

# DISCOVER ABDUL BAHA'S RESPONSE TO LOST LETTER

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Prejudice Is Ridiculed by  
Deceased Religionist**

Shortly following the recent death of Abdul Baha, leader of the Bahai world-wide religious movement, there was found among his effects a tablet written in answer to a letter that appeared in the Chicago Defender four years ago, relative to the treatment accorded one race by another.

The Bahalsts are now erecting a million-dollar temple at Wilmette. Each year a convention of much portent is held in Chicago and thinkers of many races come to expound the teachings of Bahalism. It is proclaimed as a universal religion, recognizing no difference in color nor class. Among the speakers on its programs are Americans of all colors; at the convention's banquet tables the same policy prevails. What should be the true principles of Christianity are embodied in this world-embracing faith and system of conduct.

## **Baha's Tablet**

Abdul Baha's tablet was written to Thomas Maxwell, a white Bahalist of this city, after the learned seer had read the letter in the Defender. It shows a high, lofty disdain for the petty workings of color prejudice. The Bahalist's letter reads:

"To Mr. Thomas Maxwell:  
Upon him be greetings and praise.

## **HE IS GOD**

"O thou who art striving for the welfare of the world of humanity.

"The contents of thy letter were in accordance with the facts. Indeed, the world of humanity is like one kindred and one family. Because of the climatic differences of zones through the passing of the ages, colors have become different. In the torrid zone on account of the intensity of the effect of the sun throughout the ages, the black race appeared. In the frigid zone on account of the severity of the cold and ineffectiveness of the heat of the sun throughout the ages, the white race appeared. In the temperate zone the yellow, brown and red races came into existence. But, in reality, mankind is one race. Because it is of one race, unquestionably, there must be unity and harmony, and no separation, nor discord.

"God be praised! The animal, notwithstanding being a captive of nature, and nature completely dominates it, does not attach importance to color. For instance, thou dost consider that the black, white, yellow, blue and other colored pigeons are in the utmost harmony with one another. They never give importance to color. Likewise, the sheep and the beasts are in the utmost love and unity. But man is peculiar that he has made color the means of strife. Between the white and the black, there the utmost estrangement and discord.

"When we enter a rose garden we behold how beautiful is the display of the variegated flowers. The difference of color is the adornment of the rose garden. Were it of one color, it would not have such splendor. The adornment of the rose garden is in this, that it contains roses of variegated colors.

"Thus it becomes evident that the difference of color is the adornment of humanity. Therefore, it must not be the cause of discord. I hope that you with your soul may strive and become the cause of establishing harmony and love between the black and the white.

"Upon thee be greetings and praise."

Members and friends of the Bahai movement meet every Sunday at 3:30 in the afternoon in the Masonic temple, Randolph and State streets. Everyone is invited to hear these wonderful teachings, regardless of race or color. No difference is made.