

House of Baha-ollah

Acca, Syria

August 17th 1914

Dear friends!

The foundation of the life of Abdul Baha is Love; the structure of his soul is Love; the palace of his spirit is Love; the vitality of his existence is Love; the food of his body is Love; the water of his field is Love; the sun of his being is Love; the fruit of his efforts is Love; the object of his Teachings is Love; the biography of his works is Love; the memoir of his deeds is Love; the principle of his career is Love; the goal of his search is Love; the heaven of his yearning is Love; the mode of his instruction is Love; the force of his personality is Love; the magnetism of his individuality is Love; the beauty of his character is Love; the inspiration of his presence is Love; the light of his words is Love; the power of his utterances is Love; the strength of his knowledge is Love; the simplicity of his wisdom is Love; the reason of his attraction is Love; the diamond of his mine is Love; the pearl of his sea is Love; the rose of his Garden is Love and the nightingale of his paradise is Love. His Love is not

confined to any one religion or nation. It transcends all limitations and includes all the tribes and peoples and tongues that inhabit the earth and extends to mute creatures, animate and inanimate beings and forms. For this reason we observe how all things all drawn unto him and gravitate around him. Hence this principle is realized in him as in no other person: "the larger, the closer; the farther circumference, the more dynamic centre; the broader life; the more perfect union and more general welfare." Consequently it is true, when we state, that Abdul Baha is the Ideal Station after which humanity must pattern himself; for Love which is no other than the Creative Energy and Universal Intelligence has found its full and complete expression in him. Therefore it is said by the spiritually minded men of antiquity: "God is Love." Hence, when the "Light of the Love of God" is reflected on the ^{pure} mirror of the heart of a man, chosen by the Almighty, he will in turn reflect that light upon the mirrors of the hearts of other individuals and thus he becomes ^{primal} the channel for the transmission of Light, Love and affection amongst mankind.

Abdul Baha writing on the "Love of God" to a Persian Bahai says:- "Thy letter was received. Its contents perused with attention. From its words I heard a sweet melody and that melody was the Psalm of the "Love of God." Although in the world of existence the Outpourings of the Almighty are infinite yet the Greatest Divine Outpouring is the "Love of God." This is the dominant, transcendental Power which rises above all the natural susceptibilities of the world of humanity. Man like unto the animal is the captive of the world of nature and the laws of nature exercise full control over his nature. He cannot even be compared to the beasts of prey. For example one of the forces of nature is ferocity. A ferocious, blood thirsty man goes beyond the ferocious animals. If an animal tears another animal, it is only for its daily food but man destroys one hundred thousand souls in one day. Hence it became evident that the power of nature is the unbridled and ungovernable ruler over man. What is written concerning the "ego which is always inclined to do evil" is no other than the fermentation of the passionate desires in the breast of man and the

complete, unchecked sway of the carnal and natural forces over him. Therefore, ~~man~~ cannot win victory over these physical emotions save through the "Power of the Love of God". The Fire of the Love of God is like unto the lightning which strikes upon the head of nature, emasculating it of its virility and leaving it fallen on the ground - a lifeless corpse. Consequently the greatest Power in the world of existence is the "Love of God" "

This morning the Beloved received a number of officers and citizens and conversed with them on the topics which are most interesting to them. Then with Aga Sayad Ali Afzari and one or two other Bahais he walked out of town to visit the Tombs of his mother and others who are buried in a cemetery close to the walls. He stood a few minutes before each tomb, reciting a silent prayer; but the day was extremely hot and when he reached home he was soaked with perspiration. He went immediately to his room to change his clothes and rest.

In the afternoon he sent for the friends and

talked with a number of them individually. Then I was called in and he dictated a long cable to London and a Tablet for Miss Irene Holmes and Miss Juliet Thompson of New York City. "How art thou?" he asked when he finished dictating ^{the} Tablet and as though I was a newly arrived guest. "Dost thou enjoy thy time in this Blessed home? Is the food according to thy taste? Dost thou ^{drink} thy morning and afternoon tea? But now I remember, thou art not so accustomed to tea-drinking. For seventy years I was addicted to the drinking of tea. Last year I suddenly stopped it and since that time I have felt ^{on the fact} much better. I can't understand why people insist that one cannot give up a thing once he is accustomed to it. One can do it very easily if he makes up fully his mind, resolving to quit it for ever. It is all a matter of character and determination."

There was a good meeting in the evening and all the friends were joyfully present. Again the subject of the talk was the disordered conditions and chaos of the Turkish administration during the past months and how the people are thoroughly dissatisfied and restless.