENT FOR THINE ACTION: then shalt thou find thyself in manifest loss, and commotion shall seize the people there, unless thou arisest to assist in this matter, and followest the Spirit in this Straight Way. THY GLORY HATH MADE THEE PROUD: BY MY LIFE! VERILY IT SHALL NOT ENDURE, BUT SHALL PASS AWAY, UNLESS THOU TAKEST HOLD OF THIS FIRM ROPE. WE HAVE SEEN HUMILIATION HASTENING AFTER THEE, WHILE THOU ART OF THOSE THAT SLEEP."



TABLET OF BEHA 'U'LLAH TO ALEXANDER II EMPEROR OF RUSSIA



KING OF RUSSIA! Hear the voice of God, the most Holy King! Then advance unto Paradise (which is) the place wherein abideth He who is named with the Most Comely Names amongst the most high assembly, and in the Kingdom of Creation by the name of God, the Splendid, the Most Splendid (Allahu'l-Bahiyyu'l-Abha): beware lest thy desires prevent thee from turning towards the Face of thy Lord, the Merciful, the Clement. . . . One of thine Ambassadors did assist me when I was in prison, in chains and fetters. Therefore hath God decreed unto thee a station which the knowledge of no one comprehendeth, save He only. Beware lest thou change this lofty station; verily thy Lord is able to do whatsoever He willeth: He cancelleth what He pleaseth and confirmeth what He pleaseth, and with Him is the knowledge of all things in a Preserved Tablet. . . . Be not of those who used to call upon Him by a Name amongst His Names, and when the Named One came, they denied Him, and turned away from Him, until they pronounced sentence against him with evident injustice. Look, then, and remember the days wherein came the Spirit, and Herod gave judgment against Him; God hath helped the Spirit with the hosts of the Unseen."

LIFE'S JOURNEY



FROM time immemorial mankind has been eager for the answer to the three great questions? Whence we came, why we are here, and where we are going?

Numerous articles have been written on this subject by Philosophers, Scientists and Theologians, explaining the line of thought they have been reared in, and each article varies considerably from another.

To the people of intellect the answer is clear, though a difficult problem to solve to the satisfaction of the individual mind.

I choose the study of the second question first, as it is more visible to our vision, why we are here?

To answer this great question, we must know ourselves, know the globe on which we reside, are we created in the image of the Creator, or evolved from the lower Kingdom?

What is the visible and the invisible in man, and his duties while here?

We are gifted with a great power "Mind," but unfortunately we know little of its use. Our occupation, social life, and recreations have been great barriers to our thinking faculties. In occupation we are part of the machinery, in social life often we are obliged to practice hypocrisy, and the major part of our recreation is wasted in public amusement places, gazing for hours upon the screen and absorbing fabricated events reproducing heroes, lovers, murderers, and so on.

To solve the aforesaid problem, we must first learn to think and to understand the object of our coming here.

Do we know ourselves? Nay! How can we, when we have no time to think.

Are we the image of the Creator? This is our conception, as we do not observe anything in existence better than ourselves, therefore we imagine that we are His image.

We have misinterpreted the explanation of the Holy Books. We should be His image in attributes, to be upright, kind, just, obedient, peaceful, loving, generous, charitable and to follow the footsteps of the past Sages, the clear and shining mirrors which the light of Truth and Reality reflected unto them. Those who sacrificed their lives for our progress and enlightenment.

Indeed we should glory more in this, than to consider ourselves His image in body.

Did we evolve from the lower Kingdom? Our body is composed from the elements of the earth, from the earth we came and to it we shall go. The law of evolution has been grossly misrepresented and misunderstood. True, we go through evolution in our life, we evolve from atom to child, from childhood to manhood, from darkness to light, from ignorance to intelligence.

Every change is evolution, each step of progress is evolution, and each new invention is the manifestation of evolution.

We direct our thoughts to man and the globe on which he resides, this human machinery composed of the elements of the earth, wonderfully erected, and vested with unlimited power which enables him to become superior to all in existence.

Mother earth under his command, co-operating with him constantly, assisting him silently and producing for him perpetually his needs in life.

With the products of the earth he secures nourishment, which supplies blood to his veins, causing him to grow to manhood. Thus kind mother earth, provides for man all his desires without complaint or expectations of gratitude, carries the burden of our weight and accepts all we deposit in her: What a faithful Mother!

From her surface provides for us livelihood, from her depth give us treasures and in spite of all our abusive actions, her heart is ever open, that we may dig deeper and deeper and gain more from her innermost.

Man through his great invisible power "Mind" hath progressed from the stone age to the age of steel.

His marvelous discoveries shortened communications and destinations. He hath harnessed the waters producing power called electricity to gain heat, strength, light, etc. Substituted autos for horse and carriages, improved the roads for travel and built more substantial homes for his protection and comfort. Conquered diseases and through scientific researches, learned more of the globe on which he resides.

