



# Abdul-Baha's Tablets of the Divine Plan

For Study at Foundation Hall University

# "Systematic Execution of the Divine Plan", p. 7 --

The following appeal of Shoghi Effendi to one community stands as an invitation to every Bahá'í to arise and persevere, thereby winning new victories in each succeeding plan:

“There can be no doubt whatever that

- with every turn of the wheel, as a result of the operation of ‘Abdu’l-Bahá’s Plan,
- and with every extension in the range of its evolution,

*a responsibility of still greater gravity and of wider import will have to be shouldered by its divinely chosen executors wherever its ramifications may extend and however oppressive the state of the countries and continents in which they may have to labor.*

They must strive, ceaselessly strive,

- **ready** for any emergency,
- **steeled** to meet any degree of opposition,
- **unsatisfied** with any measure of progress as yet achieved,
- **prepared** to make sacrifices far exceeding any they have already willingly made,
- and **confident** that **such striving, such readiness, such resolution, such high-mindedness, such sacrifice** will earn them the palm of a victory still more soul-satisfying and resounding in its magnificence than any as yet won since the inception of their mission.”

Source: **The Spiritual Conquest of the Planet: Our Response to Plans (page 5)**

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# TABLETS OF THE DIVINE PLAN

By 'Abdu'l-Bahá

The chart below is not part of the Tablets. I have excerpted the information for creating the chart from the body of the document, and have displayed it in this format to show the dates, places, and states referenced in each of the eleven letters written by Abdul-Baha over the course of almost a year from March 16, 1916 to February 8, 1917

## List of Letters

<b>Date</b>	<b>States</b>	<b>Addressed from:</b>
<i>March 26, 1916</i>	<i>9 Northeastern States</i>	<i>Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí</i>
<i>March 27, 1916</i>	<i>16 Southern States</i>	<i>In the garden adjacent to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh</i>
<i>March 29, 1916</i>	<i>12 Central States</i>	<i>Outside the house in Bahjí</i>
<i>April 1, 1916</i>	<i>11 Western States</i>	<i>'Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí</i>
<i>April 5, 1916</i>	<i>15 Providences in Canada and Greenland</i>	<i>In the garden adjacent to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh</i>
<i>April 8, 1916</i>	<i>United States and Canada</i>	<i>In the garden outside the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh</i>
<i>April 11, 1916</i>	<i>United States and Canada</i>	<i>Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí</i>
<i>April 19, 20, &amp; 22, 1916</i>	<i>United States and Canada</i>	<i>In 'Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí; on April 20, in the pilgrims' quarters of the house in Bahjí; on April 22, in the garden adjacent to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh</i>
<i>February 2, 1917</i>	<i>9 Northeastern States</i>	<i>Ismá'il Áqá's room at the house of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in Haifa</i>
<i>February 2, 1917</i>	<i>16 Southern States</i>	<i>in Haifa in Ismá'il Áqá's room</i>
<i>February 8, 1917</i>	<i>12 Central States</i>	<i>in Bahá'u'lláh's room at the house of 'Abbúd in 'Akká</i>

The Tablets of the Divine Plan on the following pages has been formatted exclusively for study at Foundation Hall University. All numbering, bulleting, colors, punctuation, and indentation have been added to assist the participants to digest and go deeper into the material as we study together virtually. No text whatsoever has been added or deleted.

Barbara Talley

# Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Northeastern States

Revealed on March 26, 1916, in 'Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí, addressed to the Bahá'ís of nine Northeastern States of the United States:

- 1. Maine,
- 2. Massachusetts,
- 3. New Hampshire,
- 4. Rhode Island,
- 5. Connecticut,
- 6. Vermont,
- 7. Pennsylvania,
- 8. New Jersey and
- 9. New York.

## O ye heavenly heralds:

THESE are the days of Naw-Rúz. I am always thinking of those kind friends! I beg for each and all of you confirmations and assistance from the threshold of oneness, so that **those gatherings**

- **may become ignited like unto candles**, in the republics of America,
- **enkindling the light of the love of God in the hearts**; thus
- **the rays of the heavenly teachings may begem and brighten the states of America like the infinitude of immensity with the stars** of the Most Great Guidance.

The Northeastern States on the shores of the Atlantic—Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York—

- in some of these **states** believers are found,
- but in some of the **cities** of these states up to this date **people**
  - **are not yet illumined with the lights of the Kingdom** and
  - **are not aware of the heavenly teachings**;
- therefore, whenever it is possible for each one of you,
  - **hasten** ye to those cities and
  - **shine forth** like unto the stars with the light of the Most Great Guidance.

28 **God says in the glorious Qur’án:**

---

29 *“The soil was black and dried. Then we caused the rain to descend*  
 30 *upon it and immediately it became green, verdant, and every kind*  
 31 *of plant sprouted up luxuriantly.”<sup>1</sup>*

---

32 In other words, He says the earth is black, but when the spring showers descend upon it that  
 33 black soil is quickened, and variegated flowers are pushed forth.

34  
 35 **This means *the souls of humanity belonging to the world of nature are black like unto the***  
 36 ***soil. But when the heavenly outpourings descend and the radiant effulgences appear,***  
 37 ***the hearts***

- 38 • **are resuscitated,**
- 39 • **are liberated** from the darkness of nature and
- 40 • the flowers of **divine mysteries grow** and
- 41 • **become luxuriant.**

42  
 43 **Consequently, *man must***

- 44 • ***become the cause of the illumination*** of the world of humanity and
- 45 • ***propagate the holy teachings*** revealed in the sacred books through the divine  
 46 inspiration.

47  
 48 **It is stated in the blessed Gospel:**

---

49 *Travel ye toward the East and toward the West and **enlighten the people***  
 50 ***with the light of the Most Great Guidance, so that they may take a portion***  
 51 ***and share of eternal life.**<sup>2</sup>*

---

52 **Praise be to God, that the Northeastern States are in the utmost capacity.** Because the  
 53 ground is rich, the rain of the divine outpouring is descending. Now you must

- 54 1. **become** heavenly farmers and
- 55 2. **scatter** pure seeds in the prepared soil.

56  
 57 The harvest of ***every other seed is limited, but the bounty and the blessing of the seed of***  
 58 ***the divine teachings is unlimited.***

59  
 60 Throughout the coming centuries and cycles many harvests will be gathered. Consider the  
 61 work of former generations. During the lifetime of Jesus Christ the believing, firm souls were

62 few and numbered, but the heavenly blessings descended so plentifully that in a number of  
63 years countless souls entered beneath the shadow of the Gospel.

64  
65 **God has said in the Qur’án:**

---

66 *“One grain will bring forth seven sheaves, and every sheaf shall*  
67 *contain one hundred grains.”<sup>3</sup>*

---

68 In other words, one grain will become seven hundred; and if God so wills, He will double these  
69 also. *It has often happened that one blessed soul has become the cause of the guidance of*  
70 *a nation.*

71  
72 **Now**  
73 *we must not consider our ability and capacity*, nay, rather,  
74 *we must fix our gaze upon the favors and bounties of God*, in these days, Who has made of  
75 the drop a sea, and of the atom a sun.

76  
77 Upon you be greeting and praise!

78  
79 2

## 80 **Tablet to the Bahá’ís of the Southern States**

81 

82 *Revealed on March 27, 1916, in the garden adjacent to the Shrine of Bahá’u’lláh, addressed*  
83 *to the Bahá’ís of sixteen Southern States of the United States:*

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Delaware,       | 9. Alabama,      |
| 2. Maryland,       | 10. Mississippi, |
| 3. Virginia,       | 11. Tennessee,   |
| 4. West Virginia,  | 12. Kentucky,    |
| 5. North Carolina, | 13. Louisiana,   |
| 6. South Carolina, | 14. Arkansas,    |
| 7. Georgia,        | 15. Oklahoma and |
| 8. Florida,        | 16. Texas.       |

84 

85 *O ye heralds of the Kingdom of God:*

86 A FEW days ago an epistle was written to those divine believers, but because these days are  
87 the days of Naw-Rúz, you have come to my mind and I am sending you this greeting for this

88 glorious feast. All the days are blessed, but this feast is the national fête of Persia. The Persians  
89 have been holding it for several thousand years past.

90

91 **In reality every day which man passes in**

- 92 • the *mention of God*,
- 93 • the *diffusion of the fragrances of God* and
- 94 • *calling the people to the Kingdom of God*, that day is his feast.

95

96 **Praise be to God that you are**

- 97 1. *occupied in the service of the Kingdom of God* and are
- 98 2. *engaged in the promulgation of the religion of God by day and by night.*

99

100 Therefore all your days are feast days. ***There is no doubt that the assistance and the***  
101 ***bestowal of God shall descend upon you.***

102

103 **In the Southern States of the United States, the friends are few, that is, in Delaware,**  
104 **Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida,**  
105 **Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas.**

106

107 **Consequently, you *must either***

- 108 1. *go yourselves* or
- 109 2. *send a number of blessed souls* to those states,

110 **so that they may guide the people to the Kingdom of Heaven.**

111 **One of the holy Manifestations, addressing a believing soul, has said that, if a person**  
112 **become the cause of the illumination of one soul, it is better than a boundless treasury.**

---

113 *“O ‘Alí! If God guide, through thee, one soul, it is better for thee*  
114 *than all the riches!”* Again He says, *“Direct us to the straight*  
115 *path!”*<sup>1</sup> *that is, Show us the right road.*

---

116 **It is also mentioned in the Gospel:**

---

117 *Travel ye to all parts of the world and give ye the glad tidings of the*  
118 *appearance of the Kingdom of God.*<sup>2</sup>

---

119 In brief, ***I hope***

- 120 • ***you will display in this respect the greatest effort and magnanimity. It is assured***
- 121 • ***that you will become assisted and confirmed.***

122 *A person declaring the glad tidings of the appearance of the realities and significances of*  
123 *the Kingdom is like unto a farmer who scatters pure seeds in the rich soil. The spring cloud*  
124 *will pour upon them the rain of bounty, and unquestionably the station of the farmer will*  
125 *be raised in the estimation of the lord of the village, and many harvests will be gathered.*

126  
127 Therefore, ye friends of God! **Appreciate ye the value of this time and be ye engaged in the**  
128 **sowing of the seeds,** so that you may find the heavenly blessing and the lordly bestowal.

129  
130 Upon you be Bahá'u'l-Abhá!

