# BEHAI

## **QUARTERLY**

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# Table of Contents

NINE BASIC BEHAI PRINCIPLES—  Taught by Beha 'U'llah	2
FOREWORD—	
Shua Ullah Behai	7
EXPERIENCE OF AN OCCIDENTAL SAVANT	5
A PARABLE MESSAGE (A Poem)—  Joseph G. Hamilton 1	12
LIFE EVERLASTING—  Leslie E. Pease	15
A MIRROR (A Poem)—	
Frederick A. Slack	18
TABLET OF BEHA 'U'LLAH TO POPE PIUS IX 1	19
HIDDEN WORDS-	
Beha 'U'llah	22
PRAYERS-	
Beha 'U'llah	28

### **FOREWORD**

HE BEHAI FAITH has spread rapidly throughout the world, although less than a century since its birth.

The name of its founder, the last Sun of Reality, which appeared on the Horizon of the East "Beha 'U'llah is known all over the Globe, and its principles are gradually being practiced by individuals and nations.

The aim of this quarterly is to spread its teachings, and is presented to the readers absolutely free as "Truth ought not to be sold."

I extend my gratitude to the Librarians and readers for their encouraging letters and kind interest they have displayed, and hope that through our mutual efforts, we, the inhabitants of this world will, through greater understanding, live more in harmony with the plan of the Supreme Architect.

This Periodical can be secured from the principle libraries throughout the world. Should your home library be unable to supply you with a copy, please inform the Editor, sending your name and correct address, also the name of the library, and in due time you shall both receive a copy gratis.

I call the attention of my kind readers to the article entitled "The Experience of an Occidental Savant" which is reprinted from the works of the well-known historian, the late Professor Edward G. Browne, M. A. M. B., of the University of Cambridge, England, who was fortunate to pay his tribute to Beha 'U'llah in the year 1890.

I regret to disappoint my dear questioners, as shortage of space obliged me to eliminate its appearance in this issue. All questions received will be answered in the coming issue.

Your co-operation is urgently requested for the progress of the thoughts of mankind.

SHUA ULLAH BEHAI.

#### THE EXPERIENCE OF AN OCCIDENTAL SAVANT

(Reprinted from the works of the late Professor Edward G. Browne, M. A. M. B., of the University of Cambridge, England. Published-Year 1891)



E ENTERED Acre towards sun-down on April 13th, and, wending our way through the fine bazaars, on the smooth stone pavement of which our horses' hoofs slipped as on ice, alighted at the house of a Christian merchant named Ibrahim

Khuri, who accorded to us the usual hospitable reception. That same evening I sent a note to the Babi agent, which was brought back by the messenger unopened, with the disagreeable news that my mysterious correspondent had gone to Haifa with Beha's eldest son 'Abbas Efendi, (Abdul Baha.) This was most unwelcome information: for as Mr. Eyres was leaving the next day for Haifa, and I did not wish to trespass further on the hospitality of Ibrahim Khuri, it was absolutely essential that I should obtain help from the Babis in finding other quarters. Evidently there was nothing for it but to wait for the morrow and what it might bring forth.

Next morning I enquired if there was any representative of the absent agent who might be cognizant of his movements, and was conducted to a shop in the bazaar, where I found a tall handsome youth clothed entirely in white save for his red fez, from beneath which a mass of glossy black hair swept back behind his ears at the lower level of which it terminated. This youth, accosting me in Turkish, enquired first somewhat haughtily what might be my business. I answered him in Persian, whereat he appeared surprised; and, after hearing what I had to say, bade me follow him. He led me to a house situated near the seashore, at the door of which we were met by an old Persian with long grizzled hair and beard, whose scrutinizing gaze was rendered more rather than less formidable by an enormous pair of spectacles. This man, after conversing for a few moments with my guide in an under tone, led me into a large room devoid of all furniture save a sort of bench or divan which ran round its four sides. I had scarcely seated myself when another Persian, evidently superior in authority to the other two, entered and saluted me. He was a man of middle height and middle age, with a keen and not unpleasing countenance, whereof the lower part was concealed by a short crisp beard. After bidding me reseat myself (for I had, of course, risen on his entrance) and ordering his servant (for such, I discovered, was the old man who had met me at the door) to give me a cup of coffee, he proceeded to subject me to a most minute cross-