The aforesaid progress is the production of the power of thinking, the more we think, the more we learn, the more we advance.

This powerful human machine with all his glory and might, when his time is ended on this earth and the call of the beyond reaches his

ears, he must obey and leave all behind, departing in the same manner which he came, free from all earthly possessions, destitute, friendless, motionless, he hath no need for home, clothing, light, heat, food, etc., and in a short duration of time he will become part of the earth, forgotten by all. If he has accumulated wealth, his off-springs and relatives, will share and enjoy the same, or will have a long litigation over his estate usually ending with bitter memories of the dear one who hath gone.

Billions of humanity hath come and gone, and how many of them are mentioned on the pages of history.

Was this the object of his coming here? To grow, to toil, to accumulate and to leave to others and go? Indeed nay! Doubtless there are other motives for his coming.

To search the reason for his presence, we will turn back the pages of history and study the teachings of the past great Sages and scientific writers.

Thus we will discover two branches of teachings, one who claimeth the existence of a soul which occupies this human form, coming from a beginning which hath no beginning and remaining to the end which has no end "Eternal Life," as taught by the Great Teachers, Enoch, Zaradusht, Buddha, Jesus, Mohammed and Beha 'U'llah, who believed in God, the Supreme Governor, the Creator, the Originator, and who foretold events which came to pass.

The great personages that sacrificed their lives for the progress and enlightenment of mankind.

The other branch the materialists who believe from earth we come and to earth we go, denying the existence of a soul and contented with the theory of evolution and slow growth, as Darwin, Voltaire, etc.

Studying the two branches of teachings, we will observe that both confess to the existence of an originator and a beginner and agree to the oneness and singleness of that origin. The first Atom, the Supreme Architect of the Universe, Jahova, Everlasting Father, Supreme Governor, the Mighty "God."

Every individual is free to think as he wishes and to take the branch he desires for his salvation, but in conclusion my dear readers, I choose to follow the footsteps of the Inspired Teachers and fully believe that we are a soul and a noble one, coming to this school of learning "the Globe." To study, to learn, to go through experiences and thus to be prepared for the journey to the "Everlasting Existence," and rest in the World of harmony, love, peace and happiness, "Eternal Life."

Beha 'U'llah! Glory be to Him, said: "In answer to thy question regarding the soul and its immortality: Know thou, that it ascendeth

after death until it cometh to the presence of God, clothed in a temple which the centuries and ages cannot change, neither can the events of the universe nor its modifications. It will exist eternally inasmuch as the Kingdom of God, His Authority, His Might and His Power are eternal. Through that soul the evidences of God and His attributes shall be manifested, especially His providence and His Benevolence. The pen cannot name this station or describe its greatness and its sublimity. Then, the hand of Bounty will bring it (the soul) to an incomprehensible position the like of which is incomparable in the contingent world."

"Blessed is the soul which leaveth the body purified from the misdeeds of the world. It shall move in the atmosphere of the Will of its Lord and enter into the highest heaven, where it shall be guided by the van-guards of the Highest Paradise visiting round. It shall associate with the prophets of God and His Saints, speak with them and relate to them what had befallen it, (while on earth), in the cause of God, the Lord of the Worlds. If one could realize what was ordained to him in the realms of God, at once he would burn with the fire of desire to go to that most fortified, most high, holiest and most glorious abode."

"Concerning the immortality of the soul, this Oppressed One beareth witness that it is immortal. Regarding its status, this cannot be explained, and it is not meet to be mentioned save to a certain extent. The prophets and apostles came for the guidance of the people of the Earth, to the right path of God. Their purpose was the education and development of the people, that they may be, at the time of their ascension, holy, sanctified and abstracted, so as to be fitted for reaching the Supreme Station. By the Life of God, the truth is, the glory of these souls is the cause for the development of the people and the high positions of the nations. They are the cause of the existence and the greatest motive for the manifestations and sciences of the world. For them the clouds give rain and the earth brings forth its increase."

"There is not a thing existing without a cause, a motive and a beginning; and the greatest cause was and shall be the consecrated souls. The difference between this world and the world to come, is like unto the difference between the foetal life and this life."

"After the ascension, the soul cometh to the Presence of God clothed in a garment suited for eternal life and fitted for those realms. This everlasting existence of the soul is in time and is not self subsisting existence, because it was preceded by a cause. The self everlasting existence is not preceded by a cause, therefore, it belongs only to God, glory be to Him. Blessed are those who know."

SHUA ULLAH BEHAI.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS



“Religion without clergy,” then who will be our leader?