131 3

## 132 **Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Central States**

133

134 *Revealed on March 29, 1916, outside the house in Bahjí, and addressed to the Bahá'ís of twelve*  
135 *Central States of the United States:*

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Michigan,  | 7. Iowa,          |
| 2. Wisconsin, | 8. Missouri,      |
| 3. Illinois,  | 9. North Dakota,  |
| 4. Indiana,   | 10. South Dakota, |
| 5. Ohio,      | 11. Nebraska and  |
| 6. Minnesota, | 12. Kansas.       |

144

145 *O ye heavenly souls, O ye spiritual assemblies, O ye lordly meetings:*

146

147 FOR some time past correspondence has been delayed, and this has been on account of the  
148 difficulty of mailing and receiving letters. But because at present a number of facilities are  
149 obtainable, therefore, *I am engaged in writing you this brief epistle so that my heart and soul*  
150 *may obtain joy and fragrance through the remembrance of the friends.*

151

152 Continually this wanderer supplicates and entreats at the threshold of His Holiness the One  
153 and begs assistance, bounty and heavenly confirmations in behalf of the believers. *You are*  
154 *always in my thoughts. You are not nor shall you ever be forgotten.* I hope by the favor of  
155 His Holiness the Almighty that **day by day you may add to your**

156

- *faith,*
- *assurance,*
- *firmness and*
- *steadfastness, and*
- *become instruments for the promotion of the holy fragrances.*

157

158

159

160

161



162 **Although in the states of Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan and Minnesota—praise be to**  
163 **God**—believers are found who are

- 164 • **associating with each other** in the utmost firmness and steadfastness—day and night
- 165 • they **have no other intention save the diffusion of the fragrances of God,**
- 166 • they **have no other hope except the promotion of the heavenly teachings,** like the
- 167 candles
- 168 • they **are burning with the light of the love of God,** and like thankful birds are singing
- 169 songs, spirit-imparting, joy-creating, in the rose garden of the knowledge of God

171 **—yet in the states of Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska and**  
172 **Kansas few of the believers exist.**

173  
174 **So far**

- 175 • the **summons of the Kingdom of God** and
- 176 • the **proclamation of the oneness** of the world of humanity

177 **has not been made** in these states **systematically and enthusiastically.** Blessed souls and  
178 detached teachers have not traveled through these parts repeatedly; therefore **these states**  
179 **are still in a state of heedlessness.**

180  
181 **Through the efforts of the friends of God souls must be likewise**

- 182 • **enkindled** in these states, with the fire of the love of God and
- 183 • **attracted** to the Kingdom of God,

184 **so that section may also become illumined** and the soul imparting breeze of the rose garden  
185 of the Kingdom may perfume the nostrils of the inhabitants.

186  
187 **Therefore, if it is possible, send to those parts teachers who are**

- 188 • **severed** from all else save God,
- 189 • **sanctified** and
- 190 • **pure.**

191  
192 **If these teachers be in the utmost state of attraction,** in a short time great results will be  
193 forthcoming. The sons and daughters of the kingdom are like unto the real farmers. **Through**  
194 **whichever state or country they pass they display self-sacrifice and sow divine seeds.**  
195 From that seed harvests are produced.

196  
197 **On this subject it is revealed in the glorious Gospel:**  
198

---

199 *When the pure seeds are scattered in the good ground heavenly*  
200 *blessing and benediction is obtained.*1

---

201 I hope that you may become assisted and confirmed, and never lose courage in the promotion  
202 of the divine teachings. Day by day may you add to your effort, exertion, and magnanimity.

203  
204 Upon you be greeting and praise!

205 4

206

207 **Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Western States**

208

209 *Revealed on April 1, 1916, in 'Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí, addressed to the Bahá'ís*  
210 *of eleven Western States of the United States:*

- |                |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. New Mexico, | 7. Utah,        |
| 2. Colorado,   | 8. Montana,     |
| 3. Arizona,    | 9. Idaho,       |
| 4. Nevada,     | 10. Oregon and  |
| 5. California, | 11. Washington. |
| 6. Wyoming,    |                 |

211

212 *He is God! O ye sons and daughters of the Kingdom:*

213

214 **DAY and night I have no other occupation than the**

- 215 • **remembrance** of the friends,
- 216 • **praying** from the depth of my heart in their behalf,
- 217 • **begging** for them confirmation from the Kingdom of God and
- 218 • **supplicating** the direct effect of the breaths of the Holy Spirit.

219

220 I am hopeful from the favors of His Highness the Lord of Bestowals, that the friends of God  
221 during such a time **may become the secret cause of the illumination of the hearts of**  
222 **humanity**, breathing the breath of life upon the spirits—whose praiseworthy results may  
223 become conducive to the glory and exaltation of humankind throughout all eternity.

224

225 **Although in some of the Western States, like California, Oregon, Washington and**  
226 **Colorado**, the fragrances of holiness are diffused, numerous souls

- 227 • have **taken a share and a portion from the fountain** of everlasting life, they
- 228 • have **obtained heavenly benediction**,
- 229 • have **drunk an overflowing cup** from the wine of the love of God and
- 230 • have **hearkened to the melody** of the Supreme Concurrence

231 —yet in the states of **New Mexico, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Utah, Arizona and Nevada**,

- 232 • the ***lamp of the love of God is not ignited*** in a befitting and behooving manner, and  
 233 • the ***call of the Kingdom of God has not been raised***.

234

235 **Now, if it is possible, show ye an effort in this direction. Either**

- 236 1. ***travel yourselves***, personally, throughout those states or  
 237 2. ***choose others and send them***, so that they may teach the souls.

238

239

240 **For the present those states are like unto dead bodies:**

- 241 • they ***must breathe into them the breath of life*** and  
 242 • ***bestow upon them a heavenly spirit***. Like unto the stars  
 243 • they ***must shine in that horizon*** and thus the rays of the Sun of Reality may also  
 244 illumine those states.

245

246 God says in the great Qur'án:

---

247 *“Verily God is the helper of those who have believed.*  
 248 *He will lead them from darkness into light.”<sup>1</sup>*

---

249 This means: God loves the believers, consequently He will deliver them from darkness and  
 250 bring them into the world of light. It is also recorded in the blessed Gospel:

---

251 *Travel ye throughout the world and call ye the people to the*  
 252 *Kingdom of God.<sup>2</sup>*

---

253

254 Now this is the time that you may arise and perform this most great service and become the  
 255 cause of the guidance of innumerable souls. **Thus through this superhuman service**

- 256 • the ***rays of peace and conciliation may illumine and enlighten all the regions*** and  
 257 • the ***world of humanity may find peace and composure***.

258

259 **During my stay in America**

- 260 • ***I cried out in every meeting and summoned the people*** to the propagation of the  
 261 ideals of universal peace.  
 262 • ***I said plainly that the continent of Europe***  
 263 ○ ***had become like unto an arsenal*** and  
 264 ○ its ***conflagration was dependent upon one spark***, and  
 265 ○ that in the coming years, or within two years, all ***that which is recorded in the***  
 266 ***Revelation of John and the Book of Daniel would become fulfilled*** and come to  
 267 pass.

268 This matter, in all probability, was published in the San Francisco *Bulletin*, October 12, 1912.  
 269 You may refer to it, so that the truth may become clear and manifest; thus ye may fully realize  
 270 that this is the time for the diffusion of the fragrances. The magnanimity of man must be  
 271 heavenly or, in other words, it must be assisted by the divine confirmation, so that he may  
 272 become the cause of the illumination of the world of humanity.

273  
 274 Upon you be greeting and praise!

275  
 276 5

## 277 **Tablet to the Bahá'ís of Canada and Greenland**

278

279 *Revealed on April 5, 1916, in the garden adjacent to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh, and addressed to*  
 280 *the Bahá'ís of Canada—*

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Newfoundland,         | 9. Alberta,              |
| 2. Prince Edward Island, | 10. British Columbia,    |
| 3. Nova Scotia,          | 11. Yukon,               |
| 4. New Brunswick,        | 12. Mackenzie,           |
| 5. Quebec,               | 13. Keewatin,            |
| 6. Saskatchewan,         | 14. Ungava,              |
| 7. Manitoba,             | 15. Franklin Islands—and |
| 8. Ontario,              | 16. Greenland.           |

281

282 ***He is God! O ye daughters and sons of the Kingdom:***

283

284 ALTHOUGH in most of the states and cities of the United States, praise be to God, His  
 285 fragrances are diffused, and souls unnumbered are turning their faces and advancing toward  
 286 the Kingdom of God, yet in some of the states

- 287 • the Standard of Unity is not yet upraised as it should be, nor are
- 288 • the mysteries of the Holy Books, such as the Bible, the Gospel, and
- 289 • the Qur'án, unraveled.

290

291 **Through the concerted efforts of all the friends the Standard of Unity must needs be**  
 292 **unfurled in those states**, and the divine teachings promoted, so that these states may also  
 293 receive their portion of the heavenly bestowals and a share of the Most Great Guidance.

294

295 *Likewise in the provinces of Canada, such as Newfoundland, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia,*  
 296 *New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia, Ungava,*

297 *Keewatin, Mackenzie, Yukon, and the Franklin Islands in the Arctic Circle*—the believers of God  
 298 must become self-sacrificing and like unto the candles of guidance become ignited in the  
 299 provinces of Canada.

300

301 **Should they show forth such a magnanimity, it is assured that they**

- 302 • will *obtain universal divine confirmations*,
- 303 • the *heavenly cohorts will reinforce them uninterruptedly*, and
- 304 • a *most great victory will be obtained*.

305

306 **God willing, the call of the Kingdom may reach**

- 307 • the ears of the *Eskimos*,
- 308 • the inhabitants of the *Islands of Franklin* in the north of Canada,
- 309 • as well as *Greenland*.

310

311 **Should the fire of the love of God be kindled in Greenland,**

- 312 ○ all the ice of that country will be melted, and
- 313 ○ its cold weather become temperate

314 —that is, *if the hearts be touched with the heat of the love of God*, that territory will  
 315 become

- 316 • a *divine rose garden* and
- 317 • a *heavenly paradise*, and
- 318 • the souls, even as fruitful trees, *will acquire the utmost freshness and beauty*.
- 319 •

320 *Effort, the utmost effort, is required*. Should you display an effort, so that the fragrances of  
 321 God may be diffused among the Eskimos, *its effect will be very great and far-reaching*.

322

323 God says in the great Qur'án:

---

324 *A day will come wherein the lights of unity will enlighten all the*  
 325 *world. "The earth will be irradiated with the light of its Lord."<sup>1</sup>*

---

326

327 **In other words, the earth will become illumined with the light of God. That light is the**  
 328 **light of unity.**

329

---

*"There is no God but God."*

---

330 The continent and the islands of Eskimos are also parts of this earth. They must similarly  
 331 receive a portion of the bestowals of the Most Great Guidance.

