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Bahai Pilgrims' Home
Mount Carmel, Haifa Syria
February 28th 1915

Dear friends!

I wished to go to Abou Senan with the Beloved but instead he sent me to Haifa to inquire about the health of the Angel of Mount Carmel and attend to another matter which needed my attention. Haji Sayad Javad and Mirza Fazlollah Khan have come with me and the latter will return to Abou Senan tomorrow with Ahmad. To say the least I did not expect this but at the same time I ^{was} glad ^{that} I could get this opportunity to see our dear teacher Haji Mirza Haydar Ali. The Master told me to leave for Haifa no sooner our morning call was closed. As it was rather too late I missed the early carriage and had to wait till 2 P.M. Meanwhile a carriage arrived from Haifa, bringing Dr. Alfonso Finkelstein, director of the Jewish Technical Institute, Frauline Leonie Finkelstein, his sister, Herr Franz Eldadt, Julius Roschscheld, Frau Fredrik Roschscheld and Mirza Anayetullah. These gentlemen and the ladies will be the guests of the Master in Abou Senan tonight and tomorrow and as they are interested in the antiquities they will visit some of the old sites scattered all through this land. When they alighted from their carriage the Beloved was standing in front of the door and welcomed them with real pleasure. Then he conducted them to his room and ordered tea to be prepared immediately. After a few minutes of preliminary remarks Doctor Finkelstein requested the Master to take his photograph in this room which has been hallowed by the Presence of Baha Ullah by ever ^{so} many years and his permission has given us another historical picture of precious memory. "I love the town of Acca" Doctor said "and I consider myself greatly blessed to have crossed the threshold of this house and entered this room, because here is the source, the headquarter of the birth of the universal Bahai Teachings, here one feels the spirit of holiness and love, here we ^{know} that we are welcomed, here one is encircled in the arms of peace." After an appropriate answer by the Master he told them to call on Motesarref, and ask him to give them a letter of recommendation and send with them a guard. For lunch they were going to stop at the garden of Rezuwan and in the afternoon depart for Abou Senan. He told them also that the Commandant, Ahmad Shokri

two other officers gevdad Bey and Nezmi Bey will be his guests tonight and before he will leave Acca in their company. Our German friends were made very py over this news and left the house with great joy.

The Master left the house in his carriage a few minutes before 2 P. M. and he was going to stop at the Military quarter and pick up his guests. After half an hour we started for Haifa in the public Vehicle. The fare for each individual is 3 Bashleeks while we were speeding along ^{the shore} we sighted a warship in the horizon. She did not approach the harbor and disappeared after an hour. Half an hour before ^{Sunset} we reached our destination and were pleased to be greeted by old friends. We stayed a few minutes in the dear home of Abdul Baha, inhaled the perfume of the roses, ^{had a} chat with Ismael Aga and others, drank a cup of tea in the house of Mirza Hussein Haji who came over with us from Acca and then ascended the mountain towards the Pilgrims Home in the glorious moonlight. I could not help but to dream of the bygone days made so memorable by the arrivals of Pilgrims and unforgettable by the sweetness and beauty of their faith and love! Aga Mohammad Hassan, Aga Ab has Goli and Aga Rahmatullah were surprised to see me and wished to know whether the Master has also come. I expressed the hope that he may come in two weeks. Then I entered the room of the Angel. He was in bed but no sooner he heard my voice than he raised his head and extended to me a hand of welcome. For an hour I spoke to him and asked about his health. He was so very glad to know that the Beloved is thinking of him. I found his health very weak. He was now and then caught by fits of coughing which left him exhausted. Often he lapsed into a semi-conscious state and then he would whisper to himself: 'Ya Abdul Baha! Ya Abdul Baha! My heart broke over this sight and I had to relieve my grief in weeping. All through the years of his noble life he has been such a faithful worker in the Cause and a standard bearer of the Covenant of God throughout the East! All night I was thinking of him and his work! Never will we be able to appreciate duly the station of a self-sacrificing Teacher like him but we can at least emulate him in firmness and steadfastness! His peerless love and ^{undevoted} devotion to the Center of the Covenant has marked him as a unique personality in this Cause and will ever remain as his distinctive characteristics to be acquired by others whose aim is to spread this Truth.