A. Beha 'U'llah commanded, that His teachings are our leaders, we should study and be guided by them, also to pray individually and not in congregation. Thus He freed us from the clutches of the clergy. In the Book of Ackdas, He said, “If ye differ in a matter, bring it to God, so long as the Sun is shining from the Horizon of this heaven; but when He sets, bring it to what He uttered, verily it suffices the worlds.”

Q. Is there need of an interpreter for the Utterances of Beha 'U'llah?

A. No! His Utterances are very clear to comprehend and He prohibited their interpretation.

In the Book of Ackdas He said, “He whosoever interpreteth what are descended from the heaven of revelations differently from its apparent meaning is of those who changed the Supreme Word of God, and is considered one of those who are written as losers in the Manifest Book.”

Q. Beha 'U'llah passed unto entirety in 1892. How many sons survived Him?

A. Four! The eldest Ghusni Azam, The Greatest branch, Abbas (Abdul Baha), The second Ghusni Akbar, The Mightiest branch Mohammed Ali Behai, The third Zia Ullah and the fourth Badi Ullah.

Q. How many of His sons are living today?

A. Two! The Second son Ghusni Akbar, the Mightiest branch Mohammed Ali Behai and the fourth son, Badi Ullah, both residing at Acre Palestine.

Q. During the life of Beha 'U'llah on earth, what was the duties of His sons?

A. During Beha 'U'llah's exile at the fortress of Acre, His eldest son Ghusni Azam Abbas (Abdul Baha) was assigned to the entertainments of the government officials and outer circle visitors. His second son Ghusni Akbar Mohammed Ali Behai; was assigned to the entertainments of the inner circle, pilgrims, inscriber of Beha 'U'llah's Utterances and promulgator of His teachings throughout the world, especial-

ly Persia. Today he is the possessor of the seals of Beha 'U'llah and His complete teachings. In the latter years His two younger sons, Zia Ullah and Badi Ullah, served as inscribers of His Utterances also.

Q. In what tongue Beha 'U'llah revealed his Utterances?

A. In the Persian and the Arabic Languages.

Q. How many volumes of His Utterances have been published, when, and where?

A. Five volumes were published in Bombay, India, 1889-1890 A. D.

Q. By whom?

A. By the commands of Beha 'U'llah, His second son Ghusni Akbar Mohammed Ali Behai, made a journey to Bombay, India and succeeded in publishing the same. For details please consult Behai Quarterly, First Quarter 1935, page fourteen.

Q. What is the significance of the word branch applied to the sons of Beha 'U'llah?

A. Beha 'U'llah called Himself a Tree and His sons branches of the tree.

Q. What are the stations of His sons, the branches?

A. The following Tablets revealed by Beha 'U'llah answers your question:

"The Branches who are branched from the Sadret (Tree of Life), are my fingerposts amongst my Creatures, and my fragrance between heaven and earth. Have ye ever seen a companion or an equal to God; your Lord? By the Lord of the Whole Worlds, No! Then speak not of that which God did not permit, but rather fear the merciful and be of those who reason."

"O people, hold after my departure, to the branches who were branched from this Ancient Root. For by them the fragrance of my garment shall be diffused throughout the World, but no one can attain it, save every upright seeker."

"O my brothers, we command you and your children and those who are upon earth, never to resist my branches, nor do what will grieve them. They have the Supreme position and the highest rank amongst you.

Fear ye God and be not of those who are unjust."

"HIDDEN WORDS"

(From the Arabic)

(Revealed by Beha 'U'llah)

(Continued from the last issue)



Son of Existence!

Be not engrossed with this world, for with fire We test the gold and with gold We try the servants.

O Son of Man!

Thou desirest gold, and We desire thy separation from it. Thou hast realized therein the riches of thyself, while I realize thy wealth to consist in thy freedom from it. By My Life! This is My knowledge, while that is thine imagining; how can My thought agree with thine?

O Son of Man!

Distribute My possessions among My poor, that in Heaven thou mayest receive from the boundless treasures of Glory and from the stores of eternal bliss. But by My Life! The sacrifice of the spirit is more glorious, couldst thou see with Mine eye.

O Son of Humanity!

Thy temple of being is My throne. Purge it of everything, that I may descend therein to reign over it.

O Son of Existence!

Thy heart is My home; purify it for My descent; Thy spirit is My outlook; prepare it for My manifestation.

O Son of Man!

Put thy hand into My treasury; then will I lift My Head radiant above thy treasures.

O Son of Man!

Ascend to My heaven that thou mayest drink of the pure Wine which has no likeness—from the Chalice of everlasting Glory.

O Son of Man!

Days have passed by thee, and thou hast occupied thyself with thy fanciful imaginations. How long wilt thou thus sleep upon thy bed? Lift up thy head from slumber, for the Sun has climbed to the zenith, that He may illumine thee with Lights of Beauty.