332

333 Upon you be greeting and praise!

334

335

336

## Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada

337

338

*Revealed on April 8, 1916, in the garden outside the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh, and addressed to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.*

339

340

341

*He is God! O ye blessed souls:*

342

343

**I**

344

- **DESIRE** for you *eternal success and prosperity* and

345

- **beg** *perfect confirmation* for each one in the divine world. My

346

- **hope** for you is that *each one may*

347

- *shine forth like unto the morning star* from the horizon of the world and in this Garden of God

348

349

- *become a blessed tree*, producing everlasting fruits and results.

350

351

**Therefore I direct you to that which is conducive to your heavenly confirmation and illumination in the Kingdom of God!**

352

353

354

It is this: *Alaska* is a vast country; although one of the maidservants of the Merciful has hastened to those parts, serving as a librarian in the public library, and according to her ability is not failing in teaching the Cause, yet the call of the Kingdom of God is not yet raised through that spacious territory.

356

357

358

His Holiness Christ says:

359

360

*Travel ye to the East and to the West of the world and summon the people to the Kingdom of God.<sup>1</sup>*

361

362

**Hence the mercy of God must encompass all humanity.**

363

Therefore do ye not think it permissible to leave that region deprived of the breezes of the Morn of Guidance. Consequently, strive as far as ye are able to send to those parts

364

365

- *fluent speakers*, who are

366

- *detached* from aught else save God,

- 367 • *attracted with the fragrances of God*, and  
 368 • *sanctified* and  
 369 • *purified from all desires and temptations.*

370

371 **Their sustenance and food must consist of the teachings of God.**

- 372 **1. First they must themselves live in accordance with those principles,**  
 373 **2. then guide the people.**

374

375 **Perchance, God willing,**

- 376 • the *lights* of the Most Great Guidance will illuminate that country, and  
 377 • the *breezes* of the rose garden of the love of God will perfume the nostrils of the  
 378 inhabitants of Alaska.

379

380 **Should you be aided to render such a service, rest ye assured that**

- 381 1. *your heads shall be crowned with the diadem of everlasting sovereignty*, and  
 382 2. at the threshold of oneness *you will become the favored and accepted servants.*

383

384 Likewise the *republic of Mexico* is very important. The majority of the inhabitants of that  
 385 country are devoted Catholics.

- 386 • They *are totally unaware of the reality of the Bible*, the Gospel and the new divine  
 387 teachings.  
 388 • They *do not know*  
 389 ○ *that the basis of the religions of God is one* and  
 390 ○ that the *holy Manifestations are like unto the Sun of Truth*, rising from the  
 391 different dawning-places.  
 392 • Those souls *are submerged in the sea of dogmas*. If one breath of life be blown over  
 393 them, great results will issue therefrom. *But it is better for those who intend to go to*  
 394 *Mexico to teach, to be familiar with the Spanish language.*

395

396 Similarly, the *six Central American republics, situated south of Mexico—*

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. <i>Guatemala,</i> | 5. <i>Costa Rica,</i>                    |
| 2. <i>Honduras,</i>  | 6. <i>Panama and the seventh country</i> |
| 3. <i>Salvador,</i>  | 7. <i>Belize or British Honduras.</i>    |
| 4. <i>Nicaragua,</i> |  |

397 *The teachers going to those parts must also be familiar with the Spanish language.*

398

399 **Attach great importance to the indigenous population of America.** For these souls may be  
 400 likened unto the ancient inhabitants of the Arabian Peninsula, who, prior to the Mission of  
 401 Muḥammad, were like unto savages. When the light of Muḥammad shone forth in their midst,  
 402 however, they became so radiant as to illumine the world. *Likewise, these Indians, should*  
 403 *they be educated and guided, there can be no doubt that they will become so illumined as*  
 404 *to enlighten the whole world.*

405

406 **All the above countries have importance, but especially the Republic of Panama**, wherein  
 407 the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans come together through the Panama Canal. It is a center for  
 408 travel and passage from America to other continents of the world, and **in the future it will**  
 409 **gain most great importance.**

410

411 **Likewise the islands of the West Indies, such as**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Cuba,<br>2. Haiti,<br>3. Puerto Rico,<br>4. Jamaica,<br>5. the islands of the Lesser Antilles,<br>6. Bahama Islands, even | 7. the small Watling Island, have great importance; <b>especially the two black republics, Haiti and Santo Domingo</b> , situated in the cluster of the Greater Antilles. |
|--|---|

412

413 **Likewise the cluster of the *islands of Bermuda* in the Atlantic Ocean have importance.**

414

415 **In a similar way, the *republics of the continent of South America*—**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Colombia,<br>2. Ecuador,<br>3. Peru,<br>4. Brazil,<br>5. British Guiana,<br>6. Dutch Guiana,<br>7. French Guiana,<br>8. Bolivia,<br>9. Chile,<br>10. Argentina, | 11. Uruguay,<br>12. Paraguay,<br>13. Venezuela;<br>14. also the islands to the north, east and west of South America, such as Falkland Islands,<br>15. the Galapagos,<br>16. Juan Fernandez,<br>17. Tobago and<br>18. Trinidad. |
|--|---|

418

419 **Likewise the city of Bahia, situated on the eastern shore of Brazil. Because it is**  
 420 **some time that it has become known by this name, its efficacy will be most**  
 421 **potent.**

422

423 In short, O ye believers of God! Exalt your effort and magnify your aims. **His Holiness**  
 424 **Christ says:**

425

---

426 **Blessed are the poor, for theirs shall be the Kingdom of Heaven.<sup>2</sup> In**  
 427 **other words: Blessed are the nameless and traceless poor, for they are**  
 428 **the leaders of mankind. Likewise it is said in the Qur'án: "And We**  
 429 **desire to show favor to those who were brought low in the land, and**  
 430 **to make them spiritual leaders among men, and to make of them Our**  
 431 **heirs."<sup>3</sup> Or, we wish to grant a favor to the impotent souls and suffer**  
 432 **them to become the inheritors of the Messengers and Prophets.**

---



433 **Now is the time for you**

- 434 • to *divest yourselves of the garment of attachment* to this world that perisheth,  
 435 • to *be wholly severed from the physical world*,  
 436 • *become heavenly angels, and*  
 437 • *travel to these countries.*

438

439 I swear by Him, besides Whom there is none other God, that each one of you

- 440 • will *become an Isráfil of Life*, and  
 441 • will *blow the Breath of Life into the souls of others.*

442

443 Upon you be greeting and praise!

444

445 *Supplication*

446 *O THOU Incomparable God! O Thou Lord of the Kingdom! These souls are*  
 447 *Thy heavenly army.*

- 448 1. *Assist them and, with the cohorts of the Supreme Concourse,*  
 449 2. *make them victorious, so that each one of them*  
 450 3. *may become like unto a regiment and conquer these countries*  
 451 *through the love of God and the illumination of divine teachings.*

452

453 *O God!*

- 454 • ***Be Thou their supporter and their helper, and in***  
 455 ○ *the wilderness,*  
 456 ○ *the mountain,*  
 457 ○ *the valley,*  
 458 ○ *the forests,*  
 459 ○ *the prairies and*  
 460 ○ *the seas,*  
 461 • ***be Thou their confidant***—*so that they may cry out through the power*  
 462 *of the Kingdom and the breath of the Holy Spirit.*

463

464 *Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty and the Omnipotent, and Thou art*  
 465 *the Wise, the Hearing and the Seeing.*

466

467

468

469

470

471

472

## Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada

*Revealed on April 11, 1916, in 'Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí, and addressed to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.*

*He is God! O ye real Bahá'ís of America:*

PRAISE be to His Highness the Desired One that ye have

- **become confirmed** in the promotion of divine teachings in that vast Continent,

- **raised the call** of the Kingdom of God in that region and

- **announced the glad tidings** of the manifestation of the Lord of Hosts and His Highness the Promised One.

*Thanks be unto the Lord that ye have become assisted and confirmed in this aim.*

*This is purely through the confirmations of the Lord of Hosts and the breaths of*

*the Holy Spirit. The full measure of your success is as yet unrevealed, its*

*significance still unapprehended. Erelong ye will, with your own eyes, witness*

*how brilliantly every one of you, even as a shining star, will radiate in the*

*firmament of your country the light of divine Guidance, and will bestow upon its*

*people the glory of an everlasting life.*

**Consider!**

1. The **station and the confirmation of the apostles in the time of Christ was not known**, and

2. **no one looked on them with the feeling of importance—**

3. nay, rather, **they persecuted and ridiculed them.**

**Later on it became evident** what crowns studded with the brilliant jewels of

guidance were placed on the heads of the apostles, Mary Magdalene and Mary the

mother of John.

**The range of your future achievements still remains undisclosed. I fervently**

**hope** that in the near future the whole earth may be stirred and shaken by the results

of your achievements.

508 ***The hope, therefore, which 'Abdu'l-Bahá cherishes for you is that the same***  
 509 ***success which has attended your efforts in America may crown your endeavors in***  
 510 ***other parts of the world, that through you***

- 511 • ***the fame of the Cause of God may be diffused*** throughout the East and the  
 512 West, and
- 513 • ***the advent of the Kingdom of the Lord of Hosts be proclaimed*** in all the five  
 514 continents of the globe.

515

516 **The moment this divine Message**

- 517 • ***is carried forward by the American believers from the shores of America***  
 518 and
- 519 • ***is propagated through the continents*** of Europe, of Asia, of Africa and of  
 520 Australasia, and as far as the islands of the Pacific, this community will find  
 521 itself securely established upon the throne of an everlasting dominion.

522

523 **Then**

- 524 • ***will all the peoples of the world witness that this community is spiritually***  
 525 ***illuminated and divinely guided.***

526 **Then**

- 527 • will the whole earth resound with the praises of its majesty and greatness.

528

529 **A party**

- 530 • ***speaking their languages,***
- 531 • ***severed,***
- 532 • ***holy,***
- 533 • ***sanctified and***
- 534 • ***filled with the love of God,***

535

536 **must turn their faces to and travel through the three great island groups of the**  
 537 **Pacific Ocean—**

538

- |                                  |                           |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Polynesia,                    | 11. New Hebrides,         |
| 2. Micronesia and Melanesia, and | 12. Loyalty Islands,      |
| 3. the islands attached to these | 13. New Caledonia,        |
| groups, such as                  | 14. Bismarck Archipelago, |
| 4. New Guinea,                   | 15. Ceram,                |
| 5. Borneo,                       | 16. Celebes,              |
| 6. Java,                         | 17. Friendly Islands,     |
| 7. Sumatra,                      | 18. Samoa Islands,        |
| 8. Philippine Islands,           | 19. Society Islands,      |
| 9. Solomon Islands,              | 20. Caroline Islands,     |
| 10. Fiji Islands,                | 21. Low Archipelago,      |

22. Marquesas,  
23. Hawaiian Islands,  
24. Gilbert Islands,

25. Moluccas,  
26. Marshall Islands,  
27. Timor and the other islands.

539  
540  
541  
542  
543

1. With **hearts** overflowing with the love of God,
2. with **tongues** commemorating the mention of God,
3. with **eyes** turned to the Kingdom of God,

544 **they must deliver the glad tidings of the manifestation of the Lord of Hosts to**  
545 **all the people.** Know ye of a certainty that whatever gathering ye enter,

- 546 • the **waves of the Holy Spirit** are surging over it, and
- 547 • the **heavenly grace** of the Blessed Beauty encompasseth that gathering.

548

549 Consider ye, that **Miss Agnes Alexander**, the daughter of the Kingdom, the beloved  
550 maidservant of the Blessed Perfection, traveled alone to the **Hawaiian Islands**, to  
551 the **Island of Honolulu**, and now she is gaining spiritual victories in **Japan**! Reflect  
552 ye how this daughter was confirmed in the Hawaiian Islands. She became the cause  
553 of the guidance of a gathering of people.

554

555 Likewise **Miss Knobloch** traveled alone to Germany. To what a great extent she  
556 became confirmed! Therefore, know ye of a certainty that whosoever arises in this  
557 day to diffuse the divine fragrances, the cohorts of

- 558 • the **Kingdom of God**
  - 559 ○ *shall confirm him* and the bestowals and
- 560 • the **favors of the Blessed Perfection**
  - 561 ○ *shall encircle him.*

562

563

---

*O that I could travel, even though on foot and in the utmost  
poverty, to these regions, and, raising the call of “Yá Bahá’u’l-Abhá”  
in cities, villages, mountains, deserts and oceans, promote the  
divine teachings! This, alas, I cannot do. How intensely I deplore it!  
Please God, ye may achieve it.*

---

564

565

566

567

568 At this time, in the Hawaiian Islands, through the **efforts of Miss Alexander**, a  
569 number of souls have reached the shore of the sea of faith! Consider ye, what  
570 happiness, what joy is this!

571

572 ***I declare by the Lord of Hosts that had this respected daughter founded an***  
573 ***empire, that empire would not have been so great! For this sovereignty is eternal***  
574 ***sovereignty and this glory is everlasting glory.***

575 **Likewise, if some teachers go to other islands and other parts, such as**

- |                                |                         |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. the continent of Australia, | 7. French Indochina,    |
| 2. New Zealand,                | 8. Siam,                |
| 3. Tasmania,                   | 9. Straits Settlements, |
| 4. also to Japan,              | 10. India,              |
| 5. Asiatic Russia,             | 11. Ceylon and          |
| 6. Korea,                      | 12. Afghanistan,        |

576 most great results will be forthcoming. How good would it be were there any  
577 possibility of a commission composed of men and women, ***to travel together***  
578 ***through China and Japan***—so that this bond of love may become strengthened, and  
579 through this going and coming they may establish the oneness of the world of  
580 humanity, summon the people to the Kingdom of God and spread the teachings.

581

582 ***Similarly, if possible, they should travel to the***

- |                         |                                  |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. continent of Africa, | 6. St. Helena,                   |
| 2. Canary Islands,      | 7. Zanzibar,                     |
| 3. Cape Verde Islands,  | 8. Mauritius, etc., and in those |
| 4. Madeira Islands,     | countries                        |
| 5. Réunion Islands,     |                                  |

583 summon the people to the Kingdom of God and raise the cry of “Yá Bahá’u’l-Abhá!”  
584 They must also upraise the flag of the oneness of the world of humanity in the ***island***  
585 ***of Madagascar.***

586

587 **Books and pamphlets must be either translated or composed in the languages**  
588 **of these countries and islands,** to be circulated in every part and in all directions.

589

590 ***It is said that in South Africa, a diamond mine is discovered. Although this mine***  
591 ***is most valuable, yet after all it is stone. Perchance, God willing, the mine of***  
592 ***humanity may be discovered and the brilliant pearls of the Kingdom be found.***

593

594 **In brief, this world-consuming war has set such a conflagration to the hearts**  
595 **that no word can describe it.** In all the countries of the world the longing for  
596 universal peace is taking possession of the consciousness of men. **There is not a**  
597 **soul who does not yearn for concord and peace.** A most wonderful state of  
598 receptivity is being realized.

599

600 This is through the consummate wisdom of God, so

- 601 • that ***capacity may be created,***
- 602 • the ***standard of the oneness of the world of humanity be upraised,*** and
- 603 • the ***fundamental of universal peace*** and
- 604 • the ***divine principles be promoted*** in the East and the West.

605 ***Therefore, O ye believers of God! Show ye an effort and after this war***  
 606 ***spread ye the synopsis of the divine teachings in the***

- |                     |                    |                       |
|---------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. British Isles,   | 13. Holland,       | 25. Balearic Isles,   |
| 2. France,          | 14. Portugal,      | 26. Corsica,          |
| 3. Germany,         | 15. Rumania,       | 27. Sardinia,         |
| 4. Austria-Hungary, | 16. Serbia,        | 28. Sicily,           |
| 5. Russia,          | 17. Montenegro,    | 29. Crete,            |
| 6. Italy,           | 18. Bulgaria,      | 30. Malta,            |
| 7. Spain,           | 19. Greece,        | 31. Iceland,          |
| 8. Belgium,         | 20. Andorra,       | 32. Faroe Islands,    |
| 9. Switzerland,     | 21. Liechtenstein, | 33. Shetland Islands, |
| 10. Norway,         | 22. Luxemburg,     | 34. Hebrides and      |
| 11. Sweden,         | 23. Monaco,        | 35. Orkney Islands    |
| 12. Denmark,        | 24. San Marino,    |                       |

1

2

607 In all these countries, like unto the morning stars ***shine ye forth from the horizon of***  
 608 ***guidance***. Thus far ye have been untiring in your labors.

- 609 1. ***Let your exertions henceforth increase a thousandfold.***  
 610 2. ***Summon the people in these countries***, capitals, islands, assemblies and churches  
 611 to enter the Abhá Kingdom.  
 612 3. ***The scope of your exertions must needs be extended.***  
 613 4. ***The wider its range, the more striking will be the evidence of divine assistance.***

614

615 **You have observed that**

- 616 • while ***'Abdu'l-Bahá was in the utmost bodily weakness and feebleness,***
- 617 • while ***he was indisposed, and had not the power to move—***
- 618 • ***notwithstanding this physical state he traveled through many countries,***
  - 619 ○ *in Europe and America, and*
  - 620 ○ *in churches,*
  - 621 ○ *meetings and*
  - 622 ○ *conventions*
- 623 • was occupied with the promotion of the divine principles and summoned the people  
 624 to the manifestation of the Kingdom of Abhá. You have also observed how the  
 625 confirmations of the Blessed Perfection encompassed all.

626 **What result is forthcoming from**

- 627 • ***material rest,***
- 628 • ***tranquillity,***
- 629 • ***luxury and***
- 630 • ***attachment to this corporeal world?***

631 **It is evident that the man who pursues these things will in the end become afflicted**  
 632 **with regret and loss.**

633 **Consequently, one must close his eyes wholly to these thoughts,**

- 634 • *long for eternal life,*
- 635 • the *sublimity of the world of humanity,*
- 636 • the *celestial developments,*
- 637 • the *Holy Spirit,*
- 638 • the *promotion of the Word of God,*
- 639 • the *guidance of the inhabitants of the globe,*
- 640 • the *promulgation of universal peace* and
- 641 • the *proclamation of the oneness of the world of humanity!*

642

643 **This is the work!** Otherwise like unto other animals and birds one must occupy himself  
644 with

- 645 • *the requirements* of this physical life,
- 646 • *the satisfaction* of which is the highest aspiration of the animal kingdom, and one  
647 must stalk across the earth like unto the quadrupeds.

648

649 **Consider ye! No matter how much man gains**

- 650 • *wealth,*
- 651 • *riches* and
- 652 • *opulence* in this world,

653 ***he will not become as independent as a cow.*** For these fattened cows roam freely over  
654 **the vast tableland.**

- 655 • All the *prairies* and *meadows* are theirs for grazing, and
- 656 • all the *springs* and *rivers* are theirs for drinking!
- 657 • No matter how much they graze, the fields will not be exhausted! It is evident that  
658 they have earned these material bounties with the utmost facility.

659

660 ***Still more ideal than this life is the life of the bird.*** A bird, on the summit of a mountain,  
661 on the high, waving branches, has built for itself a nest more beautiful than the palaces of  
662 the kings!

- 663 • The *air* is in the utmost purity,
- 664 • the *water* cool and clear as crystal,
- 665 • the *panorama* charming and enchanting.

666

667 **In such glorious surroundings, he expends his numbered days. All the harvests of**  
668 **the plain are his possessions, having earned all this wealth without the least labor.**

669

670 **Hence, no matter how much man may advance in this world, he shall not attain to**  
671 **the station of this bird!**

672

673 Thus it becomes evident that in the matters of this world, ***however much man may strive***  
674 ***and work to the point of death, he will be unable to earn***

- 675 • the **abundance**,
- 676 • the **freedom** and
- 677 • the **independent life of a small bird**.

678

679 **This proves and establishes the fact that man**

- 680 • **is not created for the life of this ephemeral world**—
- 681 • nay, rather, is he created
  - 682 ○ for the acquirement of infinite perfections,
  - 683 ○ for the attainment to the sublimity of the world of humanity,
  - 684 ○ to be drawn nigh unto the divine threshold, and
  - 685 ○ to sit on the throne of everlasting sovereignty!

686

687 Upon you be Bahá'u'l-Abhá!

688

689 **Whoever sets out on a teaching journey to any place, let him recite this prayer day**  
 690 **and night during his travels in foreign lands:**

691

692 *O GOD, my God! Thou seest me*

- 693 • **enraptured** and attracted toward Thy glorious kingdom,
- 694 • **enkindled** with the fire of Thy love amongst mankind,
- 695 • **a herald** of Thy kingdom in these vast and spacious lands,
- 696 • **severed** from aught else save Thee,
- 697 • **relying** on Thee,
- 698 • **abandoning** rest and comfort,
- 699 • **remote** from my native home,
- 700 • **a wanderer** in these regions,
- 701 • **a stranger** fallen upon the ground,
- 702 • **humble** before Thine exalted threshold,
- 703 • **submissive** toward the heaven of Thine omnipotent glory,
- 704 • **supplicating Thee** in the dead of night and at the break of dawn,
- 705 • **entreating and invoking Thee** at morn and at eventide to graciously aid me to
- 706 *serve Thy Cause, to spread abroad Thy teachings and to exalt Thy Word*
- 707 *throughout the East and the West.*

708

709 *O Lord! Strengthen my back, enable me to serve Thee with the utmost endeavor, and*  
 710 *leave me not to myself, lonely and helpless in these regions.*

711 *O Lord! Grant me communion with Thee in my loneliness, and be my companion in*  
 712 *these foreign lands.*

713

714 *Verily, Thou art the Confirmer of whomsoever Thou willest in that which Thou*  
 715 *desirest, and, verily, Thou art the All-Powerful, the Omnipotent.*

716

717



718

719

## Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada

720



721

*Revealed on April 19, 1916, in 'Abdu'l-Bahá's room at the house in Bahjí; on April 20, in the pilgrims' quarters of the house in Bahjí; on April 22, in the garden adjacent to the Shrine of Bahá'u'lláh, and addressed to the Bahá'ís of the United States and Canada.*

722

723

724



725

*He is God! O ye Apostles of Bahá'u'lláh! May my life be sacrificed for you!*

726

727

THE Blessed Person of the Promised One is interpreted in the Holy Book as the Lord of Hosts—the heavenly armies.

728

729

730

**By heavenly armies those**

731

- **souls are intended who are**

732

○ *entirely freed from the human world,*

733

○ *transformed into celestial spirits and*

734

○ *have become divine angels.*

735

- **Such souls are**

736

○ the rays of the Sun of Reality who will *illumine all the continents.*

737

○ Each one is holding in his hand a trumpet, *blowing the breath of life over all the regions.*

738

739

- **They**

740

○ are *delivered from human qualities and the defects of the world of nature,*

741

○ are *characterized with the characteristics of God,* and

742

○ are *attracted with the fragrances of the Merciful.*

743

- **Like unto the apostles of Christ,** who were filled with Him, ***these souls also***

744

○ *have become filled with His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh;* that is,

745

○ *the love of Bahá'u'lláh has so mastered every organ, part and limb of their bodies, as to leave no effect from the promptings of the human world.*

746

747

- **These souls are**

748

○ the *armies* of God and

749

○ the *conquerors* of the East and the West.

750

**Should one of them turn his face toward some direction and summon the people to the Kingdom of God,**

751

- 752 • *all the ideal forces and lordly confirmations will rush to his support and reinforcement.*
- 753 • *He will behold all the doors open and all the strong fortifications and impregnable*
- 754 *castles razed to the ground.*
- 755 • *Singly and alone he will*
- 756 ○ **attack** the armies of the world,
- 757 ○ **defeat** the right and left wings of the hosts of all the countries,
- 758 ○ **break** through the lines of the legions of all the nations and
- 759 ○ **carry** his attack to the very center of the powers of the earth.

761 **This is the meaning of the Hosts of God.**

---

762 *Any soul from among the believers of Bahá'u'lláh who attains to this*

763 *station will become known as the Apostle of Bahá'u'lláh. Therefore*

764 *strive ye with heart and soul so that ye may reach this lofty and exalted*

765 *position, be established on the throne of everlasting glory, and crown*

766 *your heads with the shining diadem of the Kingdom, whose brilliant*

767 *jewels may irradiate upon centuries and cycles.*

---

768 **O ye kind friends!**

- 769 1. *Uplift your magnanimity and soar high toward the apex of heaven* so that your
- 770 blessed hearts may become illumined more and more, day by day, through the rays
- 771 of the Sun of Reality, that is, His Holiness Bahá'u'lláh;
- 772 2. *at every moment the spirits may obtain a new life*, and
- 773 3. *the darkness of the world of nature may be entirely dispelled;*
- 774 4. *thus you may*
- 775 a. *become incarnate light and personified spirit,*
- 776 b. *become entirely unaware of the sordid matters of this world* and
- 777 c. *in touch with the affairs of the divine world.*

779 **Behold the portals which Bahá'u'lláh hath opened before you! Consider**

- 780 • *how exalted and lofty is the station you are destined to attain;*
- 781 • *how unique the favors with which you have been endowed.*

783 **Should we become intoxicated with this cup,**

- 784 • *the sovereignty of this globe of earth will become lower in our estimation than*
- 785 *children's play.*

786 **Should they place in the arena the crown of the government of the whole world, and**

787 **invite each one of us to accept it,**

- 788 • *undoubtedly we shall not condescend, and shall refuse to accept it.*

789 **To attain to this supreme station is, however, dependent on the realization of**  
 790 **certain conditions:**

- 791
- 792 **1. The first condition is firmness in the Covenant of God.** For the power of the  
 793 Covenant will protect the Cause of Bahá'u'lláh from the doubts of the people of  
 794 error. It is the fortified fortress of the Cause of God and the firm pillar of the religion  
 795 of God.

796

797 ***Today no power can conserve the oneness of the Bahá'í world save the Covenant***  
 798 ***of God; otherwise differences like unto a most great tempest will encompass the***  
 799 ***Bahá'í world.***

800

801 **It is evident that the axis of the oneness of the world of humanity is the power**  
 802 **of the Covenant and nothing else.**

- 803 ○ **Had the Covenant *not come to pass,***  
 804 ○ **had it *not been revealed*** from the Supreme Pen and  
 805 ○ **had *not the Book of the Covenant,*** like unto the ray of the Sun of Reality,  
 806 illuminated the world,  
 807 • ***the forces of the Cause of God would have been utterly scattered*** and  
 808 • ***certain souls who were the prisoners of their own passions and lusts***  
 809 **would have taken into their hands an axe, cutting the root of this Blessed**  
 810 **Tree.**  
 811 • ***Every person would have pushed forward his own desire*** and  
 812 • ***every individual aired his own opinion!*** Notwithstanding this great  
 813 Covenant,  
 814 • ***a few negligent souls galloped with their chargers into the battlefield,***  
 815 ***thinking perchance they might be able to weaken the foundation of the***  
 816 ***Cause of God:*** but praise be to God all of them were afflicted with regret  
 817 and loss, and ere long they shall see themselves in poignant despair.

818

819 **Therefore, in the beginning the believers must make their steps firm in the**  
 820 **Covenant so that**

- 821 • the **confirmations** of Bahá'u'lláh ***may encircle them from all sides,***  
 822 • the **cohorts** of the Supreme Concourse ***may become their supporters and***  
 823 ***helpers,*** and  
 824 • the **exhortations and advices** of 'Abdu'l-Bahá, like unto the pictures  
 825 engraved on stone, ***may remain permanent and ineffaceable in the tablets***  
 826 ***of all hearts.***

827 2. **The second condition: Fellowship and love amongst the believers.**

828 • The divine friends **must** be

829 ✓ *attracted* to and

830 ✓ *enamored* of each other and

831 ✓ *ever be ready and willing to sacrifice their own lives for each*  
832 *other.*

833 • Should one soul from amongst the believers meet another, *it must be as*  
834 *though a thirsty one with parched lips has reached to the fountain of the*  
835 *water of life*, or a lover has met his true beloved.

836 • *For one of the greatest divine wisdoms regarding the appearance of the*  
837 *holy Manifestations is this:*

838 ✓ *The souls may come to know each other* and

839 ✓ *become intimate with each* other;

840 ✓ *the power of the love of God* may make all of them

841 ▪ *the waves of one sea,*

842 ▪ *the flowers of one rose garden, and*

843 ▪ *the stars of one heaven.*

844 • *This is the wisdom for the appearance* of the holy Manifestations! When  
845 the most great bestowal reveals itself in the hearts of the believers,

846 ✓ the world of *nature will* be *transformed*,

847 ✓ the *darkness* of the contingent being *will vanish*, and

848 ✓ heavenly *illumination will be obtained.*

849 • Then the whole world will become the Paradise of Abhá, every one of the  
850 believers of God will become a blessed tree, producing wonderful fruits.

851

852 O ye friends! Fellowship, fellowship! Love, love! Unity, unity!—so that the power of  
853 the Bahá'í Cause may appear and become manifest in the world of existence.

854 ▪ **My thoughts** are turned towards you, and

855 ▪ **my heart** leaps within me at your mention.

856

857 **Could ye know how my soul glows with your love, so great a happiness would**  
858 **flood your hearts as to cause you to become enamored with each other.**

859

860

- 861 3. **The third condition: Teachers must continually travel to all parts of the**  
 862 **continent, nay, rather, to all parts of the world**, but they must travel like  
 863 'Abdu'l-Bahá, who journeyed throughout the cities of America. He was sanctified  
 864 and free from every attachment and in the utmost severance. Just as His Holiness  
 865 Christ says: Shake off the very dust from your feet.<sup>1</sup>  
 866

867 **You have observed that while in America many souls in the utmost of**  
 868 **supplication and entreaty desired to offer some gifts**, but this servant, in accord  
 869 with the exhortations and behests of the Blessed Perfection, never accepted a thing,  
 870 although on certain occasions we were in most straitened circumstances. **But on the**  
 871 **other hand, if a soul for the sake of God, voluntarily and out of his pure desire,**  
 872 **wishes to offer a contribution (toward the expenses of a teacher) in order to**  
 873 **make the contributor happy, the teacher may accept a small sum, but must live**  
 874 **with the utmost contentment.**  
 875

876 **The aim is this:**

- 877 • The **intention** of the teacher **must be pure**,
- 878 • his **heart independent**,
- 879 • his **spirit attracted**,
- 880 • his **thought at peace**,
- 881 • his **resolution firm**,
- 882 • his **magnanimity exalted** and
- 883 • in the **love of God a shining torch**.

884 **Should he become as such, his sanctified breath will even affect the rock;**  
 885 **otherwise there will be no result whatsoever.**  
 886

- 887
- 888 1. **As long as a soul is not perfected, how can he efface the defects of**  
 889 **others?**
- 890 2. **Unless he is detached from aught else save God, how can he teach**  
 891 **severance to others?**  
 892

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893 *In short, O ye believers of God! Endeavor ye, so that you may take hold of*  
 894 *every means in the promulgation of the religion of God and the diffusion*  
 895 *of the fragrances of God.*

---

896 **Amongst other things is the holding of the meetings for teaching so that**  
 897 ***blessed souls and the old ones* from amongst the believers may**

- 898     ▪ ***gather*** together the youths of the love of God in schools of instruction and
- 899     ▪ ***teach*** them all the divine proofs and irrefragable arguments,
- 900     ▪ ***explain*** and elucidate the history of the Cause, and
- 901     ▪ ***interpret*** also the prophecies and proofs which are recorded and are extant  
 902       in the divine books and epistles regarding the manifestation of the Promised  
 903       One, so that the young ones may go in perfect knowledge in all these degrees.

904 **Likewise, whenever it is possible a committee must be organized for the**  
 905 **translation of the Tablets. Wise souls**

- 906     ▪ ***who have mastered and studied perfectly the Persian, Arabic, and other***  
 907 ***foreign languages, or***
- 908     ▪ ***know one of the foreign languages***, must commence
  - 909       ○ **translating** Tablets and books containing the proofs of this Revelation,  
 910       and
  - 911       ○ **publishing** those books,
  - 912       ○ **circulate** them throughout the five continents of the globe.

913  
 914 **Similarly, the magazine, the *Star of the West*, must be edited with the utmost**  
 915 **regularity, but its contents must be the promulgation of the Cause of God that both**  
 916 **East and West may become informed of the most important events.**

917  
 918 **In short, in all the meetings, whether public or private,**

- 919     ▪ ***nothing should be discussed save that which is under consideration, and***
- 920     ▪ ***all the articles be centered around the Cause of God.***
- 921     ▪ ***Promiscuous talk must not be dragged in and***
- 922     ▪ ***contention is absolutely forbidden.***

923  
 924 **The teachers traveling in different directions must know the language of the**  
 925 **country in which they will enter. For example, a person being proficient in the**  
 926 **Japanese language may travel to Japan, or a person knowing the Chinese**  
 927 **language may hasten to China, and so forth.**

928  
 929 **In short, after this universal war**, the people have obtained extraordinary capacity  
 930 to hearken to the divine teachings, for **the wisdom of this war is this**: That it may  
 931 become proven to all that the fire of war is world-consuming, whereas the rays of  
 932 peace are world-enlightening.

- 933     ▪ ***One is death, the other is life***; this is extinction, that is immortality;

934           ▪ ***one is the most great calamity, the other is the most great bounty***; this is  
 935 darkness, that is light; this is eternal humiliation and that is everlasting glory;  
 936 one is the destroyer of the foundation of man, the other is the founder of the  
 937 prosperity of the human race.  
 938

939 **Consequently, a number of souls may arise and act in accordance with the**  
 940 **aforsaid conditions, and**

- 941           ▪ hasten to ***all parts of the world, especially***  
 942           ○ ***from*** America  
 943           ✓ **to** Europe, Africa, Asia and Australia, and travel through Japan and  
 944           China.  
 945           ○ Likewise, ***from*** Germany teachers and believers may travel  
 946           ✓ **to** the continents of America, Africa, Japan and China;  
 947           ▪ ***in brief, they may travel through all the continents and islands of the***  
 948 ***globe. Thus in a short space of time,***  
 949           ✓ *most wonderful results* **will be produced,**  
 950           ✓ *the banner of universal peace* **will be waving** *on the apex of the world*  
 951           *and*  
 952           ✓ *the lights of the oneness of the world of humanity* **may illumine the**  
 953           **universe.**

---

954 *In brief, O ye believers of God! The text of the divine Book is this: **If two***  
 955 ***souls quarrel and contend about a question of the divine questions,***  
 956 ***differing and disputing, both are wrong.***

---

957 **The wisdom of this incontrovertible law of God is this: That between two souls**  
 958 **from amongst the believers of God, no contention and dispute may arise; that**  
 959 **they may speak with each other with infinite amity and love.**

960  
 961 **Should there appear the least trace of controversy,**

- 962           ✓ ***they must remain silent,*** and  
 963           ✓ both parties ***must continue their discussions no longer,*** but  
 964           ✓ ***ask the reality of the question from the Interpreter.***  
 965

966 **This is the irrefutable command!**  
 967

968  
 969 Upon you be Bahá'u'l-Abhá!  
 970  
 971

## Supplication

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### O GOD, my God! Thou seest

- ✓ how **black darkness** is enshrouding all regions,
- ✓ how **all countries are burning** with the flame of dissension, and
- ✓ the **fire of war and carnage is blazing** throughout the East and the West.
- ✓ **Blood is flowing,**
- ✓ **corpses bestrew the ground,** and
- ✓ **severed heads are fallen** on the dust of the battlefield.

**O LORD!** Have pity on these ignorant ones and look upon them with the eye of forgiveness and pardon. Extinguish this fire, so that these dense clouds which obscure the horizon may be scattered, the Sun of Reality shine forth with the rays of conciliation, this intense gloom be dispelled and the resplendent light of peace shed its radiance upon all countries.

### O Lord!

- ✓ **Draw up the people from the abyss of the ocean of hatred and enmity,** and
- ✓ **deliver them from this impenetrable darkness.**
- ✓ **Unite their hearts,** and
- ✓ **brighten their eyes with the light of peace and reconciliation.**
- ✓ **Deliver them from the depths of war and bloodshed,** and
- ✓ **free them from the darkness of error.**
- ✓ **Remove the veil from their eyes,** and
- ✓ **enlighten their hearts with the light of guidance.**
- ✓ **Treat them with Thy tender mercy and compassion,** and
- ✓ **deal not with them according to Thy justice and wrath which cause the limbs of the mighty to quake.**

### O Lord!

- ✓ **Wars have persisted.**
- ✓ **Distress** and **anxiety have waxed great** and
- ✓ **every flourishing region is laid waste.**

### O Lord!

- ✓ **Hearts are heavy,** and
- ✓ **souls are in anguish.**

Have mercy on these poor souls and do not leave them to the excesses of their own desires.

### O Lord! Make manifest in Thy lands

- ✓ **humble and submissive souls,**
- ✓ their **faces illumined** with the rays of guidance,



- 1015 ✓ *severed from the world,*  
 1016 ✓ *extolling Thy Name,*  
 1017 ✓ *uttering Thy praise,* and  
 1018 ✓ *diffusing the fragrance* of Thy holiness amongst mankind.

1019

**O Lord!**

- 1021 ✓ *Strengthen* their backs,  
 1022 ✓ *gird up* their loins, and  
 1023 ✓ *enrapture* their hearts with the most mighty signs of Thy love.

1024

**O Lord! Verily,**

- 1026 ✓ **they are *weak***, and Thou art the Powerful and the Mighty;  
 1027 ✓ **they are *impotent***, and Thou art the Helper and the Merciful.

1028

**O Lord!**

- 1030 ✓ The *ocean of rebellion is surging*, and  
 1031 ✓ *these tempests will not be stilled* save through Thy boundless grace which hath  
 1032 embraced all regions.

1033

**O Lord!**

- 1035 ✓ Verily, the *people are in the abyss of passion*, and  
 1036 ✓ *naught can save them* but Thine infinite bounties.

1037

**O Lord!**

- 1039 ✓ *Dispel the darkness* of these corrupt desires, and  
 1040 ✓ *illumine the hearts* with the lamp of Thy love through which all countries will  
 1041 erelong be enlightened.  
 1042 ✓ *Confirm*, moreover, *Thy loved ones*, those who, leaving  
 1043 ○ **their *homelands***,  
 1044 ○ **their *families*** and  
 1045 ○ **their *children***, have,  
 1046 for the love of Thy Beauty, traveled to foreign countries to diffuse Thy fragrances  
 1047 and promulgate Thy teachings.

1048

- ✓ **Be** Thou

1049

- **their *companion*** in their loneliness,

1050

- **their *helper*** in a strange land, the remover of their sorrows,

1051

- **their *comforter*** in calamity.

1052

- ✓ **Be** Thou

1053

- a ***refreshing draught*** for their thirst,

1054                   ○ a *healing medicine* for their ills and a balm for the burning ardor of their  
1055                   hearts.

1056  
1057 Verily, Thou art the Most Generous, the Lord of grace abounding, and, verily, Thou art the  
1058 Compassionate and the Merciful.

1061                   **Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Northeastern States**



1062  
1063 *Revealed on February 2, 1917, in Ismá'íl Áqá's room at the house of 'Abdu'l-Bahá in Haifa,*  
1064 *and addressed to the Bahá'ís of the nine Northeastern States of the United States:*

- |                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. <i>Maine,</i>         | 6. <i>Vermont,</i>       |
| 2. <i>Massachusetts,</i> | 7. <i>Pennsylvania,</i>  |
| 3. <i>New Hampshire,</i> | 8. <i>New Jersey and</i> |
| 4. <i>Rhode Island,</i>  | 9. <i>New York.</i>      |
| 5. <i>Connecticut,</i>   |                          |

1



1065  
1066 *He is God! O ye real friends:*

1067  
1068 **ALL COUNTRIES**, in the estimation of the one true God, are but one country, and  
1069 **ALL CITIES AND VILLAGES** are on an equal footing. Neither holds distinction over  
1070 another.

1071 **ALL OF THEM** are the fields of God and the habitation of the souls of men.

1072  
1073 Through faith and certitude, and the precedence achieved by one over another, however,  
1074 the dweller conferreth honor upon the dwelling, **some of the countries achieve**  
1075 **distinction, and attain a preeminent position.**

1076  
1077 For instance, notwithstanding that **some of the countries of Europe and of America are**  
1078 **distinguished by, and surpass other countries** in,

- **the salubrity** of their *climate*,
- **the wholesomeness** of their *water*, and
- **the charm** of their *mountains, plains* and *prairies*,

1082 **yet Palestine became the glory of all nations** *inasmuch as all the holy and divine*  
1083 *Manifestations, from the time of Abraham until the appearance of the Seal of the*

1084 *Prophets (Muhammad), have lived in, or migrated to, or traveled through, that*  
 1085 *country.*

1086  
 1087 **Likewise, Mecca and Medina have achieved illimitable glory**, as the light of  
 1088 Prophethood shone forth therein.

1089  
 1090 **For this reason Palestine and Hijáz have been distinguished from all other**  
 1091 **countries.**

1092 **Likewise, the continent of America is**, in the eyes of the one true God, the land

- 1093 • ***wherein the splendors of His light shall be revealed,***
- 1094 • ***where the mysteries of His Faith shall be unveiled,***
- 1095 • ***where the righteous will abide and the free assemble.***

1096  
 1097 **Therefore, every section thereof is blessed: but because these nine states have been**  
 1098 **avored in faith and assurance, hence through this precedence they have obtained**  
 1099 ***spiritual privilege.***

- 1100
- 1101 1. ***They must realize*** the value of this bounty; because they have obtained such a  
 1102 favor and in order to render thanksgiving for this most great bestowal,
- 1103 2. ***they must arise*** in the diffusion of divine fragrances so that the blessed verse of the  
 1104 Qur'án,

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1105 *“God is the light of heaven and earth: the similitude of His light is a*  
 1106 *niche in a wall, wherein a lamp is placed, and the lamp enclosed in a*  
 1107 *case of glass; the glass appears as if it were a shining star. It is lighted*  
 1108 *with the oil of a Blessed Tree, an olive neither of the East, nor of the*  
 1109 *West; it wanteth little but that the oil thereof would give light, although*  
 1110 *no fire touched it. This is the light added unto light. God will direct unto*  
 1111 *His light whom He pleaseth”<sup>1</sup>—may be realized.*

---

1112 **He says:**

- 1113 1. ***The world of nature is the world of darkness,*** because it is the origin of a  
 1114 thousand depravities; nay, rather, it is darkness upon darkness.
- 1115 2. ***The illumination of the world of nature*** is dependent upon the splendor of the  
 1116 Sun of Reality.
- 1117 3. ***The grace of guidance*** is like unto the candle which is enkindled in the glass of  
 1118 knowledge and wisdom and that glass of knowledge and wisdom is the mirror of  
 1119 the heart of humanity.

- 1120 4. ***The oil of that luminous lamp is*** from the fruits of the Blessed Tree and that oil is  
 1121 so refined that it will burn without light. When  
 1122 ✓ the intensity of the light and the translucency of the glass and  
 1123 ✓ the purity of the mirror are brought together,  
 1124 ✓ it will become light upon light.

1125

1126 **In brief, in these nine blessed states ‘Abdu’l-Bahá**

- 1127 • ***journeyed*** and ***traveled*** from place to place,
- 1128 • ***explained*** the wisdom of the heavenly books and
- 1129 • ***diffused*** the fragrances. In most of these states he
- 1130 • ***founded*** the divine Edifice and opened the door of teaching. In those states he
- 1131 • ***sowed*** pure seeds and planted blessed trees.

1132

1133 Now the believers of God and the maidservants of the Merciful must irrigate these fields  
 1134 and with the utmost power engage themselves in the cultivation of these heavenly  
 1135 plantations so that the seeds may grow and develop, prosperity and blessing be realized  
 1136 and many rich and great harvests be gathered in.

1137

1138 **The Kingdom of God is like unto a farmer who comes into possession of a piece of**  
 1139 **pure and virgin soil.**

- 1140 • ***Heavenly seeds*** are scattered therein,
- 1141 • the ***clouds of divine providence*** pour down and
- 1142 • the ***rays of the Sun of Reality shine*** forth.

1143

1144 Now all these bounties exist and appear in full in these nine states. The divine Gardener  
 1145 passed by that holy ground and scattered pure seeds from the lordly teachings in that  
 1146 field; the rain of the bounties of God poured down and the heat of the Sun of Reality—that  
 1147 is, the merciful confirmations—shone with the utmost splendor.

1148

1149 **It is my hope that each one of those blessed souls**

- 1150 ✓ ***may become a peerless and unique irrigator*** and the East and the West of  
 1151 America
- 1152 ✓ ***may become like unto a delectable paradise*** so that all of you may hear from the  
 1153 Supreme Concourse the cry of “Blessed are you, and again blessed are you!”

1154

1155 Upon you be greeting and praise!

1156

1157

1158

1159

1160

1161 **The following supplication is to be read by the teachers and friends daily:**

1162

1163 **O THOU kind Lord! Praise be unto Thee that Thou hast**

- 1164 • ***shown us*** the highway of guidance,
- 1165 • ***opened the doors*** of the kingdom and
- 1166 • ***manifested Thyself*** through the Sun of Reality.

1167

1168 **To the blind** *Thou hast given sight;*

1169 **to the deaf** *Thou hast granted hearing;*

1170 *Thou hast resuscitated the dead;*

1171 *Thou hast enriched the poor;*

1172 *Thou hast shown the way to those who have gone astray;*

1173 *Thou hast led those with parched lips to the fountain of guidance;*

1174 *Thou hast suffered the thirsty fish to reach the ocean of reality;* and

1175 *Thou hast invited the wandering birds to the rose garden of grace.*

1176

1177 **O Thou Almighty!**

1178 ***We are Thy servants and Thy poor ones;***

1179 ***we are remote and yearn*** for Thy presence, are athirst for the water of Thy fountain, are  
1180 ill, longing for Thy healing.

1181 ***We are walking in Thy path and*** have no aim or hope save the diffusion of Thy fragrance,  
1182 so that all souls may raise the cry: O God, "Guide us to the straight path."<sup>2</sup>

1183 ***May their eyes be opened*** to behold the light, and may they be freed from the darkness of  
1184 ignorance.

1185 ***May they gather*** around the lamp of Thy guidance.

1186 ***May every portionless*** one receive a share.

1187 ***May the deprived*** become the confidants of Thy mysteries.

1188

1189 **O Almighty!**

1190

1191 ***Look*** upon us with the glance of mercifulness.

1192

1193 ***Grant*** us heavenly confirmation.

1194

1195 ***Bestow*** upon us the breath of the Holy Spirit, so that we may be assisted in Thy service  
1196 and, like unto brilliant stars, shine in these regions with the light of Thy guidance.

1197

1198 Verily, Thou art the Powerful, the Mighty, the Wise and the Seeing.

1199

1200

# Tablet to the Bahá'ís of the Southern States

1201

1202

1203

*Revealed on February 3, 1917, in Haifa in Ismá'íl Áqá's room, and addressed to the Bahá'ís of the sixteen Southern States of the United States:*

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. Delaware,       | 9. Alabama,      |
| 2. Maryland,       | 10. Mississippi, |
| 3. Virginia,       | 11. Tennessee,   |
| 4. West Virginia,  | 12. Kentucky,    |
| 5. North Carolina, | 13. Louisiana,   |
| 6. South Carolina, | 14. Arkansas,    |
| 7. Georgia,        | 15. Oklahoma and |
| 8. Florida,        | 16. Texas.       |

1204

1205

1206

*O ye blessed, respected souls:*

1207

1208

1209

1210

- *THE philosophers of the ancients,*
- *THE THINKERS OF THE MIDDLE AGES* and
- *THE SCIENTISTS OF THIS AND THE FORMER CENTURIES*

have all agreed upon the fact that

1211

1212

1213

1214

1215

- ✓ *the best and the most ideal region* for the habitation of man is the temperate zone, for in this belt
- ✓ *the intellects and thoughts rise* to the highest stage of maturity, and
- ✓ *the capability and ability of civilization manifest themselves* in full efflorescence.

1216

1217

**When you read history critically and with a penetrating eye, it becomes evident that the majority of the famous men**

1218

1219

1220

1221

- have been *born,*
- *reared* and
- have *done their work* in the temperate zone, while very, very few have appeared from the torrid and frigid zones.

1222

**Now**

1223

1224

1225

1226

1227

- *these sixteen Southern States of the United States* are situated in the temperate zone, and in
  - *these regions the perfections of the world of nature* have been fully revealed.
- For**
- the *moderation* of the weather,

- the *beauty* of the scenery and
- the *geographical configuration* of the country display a great effect in the world of minds and thoughts. This fact is well demonstrated through observation and experience.

Even the holy, divine Manifestations have had a nature in the utmost equilibrium, the health and wholesomeness of

- their *bodies most perfect*,
- their *constitutions endowed with physical vigor*,
- their *powers functioning in perfect order*, and
- the *outward sensations linked with the inward perceptions*, working together with extraordinary momentum and coordination.

Therefore in these sixteen states, because they are contiguous to other states and their climate being in the utmost of moderation, unquestionably

- *the divine teachings must reveal themselves with a brighter effulgence*,
- *the breaths of the Holy Spirit must display a penetrating intensity*,
- *the ocean of the love of God must be stirred with higher waves*,
- *the breezes of the rose garden of the divine love be wafted with higher velocity*, and
- *the fragrances of holiness be diffused with swiftness and rapidity*.

Praise be to God that

- *the divine outpourings* are infinite,
- *the melody of the lordly principles* is in the utmost efficacy,
- *the most great Orb* shining with perfect splendor,
- *the cohorts of the Supreme Concourse* are attacking with invincible power,
- *the tongues* are sharper than the swords,
- *the hearts* are more brilliant than the light of electricity,
- *the magnanimity of the friends* precedes all the magnanimities of the former and subsequent generations,
- *the souls* are divinely attracted, and
- *the fire of the love of God* is enkindled.

At this time and at this period

1. *we must avail ourselves* of this most great opportunity.
2. *We must not sit inactive* for one moment;
3. *we must sever ourselves* from composure, rest, tranquillity, goods, property, life and attachment to material things.

- 1267 4. ***We must sacrifice everything*** to His Highness, the Possessor of existence, so that  
 1268 the powers of the Kingdom may show greater penetration and the brilliant  
 1269 effulgence in this New Cycle may illumine the worlds of minds and ideals.

1270 **It is about twenty-three years that the fragrances of God have been diffused in**  
 1271 **America, but**

- 1272 • ***no adequate and befitting motion*** has been realized, and
- 1273 • ***no great acclamation and acceleration*** has been witnessed.

1274 **Now it is my hope that through**

- 1275 • ***the heavenly power,***
- 1276 • ***the fragrances of the Merciful,***
- 1277 • ***the attraction of consciousness,***
- 1278 • ***the celestial outpourings,***
- 1279 • ***the heavenly cohorts*** and
- 1280 • ***the gushing forth of the fountain of divine love,***
- 1281 • ***the believers of God*** may arise and in a short time the greatest good may unveil her  
 1282 countenance,
- 1283 • ***the Sun of Reality*** may shine forth with such intensity that the darkness of the  
 1284 world of nature may become entirely dispelled and driven away; from every corner  
 1285 a most wonderful melody may be raised,
- 1286 • ***the morning birds*** may break into such a song that the world of humanity may be  
 1287 quickened and moved,
- 1288 • ***the solid bodies*** may become liquefied, and
- 1289 • ***the souls*** who are like unto adamantine rocks may open their wings and through  
 1290 • ***the heat of the love of God*** fly heavenward.

1291  
 1292 Nearly two thousand years ago, ***Armenia*** was enveloped with impenetrable darkness. One  
 1293 blessed soul from among the disciples of Christ hastened to that part, and through his  
 1294 effort, ere long that province became illumined. Thus it has become evident how the power  
 1295 of the Kingdom works!

1296  
 1297 **Therefore,**

- 1298 • ***rest ye assured*** in the confirmations of the Merciful and the assistance of the Most  
 1299 High;
- 1300 • ***become ye sanctified above and purified*** from this world and the inhabitants  
 1301 thereof;
- 1302 • ***suffer your intentions*** to work for the good of all;
- 1303 • ***cut your attachment to the earth*** and like unto the essence of the spirit
- 1304 • ***become ye light and delicate.***

1305  
 1306 **Then with a**

- 1307 • ***firm resolution,***
- 1308 • ***a pure heart,***



- *a rejoiced spirit*, and
- *an eloquent tongue*,

engage your time in the promulgation of the divine principles so that

- *the oneness of the world of humanity may pitch her canopy* in the apex of America and all
- *the nations of the world may follow the divine policy*.

**This is certain, that the divine policy is justice and kindness toward all mankind. For all the nations of the world are the sheep of God, and God is the kind shepherd.**

- *He has created* these sheep.
- *He has protected them*, sustained and trained them.

What greater kindness than this? *And every moment we must render a hundred thousand thanksgivings that, praise be to God*, we

- ✓ *are freed* from all the ignorant prejudices,
- ✓ *are kind* to all the sheep of God, and
- ✓ our utmost hope is to serve each and all, and like unto a benevolent father
- ✓ *educate every one*.

Upon you be greeting and praise!

**Every soul who travels through the cities, villages and hamlets of these states and is engaged in the diffusion of the fragrances of God, should peruse this commune every morning:**

**O MY GOD! O MY GOD!**

Thou seest me in my lowliness and weakness,

- *occupied* with the greatest undertaking,
- *determined* to raise Thy word among the masses and to
- *spread* Thy teachings among Thy peoples.

How can I succeed unless Thou

- *assist me* with the breath of the Holy Spirit,
- *help me* to triumph by the hosts of Thy glorious kingdom, and
- *shower upon me* Thy confirmations, which alone can change a gnat into an eagle, a drop of water into rivers and seas, and an atom into lights and suns?

**O MY LORD!**

Assist me with Thy triumphant and effective might, so that my tongue may utter Thy praises and attributes among all people and my soul overflow with the wine of Thy love and knowledge. Thou art the Omnipotent and the Doer of whatsoever Thou wilt.

## To the Bahá'ís of the Central States

1351

1352

1353 *Revealed on February 8, 1917, in Bahá'u'lláh's room at the house of 'Abbúd in 'Akká, and*  
 1354 *addressed to the Bahá'ís of the twelve Central States of the United States:*

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. Michigan,  | 7. Iowa,          |
| 2. Wisconsin, | 8. Missouri,      |
| 3. Illinois,  | 9. North Dakota,  |
| 4. Indiana,   | 10. South Dakota, |
| 5. Ohio,      | 11. Nebraska and  |
| 6. Minnesota, | 12. Kansas.       |

1355

1356

1357 *He is God! O ye old believers and intimate friends:*

1358

1359 GOD says in the great Qur'án:

1360

*“He specializes for His Mercy whomsoever He willeth.”<sup>1</sup>*

1361

**These twelve Central States of the United States are like unto the heart of America, and the heart is connected with all the organs and parts of man.**

1362

1363

1364 *If the heart is strengthened, all the organs of the body are reinforced, and if the heart*  
 1365 *is weak all the physical elements are subjected to febleness.*

1366

1367 Now praise be to God that **Chicago** and its environs from the beginning of the diffusion of  
 1368 the fragrances of God **have been a strong heart**. Therefore, through divine bounty and  
 1369 providence it has become confirmed in certain great matters.

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1371

1. **First: The call of the Kingdom was in the very beginning raised from Chicago.** This is indeed a great privilege, *for in future centuries and cycles, it will be as an axis around which the honor of Chicago will revolve.*

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2. **Second: A number of souls with the utmost firmness and steadfastness arose** in that blessed spot in the promotion of the Word of God and even to the present moment, having purified and sanctified the heart from every thought, they are occupied with the promulgation of the teachings of God. Hence the call of praise is raised uninterruptedly from the Supreme Concourse.

- 1380 3. **Third: During the American journey ‘Abdu’l-Bahá several times passed**  
 1381 **through Chicago and associated with the friends of God.** For some time he  
 1382 sojourned in that city. Day and night he was occupied with the mention of the True  
 1383 One and summoned the people to the Kingdom of God.  
 1384
- 1385 4. **Fourth: Up to the present time, every movement initiated in Chicago,** its effect  
 1386 was spread to all parts and to all directions, just as everything that appears in and  
 1387 manifests from the heart influences all the organs and limbs of the body.  
 1388
- 1389 5. **Fifth: The first Mashriqu’l-Adhkár in America was instituted in Chicago,** and  
 1390 this honor and distinction is infinite in value. Out of this Mashriqu’l-Adhkár, without  
 1391 doubt, thousands of Mashriqu’l-Adhkárs will be born.  
 1392

#### Likewise (were instituted in Chicago)

- 1394 ✓ the *general Annual Conventions*,  
 1395 ✓ the *foundation of the Star of the West*,  
 1396 ✓ the *Publishing Society* for the publication of books and Tablets and their circulation  
 1397 in all parts of America, and  
 1398 ✓ the preparations now under way for the *celebration of the Golden Centenary*  
 1399 Anniversary of the Kingdom of God.  
 1400

1401 **I hope that this Jubilee and this Exhibition may be celebrated in the utmost**  
 1402 **perfection so that the call to the world of unity, “*There is no God but One God, and all***  
 1403 ***the Messengers, from the beginning to the Seal of the Prophets (Muḥammad) were***  
 1404 ***sent on the part of the True One!”*** may be raised;

- 1405 • ***the flag of the oneness*** of the world of humanity be unfurled,
- 1406 • ***the melody of universal peace*** may reach the ears of the East and the West, all
- 1407 • ***the paths*** may be cleared and straightened, all
- 1408 • ***the hearts*** may be attracted to the Kingdom of God,
- 1409 • ***the tabernacle of unity*** be pitched on the apex of America,
- 1410 • ***the song of the love of God*** may exhilarate and rejoice all the nations and peoples,
- 1411 • ***the surface of the earth*** may become the eternal paradise,
- 1412 • ***the dark clouds*** may be dispelled and the Sun of Truth may shine forth with the  
 1413 utmost intensity.

#### *O ye friends of God!*

1415 **Exert ye with heart and soul, so that**

- 1416 ✓ ***association, love, unity and agreement be obtained*** between the hearts,  
 1417 ✓ ***all the aims may be merged into one aim*,**  
 1418 ✓ ***all the songs become one song*** and  
 1419 ✓ ***the power of the Holy Spirit may become so overwhelmingly victorious*** as to  
 1420 overcome all the forces of the world of nature.  
 1421  
 1422

1423 **Exert yourselves;** your mission is unspeakably glorious. Should success crown your  
 1424 enterprise,

1425 ✓ *America will assuredly evolve into a center from which waves of spiritual power*  
 1426 *will emanate,* and

1427 ✓ *the throne of the Kingdom of God will, in the plenitude of its majesty and glory,*  
 1428 *be firmly established.*

1429

1430 **This phenomenal world will not remain in an unchanging condition even for a short**  
 1431 **while. Second after second it undergoes change and transformation.**

1432 ✓ *Every foundation will finally become collapsed;*

1433 **every glory and splendor will at last vanish and disappear,**

1434 **but the Kingdom of God is eternal and the heavenly sovereignty and majesty will**  
 1435 **stand firm, everlasting. Hence in the estimation of a wise man the mat in the**  
 1436 **Kingdom of God is preferable to the throne of the government of the world.**

1437

1438 Continually my ear and eye are turned toward the Central States; perchance a  
 1439 melody from some blessed souls may reach my ears—

1440 ✓ *souls who are the dawning-places of the love of God,* the stars of the horizon of  
 1441 sanctification and holiness—

1442 ✓ *souls who will illumine this dark universe and quicken to life this dead world.*

1443 The joy of 'Abdu'l-Bahá depends upon this! I hope that you may become confirmed  
 1444 therein.

1445

1446 **Consequently, those souls who are in a condition of the**

1447 • **utmost *severance,***

1448 • ***purified from the defects of the world of nature,***

1449 • ***sanctified from attachment to this earth,***

1450 • ***vivified***

1451 ○ **with *the breaths of eternal life—***

1452 ○ **with *luminous hearts,***

1453 ○ **with *heavenly spirit,***

1454 ○ **with *attraction of consciousness,***

1455 ○ **with *celestial magnanimity,***

1456 ○ **with *eloquent tongues* and**

1457 ○ **with *clear explanations—***

1458

1459 **such souls must hasten and travel through all parts of the Central States.**

1460

1461 **In every city and village**

1462 **1. they must**

- 1463 • **occupy themselves** with the diffusion of the divine exhortations and advices,  
 1464 • **guide** the souls and  
 1465 • **promote** the oneness of the world of humanity.

1466 **2. They must** play the melody of international conciliation with such power that

- 1467 • **every deaf one** may attain hearing,  
 1468 • **every extinct person** may be set aglow,  
 1469 • **every dead one** may obtain new life and  
 1470 • **every indifferent soul** may find ecstasy.

1471  
 1472 **It is certain that such will be the consummation.**

1473  
 1474 **Let the spreaders of the fragrances of God recite this prayer every morning:**

1475  
 1476 **O LORD, my God!** Praise and thanksgiving be unto Thee for Thou hast

- 1477 • **guided me** to the highway of the kingdom,  
 1478 • **suffered me** to walk in this straight and far-stretching path,  
 1479 • **illuminated my eye** by beholding the splendors of Thy light,  
 1480 • **inclined my ear** to the melodies of the birds of holiness from the kingdom of  
 1481 mysteries and  
 1482 • **attracted my heart** with Thy love among the righteous.

1483  
 1484 **O LORD!** Confirm me with the Holy Spirit, so that I may call in Thy Name amongst the  
 1485 nations, and give the glad tidings of the manifestation of Thy kingdom amongst mankind.

1486  
 1487 **O LORD!**

1488 **I am weak,**  
 1489 • **strengthen me with Thy power and potency.**

1490 **My tongue falters,**  
 1491 • **suffer me to utter Thy commemoration and praise.**

1492 **I am lowly,**  
 1493 • **honor me through admitting me into Thy kingdom.**

1494 **I am remote,**  
 1495 • **cause me to approach the threshold of Thy mercifulness.**

1496  
 1497 **O LORD!** Make me  
 1498 ✓ a **brilliant lamp,**  
 1499 ✓ a **shining star** and  
 1500 ✓ a **blessed tree,** adorned with fruit, its branches overshadowing all these regions.

1501  
 1502 **Verily, Thou art the Mighty, the Powerful and Unconstrained.**